RALLY / ROAD

Group 3 – Showroom Rally Cars

1. PREAMBLE

1.1 Showroom Rally Cars are eligible for competition in road events subject to the vehicle meeting the regulations below and the General Requirements for Rally Cars in Schedules A and R (see "General Requirements for Cars and Drivers" in the CAMS Manual of Motor Sport).

1.2 The Showroom Rally Car group is intended to provide a platform to encourage competition in currently or recently available two wheel drive vehicles. The technical regulations are designed to limit performance modifications whilst allowing freedoms in areas that improve the capability of the vehicle to undertake gravel rallying and provide the ability to reduce recurrent costs.

These are an interim set of regulations and will be reviewed for 2009.

2. ELIGIBILITY

2.1 For a vehicle to be eligible as a SRC, it must conform to all of the following criteria:

- A vehicle which has only two wheels driven;
- The vehicle must be available for sale at licensed agents of a motor vehicle manufacturing company in all states and mainland territories of Australia; or

  be a vehicle that was available for sale through licensed agents of a motor vehicle manufacturing company in all states and mainland territories of Australia within the last seven years; and
- The vehicle must have had a manufacturer's recommended retail price of less than $75,000 (AUD). The maximum price relates to the model of vehicle presented for competition.

3. GENERAL CONDITIONS

3.1 Unless otherwise expressly permitted in these regulations, no modifications are permitted to the vehicle.

3.2 Unless otherwise expressly permitted in these regulations, the addition or attachment of material or parts is prohibited.

3.3 Vehicles shall comply with the following:

- National Competition Rules
- Schedules A, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L and R (except where these regulations authorise a specific departure and only to the extent of that departure) – refer "General Requirements for Cars and Drivers".

3.4 The minimum weight will be the manufacturers original specification, provided either by details obtained from the following Government website: *http://rvcs-prodweb.dot.gov.au/* (for automobiles listed), FIA or CAMS homologation/recognition papers, workshop manuals or sales specifications (in that order of priority).

This weight will be deemed to include all liquid tanks to be at the normal operating levels as foreseen by the vehicle manufacturer. 20kg may be deducted from the minimum weight of the vehicle is permitted to allow for the removal of an air-conditioning system forward of the firewall.

The minimum competition weight, to which the car must comply when weighed in the course of a competition, will be established by taking the minimum weight as established above and adding 43kg (for equipment).

3.5 Notwithstanding the minimum weight requirements, at no time shall a vehicle with the crew and their equipment weigh more than the manufacturer's specified Gross Vehicle Mass (GVM).

3.6 **Ballast:** Should ballast be required to be carried to meet the specified minimum weight, it shall be affixed to the rear floor space, inside the passenger compartment of the vehicle, in accordance with the following requirements:

- Ballast must be secured such that tools are required for its removal and so as to allow the fixing of seals by the scrutineers.
- It must be made from stacking steel plates according to the following drawing:

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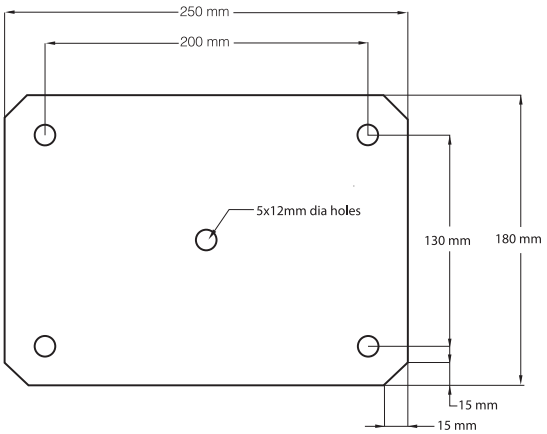

- The plates must be firmly attached inside a housing with not fewer than five (5) M12 screws.
- If attached directly to the floor, the floor must be reinforced under the head of each screw by a reinforcement plate which is at least 3mm thick and 2,500mm^2 area.
- The housing containing the ballast plates must be sealed by a cover.
- All nuts must be safety wired in place.

4. PERMITTED MODIFICATIONS

4.1 General:

(i) Modifications required in order to meet or facilitate compliance with the following are permitted:

- National Competition Rules;
- Schedules A, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L and R – refer "General Requirements for Cars and Drivers".

(ii) Throughout the vehicle, any nut, bolt, or screw may be replaced by another nut or bolt or screw and may have any kind of locking device.

Restoration of body shape and chassis geometry following accidental damage is permissible by the addition of the materials necessary to effect the repairs (body filler, weld metal etc); other parts which are worn or damaged are not to be repaired by the addition or attaching of material unless an Article in these Regulations allows appropriate freedom.

(iii) Original holes in bodywork may be filled or covered.

(iv) For open cars, where an optional hard top is available from the manufacturer for that model, that hard top may be utilised.

4.2 Engine and Drive Train:

(i) The electronic engine control unit may be replaced, 'reflashed' or intercepted ('piggybacked'). The wiring loom to the ECU may only be modified within the last 100mm.

(ii) The air conditioning core and all related parts on the engine side of the firewall may be removed; this allowance also permits the fitting of a replacement fan belt ~~and pulley~~. **The air conditioning compressor pulley may be removed or replaced.**.

(iii) The flywheel of the vehicle is free provided the original dimensions are retained and provided that the replacement item is made of a ferrous material.

(iv) The clutch is free provided the original number and dimensions of friction plates are retained.

(v) The differential action of the vehicle is free provided that no external control of the action is possible. The manufacturer's original differential ratio and housing must be retained.

(vi) The exhaust system after the catalytic converter is free provided that the original internal diameter is maintained. A tolerance of ± 6% is permitted.

(vii) Universal and constant velocity joints are free.

4.3 Suspension Brakes and Running Gear:

(i) Modifications to the braking system are permitted as follows:

- Rotors are free provided they are made of a ferrous material;
- Callipers are free provided that front callipers have a maximum of four pistons per calliper and rear callipers have a maximum of two pistons per calliper, and only one calliper per rotor may be fitted;
- Brake pads are free;
- Rotor dust shields may be removed or modified;
- Brake bias adjustment systems that do not include the construction of 'pedal box' may be fitted;
- Hydraulic handbrake systems may be fitted, subject to compliance with Schedule R (refer "General Requirements for Cars and Drivers");
- Rubber brake lines may be replaced by braided brake lines and associated couplings**;**
- **Anti-lock Braking (ABS) and Electronic Brakeforce Distribution (EBD) systems may be deactivated or removed.**

(ii) Dampers, their housing, torsion bars, springs and spring platforms are free.

(iii) Suspension components and pick up points may be strengthened provided that only the original suspension

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pick up points are utilised and provided that the strengthening follows the same contour as the original part.

(iv) Wheels and tyres are free, subject to compliance with Schedules E and R (refer "General Requirements for Cars and Drivers").

(v) Tie rod ends, ball joints and suspension bushes are free.

4.4 Interior of Vehicle:

(i) SRS airbags must be removed or disabled.

(ii) The steering wheel is free, subject to it not incorporating any wood.

(iii) The standard seat belts may be removed.

(iv) Seats and their mountings may be replaced, but seats must comply with the provisions of Article 8 of Schedule C (refer "General Requirements for Cars and Drivers").

(v) Trim may be modified to comply with the fitment of safety equipment and the addition of navigation instruments. Any interior trim modification resulting exposed interior metal must be covered with material/carpet of like colour to the remaining trim.

(vi) The rear seat/s may be removed.

(vii) The luggage compartment cover in a hatchback design vehicle may be removed.

(viii) Additional instruments are permitted, including for the purposes of navigation, provided that the original instrument cluster and dash board remains.

4.5 Exterior and Body Work of Vehicle:

(i) Two independent fastening systems must be fitted to hold the bonnet closed.

(ii) Jacking points are free.

(iii) Tow hooks must be fitted and shall comply with the provisions of Article 14 of Schedule R (refer "General Requirements for Cars and Drivers").

(iv) Fitment of additional under-body protection is permitted.

(v) Sound-proofing may be removed.

(vi) A maximum of two roof vents are permitted. Roof vents must be fitted in the forward one-third of the roof, with their open side facing forward. The vertical opening shall not be greater than 100mm.

(vii) Additional lights may be fitted in accordance with Schedule R (refer "General Requirements for Cars and Drivers").

(viii) Windscreens and windows are free provided they are manufactured from the same material and are the same thickness as the original.

4.6 Ancillary systems:

(i) Additional or replacement fuel tanks are free but must be of safe design and if fitted, must be vented to the outside of the vehicle. If the design of the vehicle makes the fitment of the tank outside the cockpit impractical (eg, Mazda 3, Suzuki Swift etc) it is permitted to fit the tank in that compartment provided that:

(a) the tank is filled via the original filling orifice and the tank breather is outside the compartment, regardless of vehicle construction;

(b) no part of the bodywork may be removed and/or altered to accommodate any fuel tank;

(c) in all cases the tank and lines are separated from the driver and co-driver by a flame proof and liquid proof bulkhead, which may be transparent;

(d) no part of the fuel system protrudes into any space normally occupied by any passengers in a standard vehicle.

It is recommended that where a fuel tank is replaced it be to the FIA standard.

(ii) The following items are free:

- Battery including its location;
- Gaskets, seals and bearings (excluding bearings internally located in the engine);
- Air and oil and fuel filters, save that they must retain their original dimensions;
- Spark plugs;
- Ancillary belts.

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