

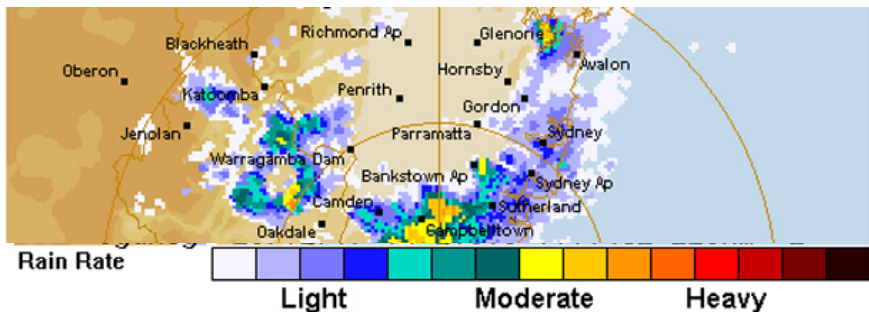
The Racer's Edge

June 2009

THE NEWSLETTER OF PENRITH DISTRICT NITRO RACING INC. (PDNR)

THE WEATHER STATION

The below graphic has been a familiar site over recent weeks, and at PDNR there was a new record set recently with the most number of drivers ranked equal 1st – they were all on 40 points after 2 consecutive weeks being cancelled due to rain!



The 2009 Autumn Championship got off to a wet start, with Rounds 1 and 2 both cancelled due to rain. The frustrating thing for drivers and organisers was that the rain came after the track and equipment was set up and registrations taken.

The good news was that no umbrellas were required for Rounds 3 and 4, and drivers were happy to get some track time. The conditions were slippery with much of the grip washed away, but there were still some very respectable times posted. Championship Points after Round 5 are available in this newsletter.

Remember to check the PDNR Hotline – 0447 494 894 for a recorded message when the weather is bad.

You can also check the Twitter Feed on the home page of the PDNR website, which is updated regularly, especially if racing is cancelled due to rain.

EL PRESIDENTE REPORT

Brrrrrrrrrrrr is what everyone is doing on Tuesday nights. Why do we do it!!! The temperature gets to single digits, we all freeze, yet we still turn up to get our fix of racing the nitro cars, I can honestly say we are all MAD!

I'd like to mention our sponsors as without them our funds to keep our equipment in good order would struggle, and I hope you thank them by trying to use their services as the support they give throughout the year is priceless to PDNR.

By the way, congratulations must go to Barclays Hobbies & Collectibles (one of our most recent sponsorship renewals) on their win in the recent Penrith Local Business Awards, we have some more information on this later in this newsletter.

If any drivers or spectators would like to give any ideas or feedback, be it good or bad, any of our committee members are available during Tuesday nights and can be identified by wearing yellow vests, or please come up and see us at race control.

I would like to thank all the drivers who attended one or all of the Wednesday night trials at Whalan Reserve. I especially want to thank Michael, Tony, Grahame and Brad Davis for their work on the night trials. We have a short report on the trials in this edition of the newsletter for anyone who is interested in more information.

Don't forget the 2009 *Racing Lines* GP On Road Winter Championships is coming up – July 4 – and we need all the support of PDNR drivers. The overall standings for outright honours in the Nitro Interclub Series is very close with SORMCC leading PDNR by 2 points. The experience and knowledge you will gain from running in a major event like this is invaluable, so I encourage all drivers to get out and give it a go.

Until the next issue –
Smile & the world will smile with you!!!

El Pres
Kevin Maton



2009 EVENT CALENDAR

Here is the PDNR Event Calendar for Autumn 2009. This calendar is also available to download on the PDNR website – www.pdnracing.org.au

Autumn		
Tue	5-May-09	Registration & Practice 1
Fri	8-May-09	<i>2009 AARCMCC SA IC On Road State Titles (Littlehampton)</i>
Sun	10-May-09	
Tue	12-May-09	Registration & Practice 2
Tue	19-May-09	R1
Sat	23-May-09	PDNR Drag Night - Round 3
Tue	26-May-09	R2
Tue	2-Jun-09	R3
Tue	9-Jun-09	R4
Tue	16-Jun-09	R5
Sat	20-Jun-09	PDNR Drag Night - Round 4
Tue	23-Jun-09	R6
Tue	30-Jun-09	R7
Sat	4-Jul-09	<i>Racing Lines GP On Road Winter Champs (PDNR)</i>
Tue	7-Jul-09	R8
Tue	14-Jul-09	R9
Sat	18-Jul-09	PDNR Drag Night - Round 5
Tue	21-Jul-09	R10
Tue	28-Jul-09	R11
Tue	4-Aug-09	R12
Thu	6-Aug-09	<i>2009 AARCMCC QLD IC On Road State Titles (QRCCRA - Brendale)</i>
Sun	9-Aug-09	
Tue	11-Aug-09	R13
Sat	15-Aug-09	PDNR Drag Night - Round 6
Tue	18-Aug-09	<i>Autumn Presentation Night (Rowing Club)</i>
Sat	22-Aug-09	PDNR Challenge (SIRC - Penrith)
Sun	23-Aug-09	

WHALAN NIGHT TRIAL

Recently PDNR held a series of night trials at Whalan Reserve. This exercise was a joint venture between PDNR and SORMCC with the support and approval of Blacktown Council. If you are not aware SORMCC are the Sydney On Road Model Car Club, which is run by Brad Davis who manages the Whalan RC facility.

To clear up any misunderstandings, the trials were done between PDNR and SORMCC to gauge the impact night driving would pose on the local neighbourhood. PDNR had no intention of changing venues, and the suggestion that this was the motivation behind the trials is false.

The trial nights went relatively well with no official complaints related to noise received as a result of the trials. A number of noise readings were taken at a variety of locations and all were below the level required by Blacktown Council.

There were a few issues with lighting. The four PDNR flood lights (from the trailer/drivers stand) were used in conjunction with two additional lighting towers which were hired in for the trials, but this was still not really adequate, especially on the third week when the full track was used.

In terms of the potential Whalan Reserve could have as a secondary or alternate venue for PDNR's current activities, the PDNR committee concluded that it would not be suitable. Inadequate (or non-existent) lighting and noise were minor issues, but the 10:00pm curfew (which is set by Blacktown Council) would not enable PDNR to cater for the current number of drivers and events that are currently held at SIRC every Tuesday night.

PDNR would like to thank all involved with organising and coordinating the Whalan night trials.



2009 Racing Lines GP On Road Winter Championships

PDNR's next major event is the 2009 *Racing Lines* GP On Road Winter Championships, being hosted once again by PDNR on July 4, 2009.

2009 Racing Lines GP On Road Winter Championships



The 2009 Winter Champs are back at PDNR. Penrith District Nitro Racing Inc. (PDNR) are excited and privileged to once again have the opportunity to host this event and would like to invite all drivers to the 2009 *Racing Lines* GP On Road Winter Championships. This year the event is a one-day twilight event catering solely for Nitro (GP) On Road divisions.

The Winter Champs are an annual event promoted each year by Racing Lines Magazine. In 2009 drivers will again head to Western Sydney on July 4 to battle it out at the Sydney International Regatta Centre - home of Penrith District Nitro Racing Inc (PDNR). More information and event updates on the 2009 Winter Champs are available at:

www.pdnracing.org.au/winterchamps

Hope to catch you at the Track!

PS. You can also check out the preliminary entry listing [here](#)

Event Summary:

- > 2009 Winter Champs
- > Saturday July 4, 2009
- > Hosted by PDNR
- > Twilight Event
- > Final Round of 2008/2009 Nitro Interclub Series

> [ENTRY FORM \(DOC\)](#)

> [ENTRY FORM \(PDF\)](#)

This is a sample of a recent email sent to the PDNR Pit Crew.

To view a copy of this email, visit:

<http://www.pdnracing.org.au/edm/2009-winterchamps/>

EVERYDAY HERO – CITY 2 SURF

MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY & THE CITY TO SURF



The Racers Edge would like to introduce you to Suzanne O'Connor - no she's not the dolphin! – but she is wife to Steve O'Connor, and for anyone who doesn't know Steve O, he is one of the ultimate RC enthusiasts. Here is a brief message that Suzanne asked us to share with you:

My husband Stephen ("Steve O" to die hard PDNR racers) was diagnosed with Muscular Dystrophy in his early 20s. This degenerative disease has prevented Stephen from participating in most sports and makes daily chores extremely difficult. About 9 years ago, Stephen found PDNR. The club provided him with the opportunity to participate in sport on a level playing field, with his more able bodied peers. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of PDNR that have supported Stephen over the past 9 years.

Stephen is an inspiration to his family and friends. He goes through life without complaint, adapting his life as needed and focusing on his abilities. This year, on the 9th of August I am participating in the City to Surf and raising much needed research funding for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Please visit my sponsorship page for more information:

http://city2surf.everydayhero.com.au/suzanne_oconnor

Even a small donation will help.

*Thank you for your support,
Suzanne O'Connor*



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Jack Umenberger, one of PDNR's favourite sons, started racing at PDNR many years ago (back in the old Harvey Norman days) and quickly moved up the ranks, taking his fair share of silverware along the way.

As well as racing, Jack's interest in the hobby included casual work at Graham's Hobby Centre and re-designing his RC cars for optimum performance. He was pretty handy with an airbrush too – Phil Woodbury's current body design is based on one of Jack's original creations.

Jack put a hold on his RC racing in 2008 to focus on his HSC, which he was completing at Winmalee High School.

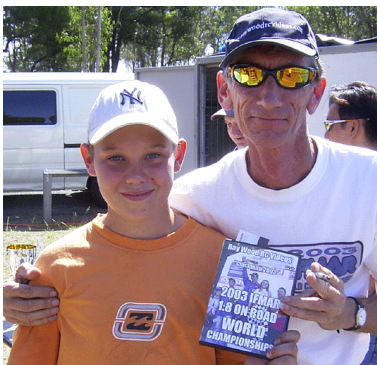
Jack's extreme dedication to his studies paid dividends, with an awesome UAI of 99.75.

Jack also came 1st in the state in Engineering Studies and received the Premier's Outstanding Achievement Award, which is awarded to students who achieve a band 6 in 10 or more units. Both these results are an awesome achievement.

Jack's great results made the front page of the local Blue Mountains Gazette and he was also featured in the Penrith Press.

Jack was accepted to his first university preference, and is now studying at the School of Aerospace, Mechanical and Mechatronic Engineering at the University of Sydney.

This is one of Australia's premier Engineering schools, ranked number one in NSW and 3rd in Australia. So in other words, it's the perfect place for Jack!

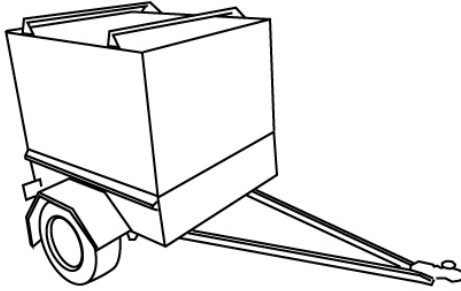


FOR SALE

FOR SALE – Small PDNR Trailer

Rego March 2010

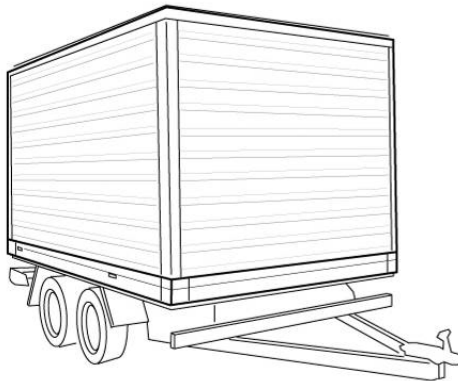
Offers over \$300 – See Kevin Maton (President)



FOR SALE – Big PDNR Trailer

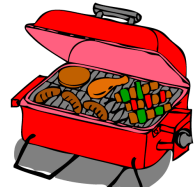
Rego July 2009

Offers over \$1000 – See Kevin Maton (President)



PDNR MEAT TRAY NEWS

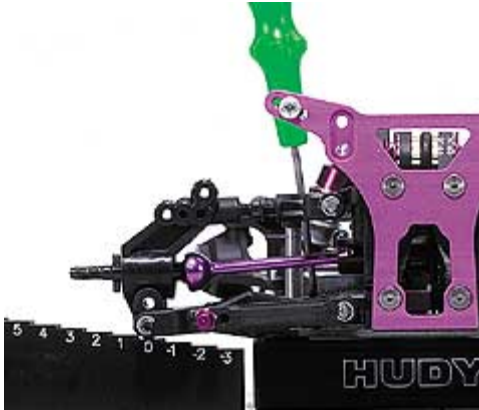
PDNR will be donating all proceeds from the meat tray raffle on Tuesday June 30 to Suzanne O'Connor's City to Surf sponsorship!



HANDY MUST HAVES

DROOP GAUGE

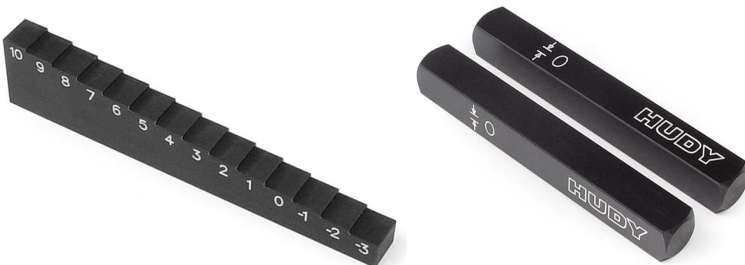
When the term “droop gauge” is mentioned, it’s referring to this:



One of the most overlooked setup adjustments in RC racing is droop. When I finally got my head around droop for the first time, it was like all the moons of Venus had aligned. (And there is no room for any “moon” jokes here!)

We don’t have time (or space) to go through the complete ins and outs of what droop is and how it works, but droop essentially refers to the amount of down travel or travel above ride height the suspension has, and all you need to know is that it’s very important to accurately measure and adjust it.

The only consistent and accurate way of doing this is with the use of a “droop gauge”. A droop gauge consists of blocks for the chassis to rest on while the measurement is taken, and a stepped gauge to measure the height of the lower suspension arms relative to the droop blocks.



Droops main objective is to control or manage weight transfer. If sway bars manage weight transfer from one side of the chassis to the other, droop manages weight transfer from front-to-rear and rear-to-front to maximise traction for steering and acceleration.

If the droop is not adjusted equally on both sides of the chassis (ie. left and right) the chassis will not transfer weight symmetrically, and this can result in the chassis responding differently when turning one direction compared to the other. This is often described as “chassis tweak” and a good handling car will have zero tweak.

With the aid of droop gauges, you can adjust your droop screws equally, thus ensuring your chassis is free of tweak caused by droop. Remember to disconnect all shock absorbers and sway bars when setting the droop, and double check the droop settings after re-connecting the sway bars. If the droop has changed, then your sway bars need adjusting otherwise they will cause some chassis tweak.

Effect of less front droop:

1. Reduces upward front chassis travel under acceleration.
2. Increases on-throttle steering.

Effect of more front droop:

1. Increases upward front chassis travel under acceleration.
2. Reduces on-throttle steering.

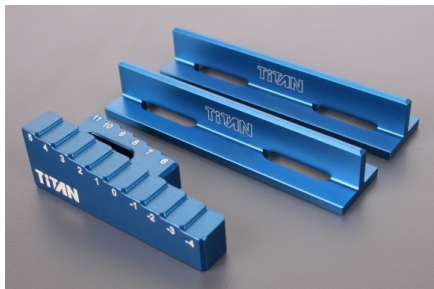
Effect of less rear droop:

1. Reduces upward rear chassis travel off-throttle or under braking.
2. Improves stability under braking.

Effect of more rear droop:

1. Increases upward rear chassis travel off-throttle or under braking.
2. Increases steering in slow corners.

If you want more information on droop, what it is and how it works I suggest you Google it, or download the HUDY set up guide which has a good explanation on all the concepts behind setting up an RC chassis.



2009 PENRITH LOCAL BUSINESS AWARDS

Congratulations to Barclay's Radio Control & Hobbies – Winners of the best *Specialised Business* in the 2009 Penrith Local Business Awards.



415 High Street, Penrith
02 4721 0331
www.barclayshobbies.com.au

PDNR WORKING BEE

- From 10.30am
- Sunday June 28
- Held at SIRC (Maintenance Area)
- Help Needed !



Graham's
HOBBY CENTRE

67A Queen Street St Marys NSW 2760

02 9833 9044

Open 7 Days

www.grahamshobbies.com.au



Distributed by **JPM**
Racing

www.auswidehobbies.com.au

The logo for AUSWIDE HOBBIES AND COLLECTABLES features the word 'AUSWIDE' in a large, bold, italicized font. The letters are filled with a grey-to-white gradient and have a shadow effect. Below 'AUSWIDE' are the words 'HOBBIES AND COLLECTABLES' in a smaller, green font. To the left of the text is a stylized map of Australia in a dark grey color.

199 High Street , Penrith
02 47 325 133
www.auswidehobbies.com.au

CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS – Autumn 2009

Here are the Championship Points for Autumn 2009 after Round 5 – 16/06/09.

Division Sponsor JPM RACING : RB : ATS : CASTER		
OFF ROAD BUGGY		
P	Name	Pts
1	Joel Casey	102
2	Jamie Fellowes	90
3	Tom Harrison	70
4	Flavio Cataldo	68
5	Michael Fellowes	66
6	Graham Fletcher	60
7	Brandon Syrls	58
7	Jake Classens	58
9	Chris Young	56
10	Matthew Oxford	54
11	Matt Holroyd	53
12	Bruce Downes	48
13	Tim Linos	45
14	Ron Sant	40
14	Preston Pierce	40
14	Matthew Downes	40
17	Andrew Emerton	34
18	Brendan Newland	26
19	Chris Abela	20
19	Rick Seymo	20
21	Jarrad Cowan	12
22	Luke Larosa	10
23	Justin Woodland	7
24	Dylan Gosling	0
24	Mark Baranowski	0

Division Sponsor AUSWIDE HOBBIES		
OFF ROAD TRUCK		
P	Name	Pts
1	Darrell Knight	116
2	Mary Moller	86
3	Greg Temme	76
4	Allan Crane	40
4	Preston Pierce	40
4	Roy Hanmore	40
4	Adrian Isaacs	40
8	Josh Martin	14

Division Sponsor GRAHAM'S HOBBY CENTRE		
PRO TOURER		
P	Name	Pts
1	Chris Young	102
2	Tony Firth	98
3	Shaun Kaltenbacher	92
4	Steve Valletta	80
5	Ray Wallace	76
6	Matt Ferguson	65
7	Rick Seymo	56
8	Greg Rossiter	53
9	Philip Woodbury	40
10	Luke Gunton	7



CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS Cont'd

Division Sponsor		
OPEN PAN		
P	Name	Pts
1	Michael Turner	120
2	Darrell Thompson	92
3	Jonathan Freund	84
3	Kevin Maton	84
5	Grahame Fraser	66
6	Matthew Oxford	62
7	Graham Fletcher	49
8	Greg Rossiter	20
8	Daniel Miner	20

Division Sponsor		
GRAHAM'S HOBBY CENTRE		
NITRO KIT		
P	Name	Pts
1	Jonathan Freund	120
2	Trevor Hodges	104
3	Adrian Isaacs	90
4	Bruce Berg	80
5	Frank Deak	70
6	Barry Gavin	66
7	Steve Podmore	61
8	Michael Fellowes	30
9	Darren Lavender	20
9	Matt Horne	20
11	Matthew Holmes	19

Division Sponsor		
PIRTEK AUSTRALIA		
PULL START		
P	Name	Pts
1	Shaun Kaltenbacher	120
2	Steve Valletta	98
3	Ryan Palmer	92
4	Darrell Knight	90
5	Graham McMillan	66
6	Grahame Jones	42
7	Darren Lavender	38
8	John Newham	20

Division Sponsor		
BARCLAY'S RC & HOBBIES		
OUTLAW		
P	Name	Pts
1	Rod Morgan	106
2	Kevin Maton	94
3	John Reilly	86
4	Trevor Hodges	84
4	Adrian Isaacs	84
6	Ryan Palmer	71
7	Scott Marks	68
8	Jacob Michael	66
9	Jason Rutherford	58
10	Chris Newland	54
11	Barry Gavin	48
12	Steve Podmore	47
12	Greg Temme	47
14	Daniel Miner	40
15	Grahame Jones	27
16	Joel Casey	26
17	Nathan Egan	22
18	Luke Gunton	20
19	Bruce Berg	0

Division Sponsor		
EDAM EXER		
P	Name	Pts
1	Greg Rossiter	86
2	Michael Turner	80
3	Don Bishop	58
4	Allan Crane	30

PDNR TEAM WEAR

PDNR have a variety of merchandise available. See Race Control for more information or to try a size.

Race Jacket	:	\$90.00
Polo Shirt	:	\$35.00
Moto (Torque) Shirt	:	\$60.00
Race Cap	:	\$15.00
Stickers	:	\$ 2.50





www.pdnracing.org.au

The PDNR website is updated regularly with news and results.
You can also download entry forms and event calendars.

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