



**1-4 April 2021 Easter Weekend**

**NZRCA 1/10 EP Off-road Nationals @ Raukawa International Raceway.**

### **Newsletter #1**

Welcome everyone to the first of what should be many updates regarding next year's Nationals here at Raukawa International Raceway, and with only 243 days to go, it is our intention to bring the biggest and best event we can to find the 2021 NZ Champions.

Our club has grown from strength to strength over the last 4 years, and this will be a significant step towards future developments for our club, and we want to showcase our work to you all over Easter weekend 2021.

The COVID crisis has certainly been a massive hiccup, but it has also invigorated the sport of RC, with suppliers and retailers all around New Zealand running out of stock and demand still there while customers wait for models to arrive. We would like to take the time to thank Hawkes Bay RC club for their efforts to date in getting the 2020 event over the line – it certainly has been a difficult and unprecedented situation they find themselves in, and we hope as many racers in NZ get themselves over to this event to support the club. We are taking a big crew, but have lost a few to other sporting commitments, so will be adding a few new and younger members to bolster the numbers for the event. We also want to thank the NZRCA for allowing us to move the date that we had locked in 2 years ago, due the 2019 move. This was handled extremely professionally and has allowed us to just pick up and move with confidence.

With this we have also submitted a remit for this year's NZRCA AGM that will allow any Traxxas SCT/Raptor to enter the 2WD Short Course class, but allow the use of the kit 7 cell Nimah battery, as long as it is run with the kit ESC and motor. We don't think this is an unreasonable request and hope we get support from other clubs and then you the racers when it comes to your section of the vote. If you want numbers, you have to make change and this is a simple change to allow more cars racing.

We had hoped to reach out to our Trans-Tasman cousins and get a reasonable team over from Australia for this event, but the current situation in Australia with COVID this seem more and more unlikely. We will send the info pack over, bit unless the world is in a better place, I can't see this happening.

Our sponsorship package will go out shortly, and if you are a racer and if you can also get in behind our event, it will only add to the final product we can deliver to you. Our target for the sponsorship is \$10k+GST and we are going to get there by offering a raffle system. We will also have some bigger ticket items "for sale" such as the hill, jumps and turns, but will be offering these to our local business and partners for their continued support of the club.

We will have the raffle finalised shortly with the full package available for you to take to business to see if they want to be part of this great event. Tickets are \$100+GST each and we want to move 100 to get to our target.

To ensure we can put on a show that is worthy of a national title, it is our aim to have 300 cars entered. While this may seem like a long bow, the reality is we have 100 cars here, so between all the other clubs around NZ there is no reason why this number can't be achieved. We have a massive youth presence at our racing and we are doing everything we can to get these guys and girls along and racing with us at the event. I remember my first nationals, in Wellington at Avalon Park, with my Hot Trick Fox. I even made a black and white photo in the Dominion which was quite an achievement (still have a copy of the original). I was 11, but remember that, and while the next few were a blur, the Palmerston North win in 1992 is something to savor. I managed to get

the Fox back, 25 years later, and have my old faithful TRX1 here with many other stablemates. This has what has made this sport so enduring to me, and we are now trying to play it forward to our youth racers with the hope they can be us in another 20+ years.

For those who don't know about us, check out the website, [www.rir.nz](http://www.rir.nz) and then click and like the facebook page to see what we are doing here. We have updates every other day, some interesting, some not, but by clicking in you are helping grow the club and will have the latest updates about the event.

Our track is located 8km from the Palmerston North boundary, heading towards Hawkes Bay. The track is located on our own property and we have super supportive neighbours that are also keen to make sure the event is successful. We have plenty of onsite parking and power, self-contained camping is encouraged and we will have a special area for you so you can remain using the camper as your base for the weekend and still be right there by the common pit area. We will have areas for those of you with trailer and will ask if you do have any special vehicle needs, that you mark this on the entry so we can make sure you have space.

The Nationals track is now built and will be in place right through to Easter 2021. The image below shows the beautiful 1/10 surface we are creating and we hope you will enjoy this as much as we do. We have many club meetings prior to the Nationals and encourage you to come and join our big family of racers at any club day.. Currently the JC Goosebump is the tyre choice, but we are completing testing JC Sprinters. As soon as we are aware of the outcome we will be in touch. We would recommend bringing Goosebumps with you if you visit as this will most likely be the tire of choice, and also easy as most of you will have in your kits. We will be watering during the event, but after 3 years of this we are very certain of how this needs to be done and will have a special crew whose job will be just to water to ensure we have a consistent coverage for you all over the weekend.

We also have our Manawatu Open, a 2 day event run with our own special format, with Vintage and modern cars racing over a weekend on December 4-6. We had 121 cars entered last year, and are hoping to get closer to 150 this year. We have a clear weekend with other major club events, so no reason to get in the car for some Manawatu hospitality. We believe this is the hardest title in New Zealand to win, but massively rewarding.

That's it for the first of many newsletters, let's start thinking green and white and we'll see you'all at 21 in 21.

Yours in RC

Hulio.

