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

Issue 1 September 2026

Welcome to the first edition of the SHORRCCC Newsletter!

Welcome to our first official club newsletter!

This newsletter has been created to help keep our members, families, supporters and wider racing community connected with what is happening around the club.
Each edition will aim to share race meeting highlights, club updates, upcoming events, community news, sponsor recognition and stories that celebrate the people who make SHORRCCC such a fantastic club to be part of.
As this is our first edition, we are keen to keep improving the format, content, and overall feel of the newsletter, so we welcome your feedback, ideas and suggestions for future editions.



SHORRCCC Honors Board

A special highlight of the September race meeting was the unveiling of the Southern Highlands Radio Controlled Off-Road Car Club (SHORRCCC) Honors board. The board was commissioned to recognise the club's founding and constitutional members, acknowledging the people whose early commitment helped establish and shape the club into what it is today. We were fortunate to have several founding members present for the unveiling and throughout the day, making the occasion a meaningful opportunity to celebrate the club's history, recognise their contribution, and share the moment with the broader racing community.

Massive shout out to Val for coordinating this, it looks amazing 😻

A New Website!

The club is also excited to launch its new website, which will become a central place to showcase the amazing history of SHORRCCC and keep members, families and visitors updated on what is happening around the club. A huge shout-out goes to Billy Bantick for pulling it all together — not only can he drive an RC buggy, he can also build a website, and he's only 11! It is a fantastic effort and a great example of the talent and enthusiasm within our club community.

Bunnings BBQ

Members present at the September round took a vote on the club applying to run a Bunnings BBQ. While the proposed BBQ will be an important opportunity to raise funds, it will also give the club a great chance to promote the fantastic community we have and, hopefully, welcome some new members along the way. At this stage, the club is also looking at running another practice and community day on the same date, allowing people to rotate between some track time and helping out at the BBQ. If you are able to assist on the day, please come and see us — every bit of support will help make the event a success.

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

Issue 1 September 2026

Introducing:

The Southern Highlands Cup

The Southern Highlands Cup will be held across 21–22nd November and is shaping up to be a cracker as the club launches this inaugural event. With Casey's Toys coming on board as event sponsors and RPM Hobbies proudly supporting the Cup as naming sponsor, the weekend is set to bring together a fantastic mix of racers and classes. The event will feature racing for all Rookies, Junior 2WD, 2WD and 4WD Stock and Modified classes, Vintage, and both SCT and Stadium Trucks, making it a great opportunity for drivers of all ages and experience levels to be part of a major new fixture on the SHORRCCC calendar.
Don't forget to get your entries in:
Enter Here



Practice & Community Days

Following the washout of the August round, the club hosted a trial practice and community day aimed at providing open access to the track, with live timing available so drivers could get in that all-important practice. Committee members and other club members were also on hand throughout the day to support younger drivers and help them dial in their buggies. Overall, we feel the day was a real success, with more than 1,000 laps completed between the 20 different drivers who attended. We would love to hear your feedback on whether practice and support days like this should become a more regular event on the club calendar.

September Race Results: Summary

September's race meeting delivered an excellent spread of finals across the junior, stock, rookie, trucks and vintage classes, with close battles, changing fortunes and several standout performances across the program.

The meeting showcased strong driving from both experienced competitors and developing racers, with consistency proving just as important as outright pace across the three-leg A-Main format.

SHORRCCC

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

Issue 1 September 2026

In the Junior 17.5 2WD class, Christian Piazza recovered strongly after a difficult opening final to win A2 and A3, securing the overall victory with the fastest class run in the final leg. Billy Bantick remained a consistent front-runner throughout, while Tyler Acton, Zac Langan and Elliot all added to a competitive junior field, with Elliot finishing the day strongly through a podium result in A3.

The stock classes produced some of the tightest racing of the meeting. Wayne Walker converted TQ into the 2WD Stock 17.5 overall win, despite an A2 DNF opening the door for Dan Maher to take a strong leg victory.

In 4WD Stock 13.5, Andrew Davies showed early speed from TQ, but Corey Ellis capitalised across A2 and A3 to take the overall win, supported by strong podium efforts from Billy Bantick and Brendan Brophy.

The Rookies class was a positive highlight, giving newer drivers valuable race experience. Harison Gynn took the win with a steady nine-lap run, Leila Murdoch-Dickson delivered a strong second place, and Isaac Cragg showed clear speed before an early finish.

Across Trucks Combined, Corey Smith was dominant, winning all three finals, while Billy Bantick's consistency and David Dickson's late improvement rounded out the key results.

Vintage Combined also delivered a strong contest, with Heath Kilah converting TQ and early finals wins into the overall result. Corey Smith finished strongly with an A3 win to secure second overall, while Luke Kilah's consistency across all three finals earned him a well-deserved podium.

Overall, the meeting reflected a great mix of speed, race craft and perseverance, with each class contributing its own key storylines and memorable drives.

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

Issue 1 September 2026

Round 9: September 2026: In-depth analysis

Junior 17.5 2WD Class: Mains and Results

The Junior 17.5 2WD class delivered a cracking set of finals, with plenty of close racing, changing fortunes, and some standout drives across the three A-Mains.
Christian Piazza entered the finals as TQ and showed strong outright pace throughout the day. After a difficult A1, Christian bounced back strongly in A2, taking the win with a 15-lap run, then backed it up in A3 with an even faster 15/5:09.409 to secure the overall win for the round. His A3 performance was the quickest of the class finals and demonstrated excellent consistency under pressure.

Billy Bantick was the benchmark early, taking out A1 with a clean 14/5:12.545 and remaining right in contention across all three legs. Billy followed up with second-place finishes in both A2 and A3, producing a strong and consistent finals campaign that kept the pressure on at the front.
Tyler Acton was another consistent performer, banking second in A1 and third in A2 before finishing fourth in A3. His best run came in A2 with 13/5:04.596, which helped secure a strong overall result and showed good pace across the mains.

Zac Langan put together a solid finals run, highlighted by third in A1 and a best result of 12/5:00.585. While A2 and A3 proved tougher, Zac remained competitive throughout and continued to build valuable race experience in a closely matched junior field.

Elliot saved the best for last, improving across the finals and producing a standout third-place finish in A3 with 13/5:09.581. After fifth-place finishes in A1 and A2, that final-leg podium was a great way to finish the meeting and showed strong improvement as the day progressed.

Overall, the Junior 17.5 2WD class provided a great display of junior racing, with Christian's speed, Billy's consistency, Tyler's steady results, Zac's competitiveness, and Elliot's late charge all adding to an entertaining set of finals.

SHORRCCC

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

Issue 1 September 2026

2WD Stock 17.5 Class: Mains and Results

The 2WD Stock 17.5 class produced a strong set of A-Mains, with Wayne Walker setting the early benchmark from TQ and plenty of movement through the field across the three finals.
Wayne Walker was the driver to beat from the outset, converting TQ into a dominant A1 win with a 15/5:00.839 — the quickest overall run of the class finals. A DNF in A2 briefly opened the door for the rest of the field, but Wayne responded in A3 with another controlled win, taking 15/5:11.577 and securing the overall result with two first-place finishes.

Dan Maher was Wayne's closest challenger across the finals. After finishing second in A1, Dan capitalised on Wayne's A2 DNF to take the A2 win with a strong 15/5:13.985. A third-place finish in A3 gave him a very solid overall result and showed he had the pace to pressure at the front when opportunities opened up.

Heath put together one of the most consistent campaigns of the class, improving from fourth in A1 to second in A2 and then backing that up with another second place in A3. An A3 effort of 15/5:14.139 was his best run of the finals and enough to place him firmly among the front runners.

Pizza started strongly with third in A1, posting a 14/5:02.498, before tougher runs in A2 and A3 where he finished fourth in both. Despite that, the A1 podium result remained an important score and kept him well placed in the overall order.

Andrew Davies was another driver to show strong mid-field pace, highlighted by an impressive third place in A2 with 14/5:17.398. While a DNF in A3 hurt his final result, his A2 drive was one of the standout recovery performances of the class.

Greg Rosander and Corey Ellis were closely matched through the finals. Greg's best result came in A2 with fifth place, while Corey continued to improve as the mains progressed, moving from seventh in A1 to sixth in A2 and fifth in A3. Their close final points showed just how tight the racing was through the middle of the field.

Brendan Brophy, Owen O'Neill, David Dickson and Michael Harlow rounded out the field, with Brendan improving from a DNS in A1 to sixth in A3, while Owen and David gained valuable race laps across A2 and A3.

Overall, the 2WD Stock 17.5 class delivered a competitive set of finals, with Wayne's outright pace, Dan's A2 win, Heath's consistency, and strong battles through the mid-pack making for an entertaining round of racing.

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

Issue 1 September 2026

4WD Stock 13.5: Mains and Results

The 4WD Stock 13.5 class delivered a finals series full of twists, with early speed from Andrew Davies, a strong response from Corey Ellis, and a close battle for the podium positions across the three A-Mains.

Andrew Davies entered the finals as TQ and made the perfect start, taking A1 with a composed 14/5:13.658. That opening win showed he had the pace to control the class, but DNS results in A2 and A3 meant the overall result was left wide open for the rest of the field.

Corey Ellis made the most of the opportunity and was the standout performer across the final two legs. After finishing second in A1 with 13/5:09.015, Corey lifted the pace in A2 to take the win with 14/5:08.694, then backed it up in A3 with another win at 14/5:11.824. Two strong wins across the final mains secured Corey the overall class victory.

Billy Bantick put together a solid finals campaign, starting with third in A1 before improving to second in A2 with 13/5:15.897. Although A3 ended early with a DNF after three laps, Billy's earlier results were enough to keep him well placed in the overall standings and underline his consistency near the front of the field.

Brendan Brophy finished the day strongly, improving from fourth in A1 and A2 to second in A3 with 13/5:03.911. That final-leg result was a great recovery drive and showed strong pace when it mattered most.

Adrian Dickson had a tough run with DNFs in A1 and A2, but his third-place result in A2 still contributed to the overall order. Lachlan Gynn completed A1 with a ninth-lap run, while Darcy Kearns and Adam Kearns were listed but did not record finals laps.

Overall, the 4WD Stock 13.5 class produced an interesting set of finals, with Andrew showing early speed from TQ, Corey delivering when it counted, Billy staying in the podium mix, and Brendan finishing the meeting with his best result of the series.

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

Issue 1 September 2026

Rookies Class: Mains and Results

The Rookies class was a great showcase of new and developing drivers getting valuable race experience, with Harison Gynn, Leila Murdoch-Dickson, Isaac Cragg and Lachlan Gynn all listed for the A Main.

Isaac Cragg started from TQ and showed strong early pace, setting the quickest lap of the race with a 33.848. Unfortunately, his race came to an early end after seven laps, but his speed was clear and he remained right in the mix before the DNF.

Harison Gynn put together the strongest overall run, completing nine laps in 5:35.251 to take the win. Harison built consistency through the race and kept going to the finish, which proved the difference in a class where staying on track and completing laps is key.

Leila Murdoch-Dickson also had a strong drive, finishing second with eight laps in 5:10.311. Leila showed good pace throughout the run, including the fastest completed-race lap of 35.351, and stayed close enough to keep pressure on the leader.

Lachlan Gynn was listed in the final but did not start, so there were no race laps recorded for him on this occasion.

Overall, the Rookies class was a positive display of developing race craft, with Harison taking the win, Leila delivering a strong second place, and Isaac showing excellent speed before his early finish. It was a great effort from the newest drivers and a strong sign of more good racing to come.

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

Issue 1 September 2026

Trucks Combined: Mains and Results

The Trucks Combined class delivered a strong set of finals, with Corey Smith setting the standard across all three A-Mains and plenty of hard racing behind him.



Corey Smith was the clear benchmark for the class, taking the win in A1 with 15/5:18.452 before backing it up with victories in A2 and A3. His fastest run came in A3, where he posted 14/5:00.892, narrowly improving on his A2 time of 14/5:01.567. With three wins from three finals, Corey secured a dominant overall result and showed excellent consistency across the meeting

Billy Bantick was the closest challenger throughout the finals, finishing second in all three A-Mains. His best result came in A3 with 14/5:06.742, keeping Corey honest at the front and giving Billy a well-earned second overall after a very consistent finals campaign.

David Dickson improved as the finals progressed, moving from fifth in A1 to third in A2 and then another third in A3. His A3 run of 12/5:07.940 was his strongest of the day and helped secure a podium position in the overall order.

Luke Kilah started strongly with third in A1, completing 13 laps in 5:33.964. While A2 ended early with a DNF and A3 proved tougher, his opening podium run kept him right in the overall mix and showed good pace early in the finals.

Marcus Klein and Adrian Dickson rounded out the field, with Marcus banking consistent laps in A1 and A2 before a DNF in A3, while Adrian completed runs in the first two finals before a DNS in the final leg. Both added to a competitive Trucks grid and gained valuable track time across the round.

Overall, the Trucks Combined class was defined by Corey's clean sweep, Billy's consistency, David's strong late charge, and solid racing through the rest of the field. It made for an entertaining set of finals and a great showcase for the Trucks category.

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

Issue 1 September 2026

Vintage Combined: Mains and Results

The Vintage Combined class produced a great set of finals, with Heath setting the early pace from TQ and several drivers having standout moments across the three A-Mains.
Heath was the benchmark for much of the class, taking TQ and converting it into wins in A1 and A2. His A1 run of 13/5:01.416 set the tone early, before he improved again in A2 with a strong 14/5:14.378. Although A3 did not quite go his way, finishing second with 12/5:03.241, the two earlier wins were enough to secure the overall result

Corey Smith built momentum as the finals progressed. After a tougher A1 where he finished third with 11/5:02.593, Corey lifted in A2 to take second with 13/5:09.092, then finished strongly by winning A3 with 13/5:07.538. That final-leg win was a great way to close out the meeting and secured him second overall.



Corey Smith built momentum as the finals progressed. After a tougher A1 where he finished third with 11/5:02.593, Corey lifted in A2 to take second with 13/5:09.092, then finished strongly by winning A3 with 13/5:07.538. That final-leg win was a great way to close out the meeting and secured him second overall.

Luke Kilah was right in the podium mix throughout the finals, starting with an excellent second place in A1 on 12/5:25.723. He followed that with third-place finishes in A2 and A3, improving his time in the final leg to 12/5:06.440. His consistency across all three mains helped lock in a strong overall podium result.

Marcus Klein put together a consistent set of runs, finishing fourth in all three finals and keeping his results tightly grouped across the day. His best result came in A1 with 10/5:25.565, while A3 was close behind at 10/5:26.201.

Darcy Kearns completed A1 with nine laps in 5:07.185, but did not record race laps in A2 or A3. That A1 result still placed him in the overall order and gave him valuable race time in the Vintage Combined field.

Overall, the Vintage Combined class was highlighted by Heath's strong start and overall win, Corey's late charge, Luke's consistent podium form, and solid efforts from Marcus and Darcy across the field.