Southern Highlands Off-Road Radio Control Car Club (SHORRCCC) Newsletter

Issue 2 -Oct2026

Welcome Back to the SHORRCCC Newsletter!!

The first edition of the SHORRCCC Newsletter received a wonderfully positive response, so we have decided to make it a regular feature.

If you missed the first edition, the newsletter has been established to help keep our members, families, supporters , and wider racing community connected through race meeting highlights, club updates, upcoming events, community news, sponsor recognition and stories celebrating the people who make SHORRCCC such a fantastic club.

We are keen to keep improving the newsletter and welcome your feedback, ideas and suggestions for future editions.

The Southern Highlands Cup

The countdown is on, with the inaugural Southern Highlands Cup now less than a month away!

Held across the weekend of 21–22 November, the event will feature Rookies, Junior 2WD, 2WD and 4WD Stock, 2WD and 4WD Modified, SCT and Stadium Trucks, and 2WD Vintage (Outlaw).

Saturday will begin with free practice until 12:30 pm, followed by qualifying and finals for the Rookies and Vintage classes. Two five-minute practice sessions will also be held between each Rookies and Vintage race.

The day will be supported by a race announcer that's bound to build for an exciting atmosphere. We are proud to recognise RPM Hobbies as the event's title sponsor and Casey's Toys as a Gold Sponsor. Their generous support is helping make this exciting new fixture possible.

Be sure to register—it is shaping up to be a fantastic weekend of racing! Enter here now

New Facebook Page!

Almost 12 months ago, the administrator account for our Facebook page was compromised, leaving the club with limited control of the page. After many unsuccessful attempts to restore full administrative access, we have made the difficult decision to establish a new page. While this was not our preferred outcome, it will ensure the club can continue sharing timely updates and engaging with our community.

As we are unable to access or transfer the existing follower list, we are asking all members and supporters to help spread the word by following and sharing the new page. Although the current newsfeed cannot be transferred, we will make every effort to preserve and move other important content wherever possible.

We would also like to give a huge shout-out to Scott Jones for helping keep the original page active over the past 12 months. His regular updates have played an important role in keeping our fantastic club community informed and connected.

Bunnings BBQ

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We have now submitted our application to host a Bunnings BBQ and are awaiting confirmation of an assigned date. This will be a fantastic fundraising opportunity and a great way to spread the word about our club throughout the wider community. Of course, events like this do not run themselves, so once the date is confirmed, we will be calling on members and supporters to volunteer and help make the day a success. Keep an eye out for further details!

Marry Me Chicken!

With our wonderful Val away enjoying a well-earned holiday, several members stepped up to lend a hand with the canteen and other duties.

A huge shout-out goes to Owen O'Neill for taking charge in the canteen and introducing his delicious "Marry Me Chicken" to the menu—a dish that proved to be a real crowd-pleaser!

We would also like to thank Ed Costigan and Adrian for stepping in behind the computer, giving others the opportunity to spend some time on the drivers' stand.

Many others pitched in throughout the day, whether helping with general duties or making sure cars reached the grid. That willingness to work together and support one another is exactly what makes SHORRCCC such a fantastic club to be part of.



November Club Day: Final Round of the Club Championship!

Our November Club Day will be held on Sunday, 15 November and will mark the final round of the Club Championship. With plenty of points still up for grabs, there is everything to race for as the season reaches its exciting conclusion.

Taking place just one week before the Southern Highlands Cup, the meeting will also provide a valuable opportunity for drivers to practice and fine-tune their setups ahead of the big event. We may welcome additional competitors looking to learn the track, so we ask everyone to arrive a little earlier than usual to help ensure racing gets underway on time.

SHORRCCC 2026 Championship Update

With the October round complete, the SHORRCCC 2026 Club Championship is heading towards an exciting finish. Dan Maher leads 2WD Stock 17.5 on 1,666 points, Corey Ellis tops 4WD Stock 13.5 with 1,139, Billy Bantick leads Junior 2WD Stock 17.5 on 782, and Elliot heads the Rookies standings with 480. Corey Smith is enjoying an outstanding season, leading both Trucks Combined on 1,498 points and Vintage Combined on 1,469.

Several championships now appear to be wrapped up. Dan Maher holds a commanding advantage in 2WD Stock 17.5, Billy Bantick has established a strong lead in the Junior class, and Corey Smith has substantial margins in both Trucks and Vintage. Subject to the final scoring, dropped-score and eligibility checks, these four leaders appear to have done enough to claim their respective titles.

Two title fights remain very much alive!

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In 4WD Stock 13.5, Corey Ellis leads Andrew Davies by 227 points, meaning the November result and the application of dropped scores could still decide the championship. The Rookies battle is closer again, with Elliot only 69 points ahead of Edward Kilah. Zac Langan, William Phillips and Blake Kilah also remain in the mix, setting the scene for a terrific finish at the final scheduled round on 15 November.

December Meet: RC Endurance Event

With the Club Championship wrapping up in November and Christmas just around the corner, the committee is planning something a little different for our December meeting—a fun RC endurance event! The finer details are still being developed, but the idea was first put forward by Billy Bantick and could become a new annual fixture from next year.

Have an idea for how the event could work? We would love to hear it! Please reach out and help us shape what promises to be a fun and memorable way to finish the year.



October Race Results: Summary

Round 10 delivered competitive racing across the junior, stock, rookie, truck and vintage classes, with several clean sweeps, close finishes and strong comeback drives.

Rookies: Edward Kilah's consistency, including an A2 win, delivered the overall victory. Elliot's A3 win lifted him to second, with A1 winner Harison Gynn third.

Junior 2WD Stock 17.5: Samual Macri won A1 and the deciding A3 to take the round. Christian Piazza finished second after winning A2, and Billy Bantick's steady results secured third.

2WD Stock 17.5: Brad Vercoe dominated the A-Mains with three wins, ahead of Hugo Tsang and Dan Maher. In the B-Mains, Pizza also completed a clean sweep, with Corey Ellis recording three second-place finishes and Owen O'Neill taking third overall.

4WD Stock 13.5: Vercoe's victories in A1 and A2 secured the class despite a DNF in A3. Hugo Tsang won the final leg to finish second overall, while Samual Macri's three podium results earned third.

Trucks Combined: Corey Smith followed Billy Bantick's A1 win with victories in A2 and A3 to claim the overall result. Bantick finished second and Heath Kilah third.

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Vintage Combined: Samual Macri won A1 and A3 to secure the class, with Heath Kilah second after winning A2. Corey Smith completed the podium with three consistent third-place finishes.

Across the meeting, Vercoe and Pizza produced perfect sweeps, while Piazza, Macri, Smith, Kilah and Tsang highlighted the depth of competition through decisive wins and consistent podium performances.

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Round 10: October 2026: In-depth analysis

Rookies Class: Mains and Results

The Rookies produced three action-packed A-Mains at Round 9, with changing fortunes across the day and a tightly contested overall result.

Harison Gynn opened the finals in commanding fashion, completing 10 laps in 5:03.647 to take the win. Edward Kilah secured second with 9 laps in 5:01.751, while top qualifier Samwise Nguyen completed the podium with 8 laps in 5:02.394. Henry O'keffe finished fourth and Elliot fifth.

The second final brought a major shake-up. Edward Kilah claimed the win despite being recorded as a DNF after 8 laps in 4:09.118, with Elliot second on 8 laps in 4:21.404. Henry O'keffe edged Harison Gynn for third by just 0.240 seconds, while Samwise Nguyen placed fifth.

Elliot finished the day strongly, winning A3 with 9 laps in 5:01.981. Edward Kilah was close behind in second, just 2.112 seconds back, while Harison Gynn took third. Henry O'keffe and Samwise Nguyen both recorded DNFs.

Consistency across the three finals carried Edward Kilah to the overall victory, with two second-place finishes and an A2 win. Elliot's A3 victory lifted him to second overall, while A1 winner Harison Gynn completed the podium. Henry O'keffe finished fourth and top qualifier Samwise Nguyen fifth.

2wd Junior: Mains and Results

The Junior 2WD Stock 17.5 field produced three entertaining A-Mains at Round 9. Samual Macri and top qualifier Christian Piazza traded victories, while Billy Bantick's consistent performances earned him the final place on the overall podium.

Macri opened the contest with victory in A1, completing 14 laps in 5:07.209 to finish 2.633 seconds ahead of Piazza. Tyler Acton placed third, followed by Zac Langan and Bantick. Piazza recorded the race's quickest lap at 20.675 seconds.

Piazza responded in A2, taking the win with 14 laps in 5:14.348. Bantick climbed to second, 5.274 seconds behind, while Macri finished third. Acton and Langan completed the top five, leaving the overall result to be decided in A3.

Macri saved his strongest run for the deciding final, completing 15 laps in 5:07.689 to claim A3 and the overall victory. Piazza finished second on 14 laps in 5:01.394, with Bantick third and Acton fourth.

Macri's two wins from three starts secured the result

The final standings placed Macri first, Piazza second, and Bantick third. Acton finished fourth overall, followed by Langan, Samwise Nguyen, Elliot and Lachlan Gynn.

The juniors demonstrated impressive pace and resilience throughout, with Macri's superb 15-lap performance providing a fitting conclusion to the round.

2WD Stock 17.5 Class: Mains and Results

A-Mains:
Top qualifier Brad Vercoe controlled A1 from the front, completing 16 laps in 5:19.002 and setting the fastest lap at 18.977 seconds. Dan Maher was the closest challenger, finishing second with 15 laps in 5:15.618, while Hugo Tsang recovered to secure third on 14 laps. Christian Piazza followed in fourth, ahead of Greg Rosander, Chris Raap and Andrew Kerek, while Brendan Brophy retired after six laps.

Vercoe maintained his perfect record in A2, again completing 16 laps, this time in 5:23.515. Behind him, Greg Rosander claimed second after a close contest with Hugo Tsang, the pair separated by just 0.391 seconds after 14 laps. Dan Maher finished fourth, followed by Christian Piazza, Andrew Kerek and Brendan Brophy, while Chris Raap did not start.

A3 completed Vercoe's clean sweep. His 16 laps in 5:16.738 were his quickest winning result of the three finals, and his 18.617-second fastest lap was also the best recorded in the race. Hugo Tsang produced his strongest finish of the day in second with 15 laps in 5:11.423, while Christian Piazza climbed to third on 15 laps. Greg Rosander took fourth, Brendan Brophy fifth and Andrew Kerek sixth. Dan Maher recorded a DNF after nine laps.

Three wins from three starts gave Vercoe an emphatic overall A-Main victory. Tsang's progression from third in A1 and A2 to second in A3 secured the runner-up position. Maher's second place in A1 was enough to retain third overall despite fourth in A2 and his A3 retirement. Rosander finished fourth overall after his A2 podium, followed by Piazza, Brophy, Kerek and Raap.

B-Mains:
Pizza produced a commanding clean sweep across the three finals, while Corey Ellis delivered consistent runner-up results and Owen O'Neill, Mick, Jimmy and Ari Bone battled for the remaining positions.
Pizza opened B1 with 14 laps in 5:08.372 and the race's fastest lap of 19.730 seconds. Corey Ellis also completed 14 laps, finishing 14.082 seconds behind in second. Owen O'Neill took third with 13 laps, followed by Mick on 12 laps and Ari Bone on 11. Jimmy did not start.

In B2, Pizza won again with 13 laps in 5:04.234, finishing 9.113 seconds ahead of Ellis. Owen O'Neill retained third with 12 laps in 5:12.100, while Mick finished fourth just 2.149 seconds later. Jimmy recovered from his B1 absence to take fifth, with Ari Bone sixth.

Pizza completed the sweep in B3 with 14 laps in 5:15.344 and a fastest lap of 20.010 seconds. Ellis was second for the third consecutive race, one lap behind in 5:03.512. Mick produced his best result of the day by moving into third, ahead of Jimmy and Ari Bone. Owen O'Neill did not start, ending his run of two third-place finishes.

Pizza's perfect record secured the overall B-Main victory. Ellis's three second-place finishes made him the clear runner-up. O'Neill held third overall through his two podium results

despite missing B3, while Mick's third-place finish in the final lifted him to fourth. Jimmy's fifth and fourth after a B1 DNS earned fifth overall, ahead of Ari Bone.

4WD Stock 13.5: Mains and Results

The 4WD Stock 13.5 finals featured dominant early running from top qualifier Brad Vercoe, followed by a strong A3 response from Hugo Tsang.

Brad Vercoe converted pole position into a commanding A1 victory, completing 16 laps in 5:08.764. Samual Macri finished second with 14 laps in 5:01.432, ahead of Corey Ellis in third. Hugo Tsang placed fourth, with Andrew Kerek completing the top five.

Vercoe improved his pace in A2, winning with 16 laps in 5:04.934. Hugo Tsang moved up to second with 15 laps in 5:07.879, while Samual Macri held third by 1.287 seconds over Corey Ellis. Brendan Brophy finished fifth, narrowly ahead of Andrew Kerek.

Hugo Tsang finished the day strongly by winning A3 with 16 laps in 5:11.351. Samual Macri secured second with 15 laps in 5:08.052, while Andrew Kerek took third. Brendan Brophy placed fourth, as Brad Vercoe and Corey Ellis recorded DNFs and Adrian Dickson and Mathew Heterick did not start.

Two wins from the opening finals secured Brad Vercoe the overall 4WD Stock 13.5 victory despite his A3 DNF. Hugo Tsang finished second overall after improving from fourth in A1 to second in A2 and winning A3. Samual Macri's three podium finishes earned him third, followed by Corey Ellis, Andrew Kerek, Brendan Brophy, Adrian Dickson and Mathew Heterick.

Trucks Combined: Mains and Results

The Trucks Combined finals featured a close contest between Billy Bantick and top qualifier Corey Smith, with both drivers claiming wins and Heath Kilah remaining in podium contention.

Billy Bantick opened the finals with an A1 victory, completing 14 laps in 5:02.339. Corey Smith finished 3.222 seconds behind in second, while Chris Raap secured third. Heath Kilah placed fourth, with Mick completing the top five.

Corey Smith responded emphatically in A2, completing 15 laps in 5:17.798 to take the win. Billy Bantick was second with 14 laps in 5:06.139, narrowly holding off Heath Kilah by 1.003 seconds. Mick finished fourth, followed by Mal Bone and Marcus Klein.

Smith made it back-to-back wins in A3 with 15 laps in 5:24.829. Bantick finished second on 14 laps, while Mick moved onto the podium in third. Mal Bone and Marcus Klein took fourth and fifth, and Heath Kilah recorded a DNF after six laps.

Two victories from the final two races secured Corey Smith the overall Trucks Combined win. Billy Bantick finished second overall after winning A1 and placing second twice, while Heath Kilah took third. Mick finished fourth, Mal Bone fifth, Chris Raap sixth and Marcus Klein seventh.

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Vintage Combined:

The Vintage Combined field delivered three competitive A-Mains, with Samual Macri and Heath Kilah sharing the wins and Corey Smith producing a consistent run of podium finishes.

Top qualifier Samual Macri took the A1 win with 14 laps in 5:17.871, finishing 2.062 seconds ahead of Heath Kilah. Corey Smith completed the podium with 13 laps in 5:09.488. Edward Costigan and Marcus Klein rounded out the top five, while Brendan Brophy, Anthony Macri and David Dickson recorded DNFs.

Heath Kilah responded in A2, winning with 14 laps in 5:21.310. Samual Macri finished second with 13 laps in 5:08.397, while Corey Smith again placed third. Brendan Brophy and Anthony Macri completed 12 laps to take fourth and fifth respectively.

Samual Macri closed the finals with another victory in A3, completing 14 laps in 5:18.112. Heath Kilah finished second on 14 laps in 5:28.401, and Corey Smith secured his third consecutive third-place result with 13 laps in 5:00.824. Brendan Brophy and Anthony Macri rounded out the top five.

With two wins from three finals, Samual Macri secured the overall Vintage Combined victory. Heath Kilah finished second overall after winning A2 and placing second in both A1 and A3, while Corey Smith's three third-place finishes earned him third. Brendan Brophy placed fourth, Edward Costigan fifth, Anthony Macri sixth, Marcus Klein seventh and David Dickson eighth.