

## Minutes

### Recreational Motor Vehicle and Safety Group - Meeting

**Date** 16 April 2021 **Time** 10:00am to 12:00pm

**Place** Via Skype

**Chair** Nigel Ellis, Executive Director (Legislation, Standards & Accreditation)

**Minute taker** Andrew Millard, Senior Policy Advisor (Vehicle Standards)

<b>Attendees</b>			<b>Presence</b>
LY	Lesley Yates	Australian Automotive Aftermarket Association	Present
NB	Nigel Bishop	Australian Automotive Aftermarket Association	Apology
MB	Miles Brennan	Australian Recreational Motorists Association	Present
CC	Colin Chapman	Australian Street Rod Federation	Absent
JP	Jason Plant	Caravanning Queensland Association	Present
DK	Daniel Kaden	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Present
SH	Scott Hall	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Present
SN	Scott Notley	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Present
SR	Shane Rose	Four Wheel Drive Queensland	Apology
BR	Bailey Rowe	Historical Motor Cycle Club of QLD	Present
PB	Peter Blanshard	Institute of Automotive Mechanical Engineers	Present
MS	Malcolm Spiden	MG Car Club	Present
JG	John Greene	Mustang Owners Club of Australia	Present
RW	Russell Whitney	Mustang Owners Club of Australia	Present
AB	Albert Budworth	Queensland Historic Motoring Council	Present
CG	Carle Gregory	Queensland Historic Motoring Council	Present
DM	Doug Murphy	Queensland Historic Motoring Council	Apology
DY	Doug Young	Queensland Historic Motoring Council	Present
JE	John Ewing	RACQ	Present
RM	Russell Manning	RACQ	Apology

**Papers**

- (1) Agenda
- (2) Queensland Government Response to Inquiry into Motor Recreational Activities
- (3) Time to Align Campaign (ARMA)
- (4) Community Input Paper – Illegal Hooning (ARMA)

**Agenda**

1. Introduction and Welcome
2. Previous Meeting Summary

3. RMVSG Membership and Terms of Reference
4. Update on Parliamentary Inquiries
5. Gross Combination Mass Code
6. Tow Weight Calculations
7. Gross Vehicle Mass increase for Monocoque Vehicles
8. Australian Recreational Motorists Association (ARMA) Campaigns
9. Any other business

### **Actions from the last meeting**

<b>Task Owner</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Due date</b>	<b>Status</b>
TMR	Distribute draft GCM code to members for consultation.	16 April 21	Completed
TMR	Distribute images of new standard numberplates.	16 April 21	Completed
TMR	Provide link to Transport and Public Works Committee's Report into Motor Recreational Activities.	16 April 21	Completed
TMR	Share road rules relevant to agenda item 6 discussed at 02 September 2021 meeting.	16 April 21	Completed
TMR	Review SIVS (Special Interest Vehicle Scheme) Guide to determine if the relevant rules regarding the use of SIVS vehicles for hire and/or rideshare could be stated more prominently.	16 April 21	Completed
TMR	Investigate whether SIVS guide is comprehensive and includes information previously featured on FAQs webpage.	16 April 21	Completed
TMR	Distribute further information regarding changes to vehicle registration requirements that have been made as a result of COVID-19.	16 April 21	Completed
TMR	Confirm Business Rules related to registered motorbikes under SIVS and remind Customer Service Centre staff requirements related to photo identification.	16 April 21	Completed

### **Agenda Items**

<b>Agenda 1</b>	<b>Introduction and Welcome</b>
Nigel Ellis	<p>NE welcomed RMVSG members to the April 2021 meeting and introduced new members. NE reiterated that while a meeting with attendees physically present was always preferable, there was no alternative but to hold the April meeting through remote means.</p> <p>Apologies from Nigel Bishop, Shane Rose, Doug Murphy and Russell Manning were noted.</p>

Agenda 2	Previous Meeting Summary
Nigel Ellis	<p>There were no comments or changes made to the minutes of the previous meeting.</p> <p>NE confirmed the status of actions from the previous meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The GCM has been shared (this topic is discussed further as agenda item 5);</li> <li>• Images of the new standards number plates were shared;</li> <li>• A link to the Transport and Public Works Committee's Inquiry into Motor Recreational Activities Report was sent (this topic is discussed further as agenda item 4);</li> <li>• Road rules relating to children in vehicles that do not have seatbelts fitted were distributed with the minutes of the previous meeting;</li> <li>• The SIVS Guide was updated relating to the use of vehicles as hire/rideshare vehicles;</li> <li>• The SIVS webpages were assessed to determine whether information is included prominently enough;</li> <li>• Changes to vehicle registration that have been made as a result of COVID-19 were distributed with the minutes of the previous meeting; and</li> <li>• The Registration Policy team have reiterated the relevant Business Rules on SIVS to Customer Service Centres.</li> </ul>

Agenda 3	RMVSG Membership and Terms of Reference
Nigel Ellis	<p>NE welcomed and introduced the new members of the group. He referred to the draft updated Terms of Reference (ToR) which was distributed prior to the meeting. While the success of the group is recognised, the updated ToR reflects TMR's desire to broaden both the membership and focus of the group. The group will be an open, consultative forum to deal with a wide range of vehicle related regulatory policy and operational issues of interest to the motor recreational sector.</p> <p>NE noted feedback on the updated ToR was received from MB. NE clarified that this group is not a Technical Advisory Committee, and that while it can consider vehicle modification matters, the group's focus is wider than just vehicle modifications. TMR is also not looking to co-chair the group with another party. On that basis, NE confirmed that no further changes will be made to the ToR shared prior to the meeting by the secretariat.</p> <p>MB noted that different groups in different jurisdictions have been pushing for national harmonisation of in-service vehicle modifications. MB would like to see vehicle modification laws handed over to a federal body, in an arrangement where states would automatically pick them up each time they change.</p> <p>NE noted that by partnering with entities such as the AAAA (on developing a GCM modification code) it is hoped that true and lasting reforms to vehicle modification laws in Australia can be made. Further, the Queensland Parliament Transport and Resources Committee is currently holding an inquiry which includes in its ToR ensuring best alignment on after-market vehicle modification framework, with other Australian jurisdictions. TMR is currently providing input into the inquiry process.</p>

	<p>NE advised that one option to achieving and maintaining a common in-service vehicle standard rule book is to utilise the National Transport Commission (NTC). The NTC currently undertakes the role of overseeing a range of harmonised transport related laws (such as the Australian Light Vehicle Standard Rules, Australian Road Rules and the National Heavy Vehicle Law). This is an option the Queensland Minister for Transport and Main Roads is proposing to take to his federal and interstate colleagues.</p>
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<b>Agenda 4</b>	<b>Update on Parliamentary Inquiries</b>
Scott Notley	<p>SN provided an update on two Queensland Parliamentary Inquiries. The previous Transport and Public Works Committee's inquiry into Motor Recreational Activities made recommendations in August 2020, and the Queensland Government response to those recommendations was also coordinated by TMR. A copy of the response was shared with the group prior to the meeting.</p> <p>DY was happy to see that the Queensland Government supported the recommendation to request the Federal Treasurer to review the current Luxury Car Tax policy. He offered to share research and to provide assistance if requested. SN noted that a response from the Federal Treasurer has not been received.</p> <p>AB sought an update on the matter of extending the test radius for historic vehicles. DK confirmed that the Registration Policy Team of TMR is examining the request and noted that a balance needs to be struck between the points raised by the Historic Truck Association and the policy intent of the scheme, specifically regarding the testing requirements of heavy vehicles.</p> <p>MB questioned whether it would be possible to push for national harmonisation of SIV schemes. NE replied that every state had different fees / charges concession packages (of which SIV scheme rego concession is one component), and the budgetary impacts and considerations will differ State by State. Putting the SIV scheme to one side, vehicle registration schemes themselves are not even uniform around the country.</p> <p>Currently the Transport and Resources Committee is running an inquiry into the topic of Vehicle Standards and Safety including Remote Engine Immobiliser Technology. The original scope of the inquiry was limited to remote engine immobiliser technology but was broadened at the request of the government. The broadened terms of reference will be of interest to members of the RMVSG.</p> <p>The closing date for submissions was April 15. Although if anybody needs an extension of time, in order to make a submission, they should contact the Parliamentary Committee Secretariat. Once the Queensland Government submission is tabled it will be shared with the group.</p>
<b>ACTION</b>	SN to share Queensland Government submission to the current Parliamentary Inquiry with RMVSG members.
<b>ACTION</b>	DK to provide further advice regarding vehicle testing radius under the SIV scheme

<b>Agenda 5</b>	<b>Gross Combination Mass Code</b>
<p>Scott Notley</p>	<p>SN updated the group about the draft Gross Combination Mass (GCM) code. Along with jurisdictional peers in New South Wales and Victoria, Queensland collaborated with the Australian Automotive Aftermarket Association (AAAA), and industry more generally, to create a draft GCM code. Collaboration with other jurisdictions was seen as the best way of finalising a GCM code that will be consistent across state boundaries.</p> <p>Further collaboration between engineers from TMR and AAAA will still occur prior to the release of any final code. TMR's Vehicle Standards Unit in TMR would also still welcome feedback from others on the draft code.</p> <p>It was noted that not all members have seen the draft GCM code. SN offered to re-send the document to the group.</p> <p>RW asked whether the driver of a vehicle, modified and registered in another state, coming into Queensland will experience problems. SN answered that the driver will not run into problems driving the vehicle in Queensland. However, if the driver wants to register the vehicle in Queensland, it must meet Queensland requirements.</p> <p>LY informed the group that the AAAA is aware that within the vehicle enthusiast community, there is a view that the new code will be strict. LY wished to emphasize to the group that the new code is still in draft form, and the AAAA has been working hard to correct rumours and incorrect messaging.</p>
<b>ACTION</b>	<p>SN to send a copy of the draft GCM code to all current RMVSG members for feedback and comment.</p>

<b>Agenda 6</b>	<b>Tow Weight Calculation</b>
<p>John Greene</p>	<p>JG sought clarification regarding tow weight calculations. As the questions and their answers were overly technical in nature, SH and AM, alongside two TMR engineers, contacted JG to discuss the matter further prior to the RMVSG meeting.</p> <p>SH will collate answers to JG's questions regarding various tow weight calculations.</p>
<b>ACTION</b>	<p>SH advised written responses to JG's questions about tow weight calculations will be shared with the group.</p>

<b>Agenda 7</b>	<b>GVM Increase for Monocoque Vehicles</b>
<p>Russell Whitney</p>	<p>RW asked why re-rating of GVM under LS11 code is permitted on light vehicles constructed on a ladder type chassis frame with a cabin and/or body mounted on it but is not permitted on vehicles with integrated frame and body, commonly known as unitary or monocoque construction. SN undertook to consult with TMR engineers and provide a response.</p>

	RW expressed concerns about the caravan industry, and caravan safety. SH acknowledged the work underway through caravan weigh days and caravan safety communications activities. RW expressed the view that there is a lot of emphasis on motor vehicle safety, but there is less emphasis on caravan safety. In particular there is a focus on vehicle mass but not so much responsibility for caravan manufacturers to build caravans to be towed safely and with an appropriate mass on the tow ball. JP stressed that effort is being made to communicate this information via Caravan Towing Masterclasses and online, and there are numerous resources available to caravan owners, which he will share with the group. JP also offered to make time to discuss these concerns outside of the meeting directly with JW.
<b>ACTION</b>	SN to provide further information about GVM re-rating of monocoque vehicles.
<b>ACTION</b>	JP to share useful caravan safety resources with the group.

<b>Agenda 8</b>	<b>ARMA Campaigns</b>
Miles Brennan	<p>MB updated the group on two ARMA campaigns – (1) Time to Align Campaign and (2) Community Input paper to address illegal hooning. The group was sent copies of the material regarding these campaigns ahead of the meeting. This was offered as a general discussion to inform other members of the group what ARMA is advocating for on behalf of members and the industry.</p> <p>With regard to the <i>Time to Align Campaign</i>, SN noted that with a Parliamentary Committee currently examining vehicle standards, we will need to wait to see what recommendations, if any, are made. The recommendations are due by the end of August 2021. The Queensland Government has suggested to the Committee that a body like the NTC could be well placed to take on vehicle standards at a national level.</p> <p>PB advised the group that he has been a stakeholder to the NTC. He noted that in his experience they strive for consensus, but at times it can result in the adoption of changes that are agreeable to the majority.</p> <p>NE replied that any future model to harmonise in-service vehicle modifications could incorporate a necessary requirement for consultation with a representative industry-based committee / body. Furthermore, NE stressed that national harmonisation is not about adopting the lowest common vehicle standard concessions, but equally it is not about always adopting the highest vehicle standard concession either, it is about what is safe and appropriate in the particular case (based on jurisdiction and industry input).</p> <p>With regard to the paper proposing solutions to <i>Address Illegal Hooning</i>, NE advised we are happy seek a formal response from relevant areas across government on the ideas of a 'Hooning Trial' and International gymkhana circuits'. However, NE suggested the ideas could benefit from some more development, and in their current form they will likely not be received positively. MB replied that they are ideas to generate discussion and pave the way for future reform.</p>
<b>ACTION</b>	NE has distributed the ARMA material to TMR and QPS and will provide a written response directly to MB on the 'additional transport issues for review' listed on pages 7-8 of the Addressing Illegal Hooning Paper.

<b>Agenda 9</b>	<b>Any Other Business</b>
<p>NE acknowledged the due to the meeting running overtime, he would take questions on notice from the group.</p> <p>CG asked how vehicle registration is calculated for electric vehicles.</p> <p>CG asked about the possibility of operating hazard lights when a heavy vehicle brakes.</p> <p>LY offered to share the AAAA 4WD industry study with the group.</p> <p>LY offered to share a pamphlet on the correct usage of recovery straps.</p>	
<b>ACTION</b>	NE to coordinate answers to questions taken on notice.
<p>NE reminded the group that agenda items can be submitted at any time directly to TMR via the RMVSG Secretariat.</p>	

<b>Actions</b>	<b>Meeting date</b>	<b>Due date</b>
SN to share Queensland Government submission to the current Parliamentary Inquiry with RMVSG members.	16 April 2021	Completed (included minutes)
DK to provide further advice regarding vehicle testing radius under the SIV scheme	16 April 2021	Next meeting
SN to send a copy of the draft GCM code to all current RMVSG members for feedback and comment.	16 April 2021	Completed (included with minutes)
SH to share written responses to JG's questions about tow weight calculations.	16 April 2021	Completed (included with minutes)
SN to provide further information about GVM re-rating of monocoque vehicles.	16 April 2021	Completed (included with minutes)
JP to share caravan safety resources with the group.	16 April 2021	Next meeting
NE has distributed the ARMA material to TMR and QPS and will provide a written response directly to MB on the 'additional transport issues for review' listed on pages 7-8 of the Addressing Illegal Hooning Paper.	16 April 2021	Next meeting
NE to coordinate answers to questions taken on notice.	16 April 2021	Next meeting

**Date of next meeting: Next meeting will be tentatively scheduled for August, 2021.**

**Date to be confirmed.**

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