

Minutes of the General Meeting of the Reno Region of the SCCA January 2, 2008

Attendees:

Dean Benz, Dave Deborde, Carol Deborde, Jeff Pogol, Patty Evans, John Evans, Gina Pogol, Pat Housel, Lee Mitchell, Debbie Kerswill, Jim Gandy, Scott Perry, Randy Jones, Don Smith, Matt Roy, Jim Uchytel, Bob Williamson, Vic Chalk, Renee Fugasi, Fred Austin, Eric Johnson, Barbara Johnson, Rick Martini and Janet, Russ Carpenter, Mark Sipe

Jim Gandy opened the meeting at 6:45pm, with a 'Happy New Year' greeting.

Prior Meeting Minutes:

Jim asked for approval of the minutes from the 12/5/07 meeting (excepting the January meeting date), Don Smith motioned for approval, Pat Housel seconded, and the attendees approved the minutes.

Treasurers Report:

The Treasurers Report was submitted via Jim Gandy by Doug Driver (who could not be present at the meeting). Don motioned for approval, Randy seconded, and the attendees approved the Treasurers Report.

Old Business:

Jim thanked outgoing Board Members Patty Evans, John Evans, and John Townley, for their service and their contributions to the club. Jim also thanked the new Board Members Randy Jones, Dean Benz, and Debbie Kerswill.

Past Events:

Russ Carpenter and Jeff Neilson enjoyed a private track day at Reno-Fernley Raceway (RFR) in December (since no one else showed up, they had the track all to themselves).

Upcoming Events:

NORPAC Convention: Dave Deborde reminded the group that Reno voted to rebate \$40 to Reno Region members for attending. The convention includes breakfast and lunch, and is an opportunity to help form the shape of the NORPAC Division as well as the convention going-forward. A schedule of events is posted on the Reno Region and NORPAC web sites. With a lower number of attendees, the items available at the silent auction (including track time and solo event entries) may allow you to bid on an item and make money on the deal! Contact Carol regarding an extension of the \$85 early bird fee.

Don asked for a straw vote of whether he should pursue discussion about holding a Reno Divisional event this year. More than half the meeting attendees raised hands.

2008 Event Schedules:

Solo:

Matt Roy is awaiting approval from Stead Airport for the following tentative schedule:

April 5/6 - Test and Tune and/or autocross school; Solo points event 1

April 19/20 - Points events 2 & 3

May 24/25 - Points events 4 & 5 (site TBD, Hawthorne or Stead - further Hawthorne details below)

June 7/8 - Points events 6 & 7

June 28/29 - Points events 8 & 9

July 12/13 - Points events 10 & 11; the Corvette Club may want to join us this weekend as well

August 2/3 - Points events 12 & 13 (site TBD, *Squaw Valley or Stead)

August 23/24 - Points events 14 & 15 (site TBD, *Squaw Valley or Stead)

September 6/7 - Points events 16 & 17 (tentatively at Lovelock)

October 4/5 - Points events 18 & 19

* The Squaw Valley site may not be available.

Track:

March 14-16 - Thunderhill, in conjunction with San Francisco Region

April 26 - Time Trial #1 at Reno-Fernley Raceway (RFR)

June 14-15 - June Road Race at Reno-Fernley Raceway

July 19 - Time Trial #2 at RFR

August 9 - Time Trial #3 at RFR; followed by Hot August Nights drags

September 27/28 - Time Trials (presuming this will be a divisional event again)

A Volunteer School (to learn some of the Race Volunteer specialties, i.e. Flagging & Communications, emergency response) is tentatively scheduled for February 23rd at RFR.

Other Events:

Early November - Awards Ceremony

Jim asked the group to consider whether should we hold another Tour to RFR, or try something different such as an over-nighter to Napa Valley, or whether there were other Tour ideas.

In addition to the Track and Solo schedules, there are some open weekends to hold another Street Survival School. Dave Deborde asked whether there was interest in hosting the school in Carson City or Carson Valley. Russ Carpenter volunteered to help

Jim also suggested other event types, such as a Show & Shine, or a swap meet.

Carol Deborde informed the group that Reno SCCA was invited to be involved in the Lockett & Sullivan Sports & RV show in March. We were offered free floor space, and would share a booth with RFR.

John Evans suggested holding a Time/Speed/Distance rally.

Fred Austin heard about an Offroad Rally coming to Reno this year. Scott Perry remembered that our member Nick Hansen is involved in this event, possibly scheduled in June.

Jim invited the group to share other ideas, either at the meeting, or via a Board member later.

Solo Supplemental Regulation Changes:

The following Solo Supplemental Regulation changes were decided during the Board Member meeting conducted earlier:

1. Change the standard Solo event schedule to start 15 minutes earlier. Unanimously approved.
2. Clarify wording for Annual Supplemental Rules revisions. Unanimously approved.
3. Remove wording regarding non-member entry fees (due to the new National weekend membership program). Unanimously approved.

A question was posed about whether we keep any of the \$15 weekend membership fee. \$10 goes to the Reno fund.

Rick Martini asked about continuing the VIP program (where a new participant can enter at a reduced fee using a discount card, and the issuing member receives points). Concerns about new participants' budgets may discourage them from paying the additional \$15 weekend membership fee, although for both days over a weekend the net amount is lower cost.

4. Expand the number of trophies. The proposed change was tabled for wording revision and will be discussed further during the February meeting.

5a. Street Tire segregation. 7 voted to indefinitely table this change, 1 abstained.

5b. Modify the Street Tire index value (from .968). The change was tabled for further analysis and information; it is likely to be modified to reduce the 'help factor' for street tired cars, possibly in the .970 to .975 range.

Much discussion ensued regarding the pros and cons of the Street Tire segregation issue. Matt provided feedback from out-of-region members regarding interest and participation in a National Prep class, with about half of those indicating interest in it. A follow-up item from this discussion is to confirm whether SCCA Solo2 Rules allows regions to use an additional factor to accommodate other classes in place of, or in addition to, legitimate SCCA classes. Mark Sipe will follow-up with this item.

Jim made a last call for any proposed changes to Solo scoring this year. The plan is to not make changes at the last minute that may affect the scoring software.

New Business:

Dave Deborde shared some feedback about the SCCA Street Survival program. The original plan called for 4 pilots of the program, which were completed in the third quarter. In Quarter 4, another 4 classes were held. Dave summed up comments from a parent of the November school.

Matt informed the group about Hawthorne and the North-South Challenge. Per Allon Adar-Burla, Las Vegas Region RE, initial feedback from the Divisional Safety Steward is that the Hawthorne location will not be approved as a Solo site. As an alternative, Las Vegas Region wants to hold a Solo Trial event and asked whether Reno Region would be interested in participating. With Solo Trials rules (including the exclusion of convertibles without rollbars), Matt did not think Reno Region would be interested in participating in a Solo Trials event as opposed to a Solo event. Jim Gandy will discuss the issue further with Allon at the SCCA National Convention. Other alternatives include scheduling a Solo weekend at Stead, or move the date. Randy Jones asked whether there would be interest in moving the North-South Challenge to Lone Pine (about 3.5 hours drive, or, 60 miles further). Preliminary feedback is that that site is gravelly.

With no further new business, the raffle drawing was won by Jim Uchytel.

Walk On Items

Russ Carpenter asked whether we have considered having custom license plate frames made. Carol indicated that we have SCCA national license plate frames available.

The next General Membership meeting is scheduled for February 6, 2008, 6:45pm at Austin's Restaurant in Reno

With no further business before the members, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03pm.

Respectfully submitted by Debbie Kerswill, Secretary.