

Arizona Solo Steering Committee

Meeting Minutes

November 30, 2011 7:00 PM

Present: Brian Weikert, Stephen King, Kevin O'Neill, Kevin Venisnik, Mitzi Burrow, Beth Balducci, Bev Sattler, Don Sattler, Doug Rowse, Britt Dollmeyer, Pete Immel, Dan Hawrylkiw.

Action Items identified are highlighted in yellow.

Decisions made are highlighted in green.

Agenda

2011 Year in Review

- Director – Doug Rowse
 - Identified areas that went well and not well during the year.
 - Highlights: Ran some good events, equipment rental and TireRack banner ad helped mitigate revenue shortfalls
 - Problems: Novice count and retention (has been better in the fall), forum behavior (people are nice in person but seem nasty on forum, novices have commented on this), morale and sense of community seem low, shepherding of novices needs improvement.
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- Treasurer – Beth Balducci
 - operated in a loss during 2011 (-\$3195 12/31/10 – 11/30/11), but continue to have good account balances. Several events lost money, including June and September events. Did not have as much participation in August Taylor event as planned due to a conflicting event in Sierra Vista. Need to focus on ways to increase participation in 2012, events need 100 people plus 50 TO's to break even
 - Current account balances a/o 11/30/2011:
 - checking \$10,477.02
 - savings \$18,178.09
- Registration – Kevin O'Neill
 - Good year for registration. Great appreciation to Jeff Israel from AZBR for his assistance and use of the software. Great documentation but need clean-up to remove references to AZBR.
 - Need to review the event cancellation policy and consider pros and cons. No decision made.
 - Need back-up onsite registration with classing knowledge. Interim solution will be to provide cell phone contact list for when classing assistance is needed.
 - Kevin O'Neill to collect registration improvements and suggestions.
 - Brian Weikert to clarify time onlies on event details or registration form to spell out Time Only (acronym delete) and to create language that makes it easier to understand why an entrant would want to sign up for time only i.e. "would you like 4 more runs for only \$15?"
- Timing/Scoring – Dan Hawrylkiw
 - Software not updated this year so that Dan can independently completed T&S – handed over to Chad Mizner since he has sole access to the software until software is completed. We have back-up plans in place in the event Chad's software doesn't work.
- Equipment – Kevin Venisnik
 - Have sufficient cones – probably do not need to buy until later in the year
 - Truck will need tires soon – may need to consider a different transportation solution if we need to take the truck on the road very much in 2012.
 - Truck radiator needs attention, seems to me leaking coolant, will monitor situation (update from 12-4 event, added approx 1/2 gallon of water to radiator and reservoir, can continue to monitor)
 - Steve Eymann did a great job upgrading the displays, refining sound equipment placement and fixing equipment as needed.

Will need new helmets before 2015.

- Course Design – Clayton Saffell – not present, reported by Doug Rowse
 - New course designer coming up to speed quickly with support from Britt Dollmeyer and Elliot Speidell
 - Significant design limitations due to Firebird lot and conditions.
- Safety – Kim Kemper – not present, reported by Bev Sattler
 - Safety requires that the safety speech continue as part of the driver's meeting at each event (had been comments that it slows down event).
 - **Kim Kemper** will look into holding a SSS school course design session similar to what was offered recently in California.
 - Need to consider new loaner helmets – our helmets are in poor condition and "nasty". **Kevin Venisnik** will research purchasing new loaner helmets. Steering Committee voted and passed **approval to spend up to \$1200 in capital investment.**
 - Mark Johnson has notified us that he is stepping down as Assistant Chief SSS.
- Goodie Store – Don Sattler
 - Don's financial #'s different from treasurer's report because of inventory.
 - Doing better with custom orders – **will post Goodie Store offerings as a stickie on the forum for ordering.** **Don Sattler** to provide info to **Brian Weikert.**
 - **Don Sattler** will find and start selling window chalk in Goodie Store.
- Site Liaison
 - Jim Rohn has requested to step down from his position. Steve Eymann approved as Jim's replacement.
- Tech – Josh Johnston – not present
 - Good job with Josh in his first year in this position.
 - Need **Josh Johnston** to schedule annual tech.
- Workers – Stephen King
 - Thanks to Stephen for taking over this position mid-year.
 - Issue with novices at last event. Stephen needs back-up to watch how workers are doing while he is running. Director, co-Director, event chair and SSS should do this.
 - Need more red flags – **Kevin Venisnik** to order.
- Waiver – Mitzi Burrow
 - Difficulty at a couple of events this year due to multiple events in process, difficult to keep separate.
 - Need only experienced people working waiver, need to be able to serve as autocross "diplomats" and answer questions at the gate. **Kevin O'Neill** to discontinue assigning new people to waiver assignment. **Mitzi** to develop list of "approved" people for working waiver.
 - New W/E membership process from SCCA – no multi-part forms. Information completed on a spreadsheet and forwarded to the SCCA electronically. **Colleen O'Neill and Beth Balducci** to work out the details of the new process.
 - **Kevin Venisnik** to print SC phone list (1 copy for trailer, 1 copy for waiver), drivers meeting minutes, and event schedule.
- Novice Instruction – Brian Weikert
 - Low turnout in Instructor Class – need to increase participation.
 - People running in Instructor Class need to be available to assist with others.
 - Proposals from forum suggestion box to increase novice retention to be discussed during proposals section of this meeting.
 - Brian Weikert to move to SC Director, need to find replacement, Clint Child is a possibility.
- Banquets
 - Need new banquet chair.
 - Proposing moving to only 1 banquet per year
 - Increase ticket price to cover food/room costs. Cover raffle prize costs with ticket sales. Trophies to be covered by competition entrance fees.
 - January Banquet, **Mitzi Burrows** to order trophies, **Beth Balducci** to organize food and site.

Proposals

1. Introductory Pricing Proposal
 - Proposal to offer first-time participants free entrance to next event in order to increase participation. **Registration (Kevin/Colleen O'Neill)** will manage, will be done for preregistrants only, certificates to be printed ahead of time during preregistration, paid stamp can be applied to certificate at onsite registration to validate the certificate. To be done for Spring series only as a trial. Must be used within 6 months. **7 yes votes, 2 no votes, passed**
2. Operations Shirts Proposal
 - Proposal to have "operations" persons wear unique shirts to help identify "go-to" people, particularly for visitors and novices. Discussion on pros and cons, some members would not want to wear, potential high cost to club. Suggested that individuals buy their own shirts at cost if they would like wear them. **8 yes votes, 1 no vote. Don Sattler and Brian Weikert** to implement
3. Combined 2-day Event with Arizona Border Region
 - Proposal to team up with the AZBR to hold a 2-day event at Marana with each club responsible for 1 day and splitting proceeds. Discussed possibility of diluting attendance at Phoenix event, and whether it would replace an event or be an added event. **SC voted and approved by majority to proceed with planning a joint event in 2012.** Final details to be worked out and approved by SC.
4. Open meetings
 - Discussion on pros/cons of holding monthly open meetings for general club members. Would be held monthly initially to see if there is interest/participation. Standing agenda (discussion of last event, planning for next event, open issues/concerns) and rotating chair to minimize time commitment for SC members. **7 yes votes, 2 no**
5. Steering Committee Selection proposal
 - Proposal to open opportunity for anyone to request a position on the Steering Committee. Open/available positions would be posted on the General forum and would require a form to be completed indicating their interest. **8 yes votes, 1 abstain.**
6. Arizona Motorsports Park events proposal
 - Proposal to pursue additional events at AMP beginning with sound Test/Tune events scheduled during the year, ideally to be scheduled after AMP holds additional sound certification days. **SC voted and approved by majority to proceed with planning events at AMP in 2012.** Final details to be worked out and approved by SC.

2012 Proposed Schedule

Reviewed dates made available by Firebird in contrast with events planned at other sites (AZBR, Cal) that would impede attendance. Dates/locations need to be finalized with sites. First event in 2012 will be Sunday, January 8. Will have July/August events in Taylor. "Final" schedule to be published ASAP after confirming dates with Firebird. Track availability will require that we have at least 2 Saturday events in 2012.

Dates discussed and approval/status:

January 8th - yes

February- Feb 5th was only Sunday available at FIR but is Superbowl Sunday, last year's event on Superbowl Sunday suffered low attendance, **Site Liaison** to contact FIR about Saturday the 11th as alternative.

March 11th - yes

April 8 - yes (has since been pointed out April 8th is Easter (need to reconsider date)

May- May 6th conflicts with El Toro Pro, will be missing many key personnel, May 13 is Mother's day. Site Liaison to look into availability of Skidpad 4, FIR West or Bondo lot on the 12th. Month of May be good opportunity to have AMP test and tune/sound event.

June - last year we held a 1/2 day event at FIR, despite best efforts put forth the event still lost significant money, **SC voted and approved by majority to not hold 1/2 day event at FIR in June.**

June 30/July 1, Taylor - yes

August 11/12, Taylor - yes

Fall dates were discussed but were more tentative (FIR availability not as clear and future of AMP events still not clear).

September 9th was proposed but comes right after Nationals and many key personnel will be missing or still travelling, Site Liaison to contact FIR about September 15th or 16th

October 14th - provisionally approved

November 18th was proposed (November 11th is Bug Show) but conflicts with Marana event (and Marana Teen driving school on the 17th), Site Liaison to contact FIR about 11-25 event as provisional. 11-25 is Thanksgiving weekend but appears that Nov 11th is not available and November 4th conflicts with Sierra Vista and is right after proposed 2 day Marana event.

December 1/2 - School and event, provisionally approved

Fall Series banquet scheduled for Saturday, January 21, 2012.

New SC Members/New SC Specialty Chiefs for 2012

Brian Weikert 2012 Director - 9 yes

Dan Hawrylkiw 2012 Co-Director - 9 yes

Steve Eymann (in absentia) 2012 Site Liaison - 9 yes, Doug to confirm Steve is willing/recruit him

Novice Instruction - Brian Weikert to pursue replacement, have since identified and approved Clint Child

Banquet Chair - need candidate

Pylon Press - Dane Traines