

PAGODA RADIO CAR CLUB

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NEWSLETTER No. 44

The purpose of this newsletter is to bring all members up to date with the present financial status of the PRCC. Currently our Bank balance is the lowest it has been for some years. This is due to the fact that we now have far more outgoings than we used to and after a year or two it has finally caught up with us.

Our major expenses are:-

1. Hugh Christie. The cost of the sports hall is £48.31p for a four hour meeting. This is a yearly total of £531.41p. Most of our indoor meetings actually run at a slight loss. Last meeting because there were 21 members we made a whopping profit of £6.69p!! Having said that, it is true to say that in terms of size, the hall is excellent for our purpose and having personally seen two other clubs racing indoors in halls half the size of ours I think it could be considered good value for money.
2. BRCA Membership. Belonging to the BRCA means that we get public liability insurance included with our club fees. However the cost is £40 for club affiliation and £6 for every member. This means every PRCC member is also a BRCA member. The total cost is around £160, which is met from club funds. This is an expense that did not exist until two years ago but is still cheaper than using an insurance company. Previously anyone wanting to belong to the BRCA had to arrange and pay for membership individually.
3. YMCA Membership. Again there are two elements to the cost of membership. We pay a £100 corporate fee, payable in advance, plus subs of £20 per meeting. In total the cost to the club is £320. Up until last year the only cost to PRCC to race at the St. John`s track was 50p for juniors and 75p for seniors. This equates to roughly £135 for a summer season. Membership of the YMCA (which was compulsory) was the responsibility of members individually. As you can see from these figures the cost to the club of racing for a season at St. John`s has increased vastly costing nearly £200 pounds extra.

That was the easy bit – now comes the hard part.

At the present moment in time our commitments are :-

- a. To purchase trophies for the Winter season and Spring meeting
- b. To pay the £100 corporate fee to the YMCA.

Unfortunately at the moment we can't do both, hence this newsletter.

In order to overcome this difficulty we propose to do two things to put the club in a stronger position financially.

1. To ask each driver for a one off fee of £5 prior to racing at St. John's. This will apply to old and new members alike and will allow us to pay the corporate fee to the YMCA.
2. To increase the weekly subs to £3 for juniors and £4 for seniors. This will be reviewed at the end of the summer season.

We both realise this may not meet with universal approval but the choice is a very simple one – do you want the club to be running this time next year or not?

We both also realise that there may be members who genuinely could not afford these increases. If you feel that you fall into this category please speak to one of us in total confidence. We are determined that no one should be precluded from racing because of cost.

Our hope is that you, the members, will agree with these actions to put PRCC on a more stable financial footing and so ensure racing for many years to come.

Please support the club by coming along and racing – not forgetting the Special Spring Meeting on April 25th.

Sorry if all this seems a bit gloomy but we thought it best to spell out what was happening.

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Ian Skilling and Brian Mills.

N.B. For anyone who is interested, some advanced warning. In addition to regular buggy racing we are proposing to run a saloon car heat when we go back indoors in Oct/Nov if there is enough interest.