



Media Release

The WA Speedway Commission held its Industry Development Conference on Saturday 9th and Sundays 10th April at Grace Vaughn House Shenton Park.

Invitations were sent to all stakeholders of Speedway in WA and the Department of Sports and Recreation also extended an invitation on behalf of the State Government.

Mr Ross Smith the Chairperson of Speedwaywest welcomed delegates and special guests to the conference. Apologies were received from Mr Terry Waldron Minister for Sport; Mr Ron Alexander Director-General DSR; Deputy Leader of the labour Party Mr Roger Cooke; The Speaker of the House Legislative Assembly, Member for Moore and Speedway Loyalist Mr Grant Woodhams; Mr Dale Gilson General Manager NASR and Mr Gavin Migro Perth Motorplex Speedway manager.

Each delegate was presented with a Industry Development Conference Bag containing Speedwaywest Merchandise; a Conference Preparation Pack and Copies of The WA Speedway New Governance Framework Document; WA Speedway Strategic Plan 2008 / 2013; Industry Conference Book of Abstract and Can You Risk It – Risk Cover plus CD



The Industry Development Conference was opened with a 5 minute Promotional DVD especially commissioned by the WA Speedway Commission for the Event and soon to be available for viewing at new look www.speedwaywest.com

WASC Commissioner Mrs. Tina Lizzi briefly outlined that the aim of the conference was to discuss the implementation of the WA Speedway New Governance Framework and address the Professional Development of Speedway.

The Commissions aim was to introduce, increase awareness and discuss the Framework and step out the implementation process and the cause /effect to all stake holders with the main Objective to facilitate in the knowledge understanding and best practice execution of the Framework

This was supported in the agenda of the conference by addressing the Professional Development of Speedway. The Aim here was to have speakers presenting topics covering key areas of interest in Speedway that had grass root expertise and experience in the sport with the main Objective of bringing in first hand knowledge in the language we recognise and understand.



Mr. Col Philipsson JP the original Chairperson of the Speedway Task Force set up after an enquiry into several sports by the WA State Government 1992 delivered a presentation on the history of the Commission trough to Today.

Mr. Philipsson concluded his address with the expression of one aspect of our sport that was of concern.

Natural justice is described as "no more than the duty to act fairly". Procedural fairness has its origin in natural law.

In a recent legal profession journal, a barrister's article on natural justice referred to Aristotle, when discussing natural law, observing that the laws of nature are immutable and have the same validity everywhere.

The courts have ruled dozens of times that no person should be denied natural justice.

Today, we are here in the next step of controlling our destiny. It has been a long, hard road but we have stuck to the rule, "We must control our own destiny for the sake of our sport, for all participants, putting aside our own vested interests".

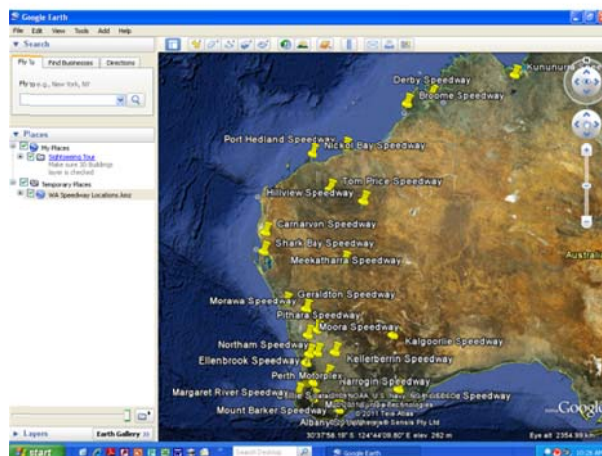
Remember, speedway started in WA in 1927. Speedway has long been recognised as the top summer sport and with good management; it will be going long after we have departed from this earth. All we can do is to protect our chosen sport in the best interest of all."

Mr. Ross Smith then spoke about the history and formulation of the WA Speedway New Governance Framework document and acknowledged and thanked the following persons for their time and support in the undertaking of the WA Speedway - New Governance Framework – In particular:

DSR	Kevin Watts/Greg MacLennan
WALGA/LGIS	John Abercrombie/Rob Murphy
SHIRE COUNCIL	Phil Stevens (Northam)
WA HEALTH	Sid Brodie
RISK COVER	Sandra Hackett/James Sheridan
CLUBS/ASSOC	WASCF John Purser
BUNBURY	Andrew Roberts
ELLENBROOK	Fabio Martinelli
Special Acknowledgement:	
WASC	Des Alfirevich/Marlene Criddle

Mr. Smith then went on to address the **Future Direction Strategy** of the Commission in which he highlighted:

- Launch and implementation of the WA Speedway New Governance Framework
- WASC Industry Conference April 9th/10th 2011.....Bi – annual event with the aim to hold mini forums in the interim
- Produce an Industry Report from Conference
- WASC will take concept to Regional WA
- Junior Development Forum in 2011/12
- Race Track inspections to be undertaken by the WASC as of 1/1/2011
- Innovation and Implementation of On-line Training/ accreditation of Stewards, officials and scrutineers
- Website Refurbish, redesign to industry expectation/including a 'regional' Map showing all geographic locations of our speedways
- Facility & Grants funding Grants Directory – website
- Racetrack information on website
- New Branding / Logo and amplify Promotions and Marketing strategy to present a new face of Professionalism of Speedway
- Co ordinate the development of structures and materials - WASC compliance documentation and support and guidance materials
- Gather collate and publish the latest Industry Statistics
- Index of Industry contacts and resources
- Awards and Recognition



Mr. Smith said he believed that the sport of Speedway in WA was the strongest it had been in its 80 year history and that the WA Speedway Commission as the Peak State Body for Speedway was on track to deliver on all needs of all stakeholders.

Mr Des Alfirevich a commissioner for the WASC from 2006 to 2010 and current chair of the Safety and Regulations Advisory Committee was a key contributor to the progress of the WA Speedway New Governance Framework document and presented a PowerPoint presentation outlining its aims, a flowchart detailing key elements and the practical Implementation and implications for the WA Speedway Industry.

Ms Sandra Hackett Risk Management Consultant with RiskCover the division of the Insurance Commission of Western Australia delivered a media presentation Can You Risk It?? - a brief overview to Risk Management for Community Organisations.



She stressed the importance of assessing risk and possible adverse outcomes in what is a very litigious world and the simple methods that can be put into practise to protect all from worst case scenarios.

Ms Louise Kingston the Registrar Manjimup Speedway has been in speedway 35yrs. She is currently the Executive Officer for Warren Blackwood Strategic Alliance. Prior was Executive Officer Small Business and has extensive knowledge and expertise in Business Management. Louise brought a practical perspective of running speedway event relative to event management and planning. She highlighted the challenges faced in running such a high profile event as World Series Sprintcars for the first time earlier in the season and her experience in dealings with the Manjimup Shire.

Day two of the conference commenced with a media presentation by **Mr Tim Mahon** DSR Manager Regions for Facility Grants Funding – DSR Financial on behalf of the Department of Sports and Recreation



"The WASC is recognised by the Department of Sport and Recreation as the State Sporting Association for the sport of Speedway in Western Australia. The Department of Sport and Recreation provides consultancy support and funding to the WASC to assist the development of the sport of Speedway in Western Australia:" Mr Mahon main

message was for the Speedway Industry to utilise all the services available through DSR and not only funding. He encourages regional speedways to make contact with their Local DSR offices and develop a close relationship to assist with grants that are available to sport and recreation groups and individuals through a number of sources, including the Sport and Recreation Grant Program and Royalties for Regions.

Mr Brian Chalmers CEO BCM Motorsports Marketing outlined the basic promotions and marketing practices needed to achieve success at the Track Level and relate back that good management, planning and risk review as outlined in the New Governance Framework to create a more sustainable and saleable Brand and reinforce the community perceptions of speedway being a safe and enjoyable family sport.

Mr Des Alfirevich presented his dialogue on Driver Safety – Taking Speedway to Worlds Best Practise Standards. He outlined that the sport of Speedway through many years of dedication to maintain the safety of its participants and fans had achieved very high standards in Motorsport safety and was almost at a threshold in innovation. However the issue of human error would always be a factor in adverse outcomes and that education and vigilance was the only course of action

Mr Sid Brodie is Snr Technical Officer Environmental Health Hazard Unit Dept of Health WA and sits on the WASC Track Grading Committee. Sid has been carrying out track inspection on behalf of the WA Speedway Commission from its inception and before that for the WA Health Department. He is in the process of handing over all racetrack inspections to the WASC who as part of the WA Speedway - New Governance Framework will be solely responsible for this task in conjunction with the Shire / Councils. He outlined that WA Speedway Race Track and Facility safety was of a very high standard and that the cooperation and awareness of all concerned was to be commended.



The final speakers for the conference were **Mr Ash Peczka** Guildford Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service



Safety and Regulations Advisory Committee WASC and **Mr James Hislop** Officer FESA; Bassendean Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service Safety and Regulations Advisory Committee. WASC

They delivered a visual presentation they are developing as a practical guide in Safety issues as seen at ground level with volunteer Safety officers over seeing at Speedway Events in WA. Being closely associated with the sport their aim is to develop a training programme for

volunteer Fire & Rescue Service personnel attending at Speedway events as best relates to the strict protocols of FESA.

Mr Warren McDonogh the Vice President of Port Hedland Speedway made the long trek down to attend the conference and thanked all concerned for enlightening him to the amount of support that is available for the sport and the professional and enthusiastic attitude of the WA Speedway Commission.

The staging of the Industry Development Conference is part of sweeping initiatives by the



WA Speedway Commission including the re Branding of Speedwaywest with new look corporate Logos and Uniforms and moving to smaller and more cost effective premises in Star St Welshpool. The move alone will deliver a savings of \$11000 back to the sport and be used to fund programmes such as those outlined in Future Direction Strategy.

The WA Speedway Commission is on track with all the Annual Key Results requirements of DSR in accordance with its funding procedures and ready to begin folding out all the aspects of the implementation of the WA Speedway New Governance Framework and address the Professional Development of Speedway.

Speedwaywest Media



April, 2011