



# PALMYRA DRAG RACING CLUB INC.

SINCE 1968

Bells Road, Palmyra - PO Box 740, Mackay Qld 4740

Email: [web@palmyradragway.com.au](mailto:web@palmyradragway.com.au) Website: [www.palmyradragway.com.au](http://www.palmyradragway.com.au)

## **Palmyra Dragway Presidents report No: 5 July 2017.**

This report is to let all members know what the current Management Committees plans and priorities are for the Palmyra venue. I hope this expels the face book rumours and gossip fed dribble being pushed at present and brought up by club members at our recent club meeting. This repair work will include replacing venue perimeter fences, electrics and timing equipment that have been under water.

- 1) We are currently running the race track as a 1/8 mile facility and the management committee will complete all maintenance work and repairs required following the last major weather to ensure we can run safe and efficient race meetings.
- 2) As stated in previous reports an application for flood mitigation works funding has been made to the RACQ Foundation Grant. We will know if we were successful in this application by the end of July.
  - a. If successful this will see the construction of a retaining wall constructed directly behind the Armco fence for a distance of 300m and on a 600mm footing. This is believed to be a solution to stop water from major weather events getting under the braking area surface at speed and damaging the surface.
  - b. The logic behind this is the fact that the existing race surface isn't damaged by these weather events as the safety wall is between 600 and 800 mm in the ground.
  - c. If unsuccessful this work will still be a priority and will require labour machinery and concrete to be supplied by the club. We could install the footing then look at placing the large concrete blocks at the southern end of the track behind the Armco as an option remembering we can't put heavy machinery on the surface of the braking area.
- 3) The next step will be to remove the damaged surface in the braking area and replace it with concrete this will be an extension of the concrete that already runs down the western side of the race surface.
- 4) The other work required following the completion of the retaining wall is to complete earth works to lift the ground level behind the wall and grade it back to the storm water drain.
- 5) Again the works above need to be done in steps to hopefully get the desired result of stopping water at speed getting under the surface of the braking area and damaging the surface. It is our thinking that if we dry up one of the sources of water that gets under the track it will dry out and eventually become stable the same way as it has done previously and the same way the return road along the front of the plane hangars has done.

The club did receive \$5,000 from cyclone recovery fund but were unsuccessful in the second round of funding for \$25,000 due to the fact we were a couple of hundred meters outside the damage area. We have requested via local politicians office a review of this decision and have been told it is now going through the review process.



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The other major issue the facility faces is the condition of the racing surface. The racing surface is now approx. 29 years old and basically worn out. For those club members that only see the track through a helmet visor or windscreen it is an eye opener to walk the track and see the potholes that are being continually repaired in a surface that is lucky to be 10mm thick in places.

- 1) The management committee is currently working on a submission for funding under the QLD Governments Sports & Recreation Get Playing, Places & Spaces – Improve facilities fund to get 400m of the racing surface profiled and re-surfaced. This is a round of funding to the value of \$150,000 and sporting venues and clubs in the cyclone damage area will be prioritised. The results of this funding submission will not be known until October of this year.

The management committee are also aware of another funding grant that will open later in the year that we will be able to apply for but this grant application is a \$ for \$ grant and may reduce the amount and project size we can apply for.

As a club member please feel free to contact myself [web@palmyradragway.com.au](mailto:web@palmyradragway.com.au) if you can assist with any of the works above or are aware of companies that may assist us to complete this stepped process to ensure the work we do is not going to be damaged because it was done out of sequence.

The clubs go fund me page is still available for club members that can't assist with time but have the financial ability to assist the club.

In conclusion the management committee of your club is working to maintain the facility and infrastructure we currently have to be able to hold safe and cost efficient race meetings. But we are also looking forward to getting the facility back to racing longer distances in a staged and managed nature.

You all have a happy day

Regards

Glenn Cunningham