

## 1. Members

It is accepted that all BRCA members have read the rules, contained within this publication, understand them, and agree to be bound by them during the period of their membership.

## 2. Competitors

All competitors and all marshals at BRCA events and at all BRCA Affiliated Club events and any other event organised by said organisations must be BRCA members. It is permitted for potential new members to 'visit' affiliated clubs, for club events only, on three occasions before BRCA membership is required. The 'visitor' status is extended to drivers from overseas, and also includes sanctioned events, they should be members of their National Association. It is a requirement that membership cards be produced at events when requested by the event officials.

Entry to all sanctioned events must be through the BRCA entry process.

## 3. Marshals

It is an accepted part of Radio Controlled (RC) model vehicle racing that models differ from full size vehicles in that the operator is remote from the vehicle and the operator looks at the RC vehicle and does not see the potential view from it. It is the Marshal's responsibility to ensure their own protection before leaving their designated Marshals post to assist a RC vehicle.

All Marshals must wear Hi-Vis Vest/T-Shirt/Jacket in predominantly bright colours (black/blue varieties not permitted)

The Marshals must wear this apparel correctly. It is part of the race organiser's role to determine, to their best ability, a safe marshalling point for you. However it is every Marshal's responsibility to report to race control if they feel that their post is inadequately protected. Marshals must not use any mobile devices (eg Phones & Tablets) at any time inside of the track perimeter.

## 4. Safety

**GENERAL:** Competitors **MUST** consider the safety of marshals, spectators, and other drivers at all times. No car shall be constructed or used so as to be dangerous to persons. All cars must have a positive means of stopping fitted and working. All members must comply with instructions and recommendations issued by product manufacturers, subject to any further restrictions in any BRCA rules. If you are unsure about any product of a chemical nature (cleaners, aerosols, additives, etc.) then ask to see the COSHH report for the product. If there is no COSHH report on the product then we recommend you do not use it.

All Sanctioned BRCA Race Events must carry out an On-site Risk Assessment prior to the Drivers Briefing.

The Risk Assessment must be submitted via the BRCA Risk Assessment process within 3 days following the event.

**BATTERIES:** In the interest of safety, any battery pack(s) carried on a model car must be able to be disconnected quickly without the use of tools in an emergency. Direct soldering is not allowed. All Lithium-based drive batteries must be in a 'closed' LiPo sack when being charged or discharged. This applies to any discharging procedures, except during a race or when using organiser supplied resistors to correct voltage. LiPo sack is defined as a receptacle designed for the purpose of charging LiPo/LiFe batteries and is of a suitable construction so as to contain a LiPo/LiFe fire. Sacks must be obtained from a recognised supplier to the UK RC industry.

The BRCA will not approve any Lithium battery for use at BRCA sanctioned events that exceeds 4S in a single unit. Members must read and comply with the IATA Guidelines currently in force when they wish to travel overseas.

Charging of Lithium based batteries (LiPo, LiFe etc.) at all events and in all Sections must be strictly in accordance with the procedures detailed in BRCA Electric Board rules. These procedures are covered in Electric Board rules 3.6, 3.7, 3.8, 3.10.

'Over' Charging of Lithium based batteries is potentially dangerous and maximum charge cut-off voltages must be strictly adhered to. The maximum charge cut-off is based on 4.20v per cell (LiPo), 3.70v per cell (LiFe) for cells connected in series. Therefore the maximum charge cut-off voltages allowed are:

1S - 4.20v (LiPo), 3.70v (LiFe)

2S - 8.40v (LiPo), 7.40v (LiFe)

4S - 16.80v (LiPo), 14.80v (LiFe)

Effective from 1st. April 2017:

ALL Lithium based 'drive' batteries, over 20wh, used in ALL Sections must have a hard, protective case that completely envelopes the cell(s). The case should be made from ABS or a similar strength material. The two halves of the case must be factory sealed in a way that any attempt to open the case will destroy the case. The only opening in the case that is allowed is for exit wires or 'pin type' connectors.

Lithium based batteries that are used for powering receivers, servos or other devices, that have a capacity exceeding 10Wh., should preferably have a 'hard case' (as detailed above). If a 'soft-cased' battery is used that is over 10Wh. then it must be protected from accidental damage. This protection can be an equally strong 'casing' or 'box' within the design of the car that encloses the battery, or other form of protective shielding that will totally enclose the battery and protect it from accidental damage during racing or maintenance. Any Lithium battery not having the original manufacturers label that shows the energy capacity in Wh. should not be allowed.

Any member found not complying with these procedures will be removed from the meeting and have their membership suspended immediately.

## **5. Officials**

At BRCA sanctioned events (Internationals, Nationals, Regional's etc.) the BRCA Steward holds responsibility for the safe running of the event. The BRCA steward will normally be the highest-ranking BRCA official present. In the event of a BRCA Executive officer attending an event, that responsibility is passed to the highest-ranking officer of the section organising the event present. By formal agreement, i.e. in writing, either in meeting minutes, or at the event in question the stewardship can be passed to another suitably qualified person. Club committees should adopt the same process. Stewardship would normally rest with the Club Chairman, however clubs are recommended to minute with whom stewardship of events rests, or is passed to, in the event of absence.

## **6. Tracks**

Tracks must have an outer perimeter sufficient to contain the RC vehicles being operated within it. At all BRCA sanctioned events, the BRCA steward is responsible for designating the track area, which may include pit lanes and start/finish areas. The only persons allowed within the aforementioned areas during controlled practice and racing procedures are marshals and other relevant race officials, and mechanics are permitted within a designated area, and all of these persons must be BRCA members or a competitor. Track markings must be designed so as to minimise the possibility of R/C vehicles leaving the confines of the track. This rule does not differentiate between permanent and non-permanent facilities, it is the organiser's responsibility to determine the suitability of their facility for the class of RC vehicle being operated. It is all competitors' responsibility to report any issues with track safety to race control.

## **7. Drivers' Briefing**

All sanctioned meetings (e.g. Internationals, Nationals and Regionals etc.) must have a drivers' briefing before the start of the racing, all drivers are required to attend. The drivers are responsible for communicating all information to anyone else concerned (e.g. mechanics, guests) The drivers briefing must contain: Format of the event; Designation of the track area; Location of safety equipment; Location of Fire Exits; Explanation of any local rules; Marshalling requirements; Identification of Officials; plus any other information the organisers deem necessary.

Note: If a meeting is over more than 1 day, and consists of separate events, than a drivers briefing should be conducted before the racing commences each day.

## **8. Equipment**

All events are required to have the following equipment: First aid kit (for self administration), appropriate fire extinguisher, accident book (in which all injuries must be recorded). In addition the organiser must know local procedures for emergency services and have a means of contact (e.g. a mobile phone).

## **9. Smoking**

Smoking and vaping at BRCA events and BRCA sanctioned events is prohibited, other than in a designated area.

## **10. Radio Equipment**

The BRCA recognises the UKRCC as the national authority for the UK on radio equipment.

The BRCA will work within the rules and guidelines specified by the UKRCC. RC Equipment must be used in accordance with the manufacturers guidelines.

Any modification to any component that may affect performance and/or power of original equipment is specifically not allowed.

This applies especially to the aerial and power source.

The reversal of crystals is not allowed.

## **11. Records**

All club are required to keep complete membership and entry details respectively; these details must include full names and addresses, and are recommended to include emergency contact phone numbers. The relevant section official must keep entry details for sanctioned events and clubs keep records of attendance at meetings, (e.g. heat list/entry forms) It is a requirement that all accidents must be reported to the BRCA officer responsible for Insurance (currently the Treasurer) as soon as possible.

## **12. Conduct**

Any driver, representative, mechanic or friend of a driver found to be under the influence of drink or drugs or behaving abusively will be expelled from the meeting (a meeting may be one or more days and consist of more than one event/class). Affiliated clubs must keep an 'Incident Book' in Race Control. Any incidents should be logged in it and on the BRCA Website. Serious incidents will be reviewed by the Executive Committee as required. Any individual subject to disciplinary action (see Rule 9 - Constitution) shall be notified, the notice will also be forwarded to all association officers and affiliated club's.

## **13. Vehicle Scope**

The BRCA will not recognise a model vehicle as being suitable for Radio Control that is more than any of these measurements; 1 metre long, 20kg in weight or a maximum of 35cc engine capacity.

## **14. Electronic Driving Aids**

Steering and driving/brake can only be operated by direct action of the driver using the Radio. The use of traction control devices, active suspension devices and any steering or power control aided by gyroscopes, 'G'-force sensors or devices giving a similar effect is strictly forbidden on vehicles with four or more wheels. It is strongly advised that competitors do not use any radio/receiver combinations that have the capability of performing the above functions at BRCA sanctioned events, even if the functions are disabled. Organisers have the right to refuse such equipment being used, if they consider the non-allowed functions could be activated whilst the vehicle is being driven.

Sensors are only allowed for the purpose of passive data recording and not for adjusting the performance of the car whilst in motion.

It is not allowed to use any form of telemetry with active transmission, which in the opinion of the event officials or steward, is judge to give a competitor an advantage during any race.

Clarification:

It is not allowed for any radio/wireless signals to be transmitted from the car to an external source during the race that is judged to give the driver a competitive advantage during that particular race. Drivers found using any of the above forbidden items/devices will be subject to disqualification from the event where the items are used and can be banned from all BRCA events for a period of up to 10 years.

## **1. Title**

The Association shall be known as The British Radio Car Association.

## **2. Objectives**

- (a) To promote the construction and competition of radio-controlled cars.
- (b) To facilitate the exchange of information and ideas relating to the sport.
- (c) To set rules and standards for construction and competition.
- (d) To encourage National and International competition within a co-ordinated calendar.

## **3. Membership**

Membership shall be open to all and shall be deemed to commence when the Association issues the appropriate membership documentation. Membership shall be within the following categories:

- (a) a) Full Individual member.
- (b) b) Non Racing member – Persons who while not actually competing are involved in the event, be that helping to organise or run the meeting or providing assistance to a competitor (Pit Crew, stand in Marshal etc.)
- (c) Fellows - Persons who have performed outstanding service to the Association. This accolade is confirmed by a vote at the BRCA AGM.
- (d) d) Club Affiliation - Any club who has satisfied the Association of its willingness and ability to fulfil the obligations of an affiliated club.

The Members Handbook will be available to all members.

- (e) (e) Junior member- a junior member is a member who holds a junior membership for the current membership year.

All members have the right to attend and vote on issues at the Association AGM, additionally Full and Junior members have the right to attend and vote at section conferences.

## **4. Subscriptions**

The subscription period shall be one year running from the 1st January to the 31st December of the same year. Membership subscriptions shall be reviewed and fixed annually at the AGM. Any member who has not paid his/her subscription within ONE month of the renewal date shall be assumed to have terminated his/her membership.

## **5. Resignation**

Any member wishing to withdraw from Association membership must notify the secretary in writing.

## **6. Cessation Of Membership**

Any member failing to renew his/her membership as required or any member notifying his/her resignation shall forfeit all right to claim on the Association, its property or its funds.

## **7. Officials**

To qualify for election to any Association Committee position, the member so elected will become a Full Individual member of the Association if not already one. The following Officers shall be elected annually for a period of two years at the AGM: Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer plus such other Officers as may be deemed necessary. Nominations for these positions to be submitted at least five weeks before the AGM. The nominee must be a Full Member of the Association.

The above Officers together with the Chairman and Secretary (unless otherwise nominated) from each Section of the Association shall comprise the full Association Executive Committee. The Executive may meet in full or in part where the business to be discussed is only relevant to clearly defined areas of the association, e.g. Sporting or Administrative sub committees.

A quorum of the Executive Committee shall consist of at least 60% of the Executive Officers, invited and present. All Officers elected by the AGM shall be ex-officio members of all committees and subcommittees appointed within the Association.

## **8. Committees**

Section committees shall be established within the association to administer for the individual needs of the members racing interests. Each section committee shall comprise of a Chairman, a Secretary and such other committee members as sectional conferences shall decide. One official, normally but not essentially the Chairman, must attend committee meetings. Minutes from Committee meetings to be published and made available for all BRCA Members.

## **9. Powers Of The Committee**

The Executive Committee shall manage all concerns of the Association upholding the Associations Constitution, and shall have powers to settle all points of interpretation of Association rules, providing such powers shall not overrule a resolution of the AGM. A Sectional Committee shall manage all the concerns of the racing interest for which it was established, with powers to settle all points of interpretation of Section rules, provided such power shall not overrule a resolution of a Section Conference, AGM or General Rules. A Section Committee quorum will be decided by that Section Committee. The Executive Committee and any Section Committee shall have powers to establish sub-committees to manage special interests or events and to co-opt members onto such sub committees. Any committee may, from time to time, fill any vacancy in its number which may arise for the remaining period of office. If the conduct of any member, in or out of Association events, shall in the opinion of the Executive Committee, or member of it, be injurious to the character or interest of the Association then membership can be suspended until the matter is dealt with by the Association Executive. The Association Executive can require said person to attend such meeting as is required to explain their actions, they shall have the power to expel such member or call upon them to resign and will there upon cease to be a member of the Association, this decision will be ratified by the Executive Committee. Should a member who has been expelled or been required to resign wish to appeal, this shall be done in writing to the Association Secretary and the appeal will be held before the Executive Committee. In every case of expulsion or required resignation of a member the decision of the Executive Committee shall be final and the excluded member shall have no remedy against the Association or Committee, or any further right of appeal. A minimum of two thirds majority shall be necessary to order an expulsion.

## **10. Rule Changes**

- 1 The Executive committee has the power to delete, amend or change any existing rule(s) or add any new rule(s) to the Constitution, General Rules or Section Rules, to accommodate any changes in legal or fiscal requirements, or changes in recognized or legally required safety procedures. These actions can take place at any time within the association's year without the need for an EGM or AGM. Any action of this nature will be made known to the membership on the official BRCA website. Any decision taken must be ratified at the following AGM with a 2/3rds majority.
- 2 For each meeting (AGM or Section), proposals relevant to that meeting must be received no later than four weeks prior to the scheduled date. Submissions received after this deadline will not be considered.

## **11. Voting**

1. Proposal for change of the Association Constitution shall require a two thirds majority of votes cast (excluding any abstentions) at an AGM conference.
2. Proposal for change of the Association General Rule shall require a two-thirds majority of votes cast (excluding abstentions) at an AGM conference.
3. Elections of all officers (including Section officers) shall be decided as follows:
  - (a) For one candidate only: A simple majority vote of those votes cast excluding abstentions.
  - (b) For two candidates only: A simple majority vote of those votes cast excluding abstentions.
  - (c) For more than two candidates: First: Vote taken for all candidates.  
Then: A second vote including only the two candidates with the highest votes. This will be decided by a simple majority those votes cast, excluding abstentions not considered.
4. 4. Proposals for change to Construction and Procedure Rules within Section conferences shall require an overall majority (min. 51%) of those votes cast (excluding any abstentions). If there is an equal vote, then the Chairman at his/her discretion may use a casting vote. If an overall majority is not achieved, then the amendment/rule is not adopted.
5. At an EGM voting procedures will follow the above format.



## **12. Finance**

All matter relating to the spending of Association funds shall be referred through the Treasurer to the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall make an annual financial statement to the AGM offering all relevant documents for inspection at the meeting. Sections holding funds shall be required to deliver reports as required by the Association Treasurer.

## **13. Financial Year**

01 October to 30 September.

## **14. Annual General Meeting**

The AGM shall be held as soon after the end of the financial year as is practical and in any event not later than the month of February following. No BRCA Sanctioned events may take place on the weekend of the AGM. The following business shall be transacted at the AGM:

- (1) Reports on the general working of the Association and its sections.
- (2) Representation of the Association accounts.
- (3) Election of Officers and Auditor.
- (4) Review and agree the annual membership fee.
- (5) Discussion of any other business of which due notice has been given.
- (6) Arrange a provisional date for the next AGM which shall in any event be held within thirty days of the provisional date.

## **15. Extraordinary General Meeting**

A Section EGM May be called at any time if the Executive Committee so decide, The Secretary shall also call a meeting on receiving written request to that effect, signed by no less than 50% of the Sections national entrants. Such a general meeting shall take place within 28 days of the written request being received and all members shall receive 14 days notice of the meeting, but without the necessity for detailing any further particulars.

## **16. Minutes Of Meetings**

Minutes of an AGM, EGM or annual Conference shall be published as soon as convenient thereafter and in any case before the next similar meeting. Minutes of committee meetings shall be available to all committee members, including ex- officio members, before the next similar meeting. Copies of all minutes shall be kept indefinitely by the appropriate officer.

## **17. Deficiency Of Funds**

In the event of insolvency, the deficit shall be made good by an equal payment from each member or in such manner as an AGM or EGM shall decide.

## **18. Members Addresses**

Each members address shall be recorded in their member profile, the member MUST keep this updated and correct at all times.

## **19. Constitution Rules**

A copy of the constitution shall be forwarded to each member on joining and thereafter annually in an Association Handbook. These rules so presented shall be binding on every member. No member shall be absolved from the effect of these rules on allegation of not having received them.

## **20. Interpretation Of Rules**

The Executive committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of these rules and the decision of the committee upon any question of interpretation, or upon any other matter affecting the Association not provided for by these rules, shall be final and binding on the members.

## **21. Alteration Of Constitution**

The Constitution defines the rules for government of the Association. All alterations or additions to the Constitution may only be adopted by resolution at an AGM or EGM convened according to the Constitution. Such resolution must receive a two thirds majority vote.

## **22. Dissolution Of Association**

If at any general meeting a resolution for the dissolution of the Association be passed by a two-thirds majority of the membership present, and such resolution be confirmed at an EGM, held not less than one month thereafter at which not less than half the members are present, by a majority of two-thirds of the members the committee shall thereupon or at such date as shall be specified in the resolution, proceed to dissolve the Association. The committee shall proceed to realise the property of the Association, and after discharge of all liabilities, shall divide the same amongst all the members according to the proportions decided at the EGM. Upon the completion of such division the Association shall be dissolved.

## **23. Obligation Of Members**

- (a) (a) To uphold the Constitution of the Association.
- (b) (b) Affiliated clubs must keep the Association informed of their details and their club profile up to date at all times.

## **24. Awards/Prizes at BRCA Sanctioned Events**

- (a) Unless the Executive committee has first given its express permission in writing, no trophy, award or prize of any kind may be given which has an intrinsic value greater than £100.00 UK Sterling.
- (b) Under no circumstances are cash prizes to be awarded.