

Northwest Region SCCA

Minutes from the NWR Board Meeting of 09 September 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7:13 PM by RE John Taylor at Poodle Dog in Fife.

In Attendance: John Taylor RE, Richard Willy (Solo ARE), Rick Wilson, John Forespring (Membership Chair), Chuck Huffington, Steve Schattenbild (Secretary)

Minutes from the August 1st meeting were reviewed:

Motion made by Dick Willy and seconded by Rick Wilson and passed to approve minutes.

Treasurer report:

Sonja Vasquez was unavailable due to previous obligation. The tax-exempt status is hoped to be concluded shortly. Status of accounts currently shows all venues with positive account balances. However, if all current liabilities are paid, Race will be short (have negative account balance). They are much closer to breakeven than at the last board meeting. Total revenue from last Race event was \$8000 plus, and Solo accounts are healthy, while Race still has some impediments.

Race

Chuck Huffington did not have the treasurer report available, but will provide numbers later. Race has made a payment toward the Oregon Region and a payment plan has been implemented. Final arrangements have yet to be negotiated, but a check for \$2000 was given to Karen McCoy (representing roughly 25% of outstanding debt), and they are willing to work with us on the balance.

Total outstanding to Ken Jones was more than originally anticipated; total owed for 2010 was \$8336, with \$2000 paid in 2011, nothing in 2012, leaving a balance of \$6336. Ken Jones is willing to work with us, and would like to see a \$3000 or \$4000 payment this year. This can be accommodated while leaving a positive balance in accounts.

Majors fees which are outstanding have been cleared. All major liabilities for venues have been clearing for this year, except for an outstanding \$2900 with Ken Jones who has been receiving invoice for Majors. With Chuck's help, all these invoices will be going directly to Sandy Taylor versus going to Ken Jones in the future.

We have also spoken with the track to try to reduce deposit payments and schedules to end up paying deposits from income versus paying out of pocket.

Currently, we have two dates in request for the track, and indications are that we may be able to get both dates. We now have a July and August date at the Ridge. We have a May date, which is the Maker's Mint, with assurances from the head of the program that we have that date. As for the two dates we're trying to lock in and work with SOVREN and looking at ways to fill those dates. We're trying to get Oregon up for the July date, as the Majors program does not offer them a chance to run, we'd like to invite them to the Ridge. Last time they brought 25 cars or so, and this would represent over 1/3 of the revenue needed for the event.

Race will be focused on eliminating the debts and working toward a break-even point, so in 2015 they can work on becoming profitable.

John Forespring has brought up the question of increased sponsorship. John Taylor is following up on potential sponsors, but indicates that more effort is needed to put potential sponsors in touch with him and others who will actively solicit the sponsorship. Pacific Raceways is also in agreement and would like to

work with us on sponsors.

Focus need to be on increasing sponsorship and also the race driver base. The current number of 34 Northwest Region Drivers is abysmal, and we need to work to increase this.

John Forespring has suggested that programs could be produced for spectators, and John Taylor would like to see driver packets of race information, both of which could actively promote sponsors.

Time Trials

There is currently a date set for October for Time Trials. There is concern that the turnout needs to be considerable to cover the costs for the one-day expense. It will be a Saturday in October. There will be an update on the actual date.

Solo

Nationals were finished last Friday. Pro Solo finale event was the weekend of the 4th. One driver won the Pro Solo Finale, he won the Solo Championship, and he won the Year End. His co-driver won first in Street Touring Ladies, and sixth in Pro Finale. 18 people won trophies in Solo Championships, 4 were in the Finales, 2 were zone winners, and 4 winners of year-end points. Of the National Champions in Solo, 3 were female, and 1 male. Two dollars of the fee is dedicated to trophies, along with help from 3 sponsorships.

BMP/Ridge

Already discussed ownership issues. BMP/Race is functionally dead, Time Trials is still on.

Website

Consultation is needed with Joe Goeke to help redesign the website, and implement some search keywords.

Membership

There are some 15 temporary memberships for Rally Cross. There is a need to entice these temporary members full members. John Forespring has spoken with some of the drivers who are no longer members and one of their complaints was a distinct lack of communication about concerns and problems. John Taylor said he is willing to take complaints directly to create more of an open door policy to make member feel that they are being heard. There also is an interest in a change in attitude of stewardship to be more of a "friendly" region.

Tire Rack Street Survival

The Street Survival event needs to be placed on the website, that will be the 19th of October at Bremerton, and changed from a two day event to a one day event.

Rally Group NW

Rally Cross

Steve Warren spent a week laying out a one-mile course. 18 drivers turned out. The fastest time was 2 minutes and 30 seconds. It was a very tight course. Paul Ecklund was the Safety Steward and John Forespring was the Registrar and afternoon Safety Steward. It was a great course and great event, great hospitality, and easy to find. Steve Warren is interested in setting up another Rally Cross course. John Forespring spoke with drivers, they loved the course and had a great time. National office has already contacted Steve Warren for future use of his field.

There is a need to promote and support Rally Cross, and we need a Rally Cross Chair.

Road rally

Old Business

Race Health and Forecast were previously discussed.

New Business

60th Anniversary Banquet

Date for the event: Tentatively scheduled for November 30th, which falls on a Saturday and misses Thanksgiving, and before the holiday/Christmas Party rush.

Venue possibilities include: Emerald Queen Casino has been contacted, but they have not responded yet. Other possibilities include the old Buick dealership on St. Helens; the old Union Club, which is a more formal setting with a caterer attached; and there might be an old garage on Capitol Hill in Seattle filled with Mobile memorabilia that may be available.

Cost estimates: A cost estimate should be about \$35 to \$45 per person.

Speaker: A speaker that will interest a lot of members could include Jeff Daehnert (CEO of SCCA) or Lisa Noble (Chairman of the Board of SCCA). John Taylor suggests that region covers travel and lodging expenses for the speaker if the speaker would volunteer to attend. Discussions show preference for Lisa Noble as a speaker.

Other ideas include presenting awards and trophies prior to the cocktail hour and dinner.

A focus needs to be placed on cost vs. attendance. John Forespring posits that due to the decrease in membership, the cost ratio would be easier to meet with a good speaker that would attract outside participants.

NORPAC convention

The dates for the event are the last weekend of October, October 26th and 27th. John Taylor will attend; Dick Willy motions to reimburse John Taylor for reasonable expenses associated with the NORPAC convention, John Forespring seconds and passes.

Budget

Everybody needs to bring his or her budget requirements together. Race and Solo seem pretty set. Rally Cross needs some reinvigoration. The goal for 2013 is to end revenue neutral, not negative. A budget is due February 2014.

Board Positions Nominations

Rick Wilson will remain as A.R.E. A couple of member at large positions are coming up. More encouragement is needed to involve younger tech-savvy members to become more involved.

Dick Willy motioned to adjourn, John Taylor seconded and passed.

The meeting is adjourned at 8:59 PM