

DECEMBER 2007 BOD MEETING SUMMARY FROM LISA NOBLE

As a Director-elect, I was an observer at Friday and Saturday's meetings. I was able to speak but not vote until the end of the day Saturday when the new board elected our 2008 officers, notably RJ Gordy as Chairman and John Sheridan as Vice Chair. Here is the link for the list. <http://scca.com/newsarticle.aspx?hub=6&news=3245>

The highlights from the meeting are below. The minutes are published in the January Fastrak.

President Jim Julow presented the 2008 Strategic Plan Update. He will present the plan to the membership at the National Convention in February. For those of you who will not be attending, I will cover the plan in detail after the convention. But as a preview, I did want to share the Vision and Mission Statements from that Plan.

VISION STATEMENT: To be the premier activity organization of choice for automotive and motorsports enthusiasts to engage their passion.

MISSION STATEMENT: To consistently provide fun, fair and safe auto related activities through diverse opportunities for our members.

Also, Jim Julow updated the progress of determining the venue for the Runoffs beyond the contracted years at HPT. Several tracks are expressing an interest in pursuing talks with the SCCA regarding this. Julow and the Board discussed criteria for a new Runoffs location, including the following. Data is being compiled on these items for each track to be considered.

- Circuit Reputation
- Course Layout and Design
- Geographic Desirability
- Weather
- Operations facilities
- Communications Infrastructure
- Spectator friendliness
- Community
- Local Region Presence
- Financial Incentives

The marketing department's Eric Prill will have a new marketing campaign for 2008. This will replace the Get Real Fast program. He also spoke about contingency programs. More than \$725,000 were administered or verified by SCCA in Club, Rally & Solo programs in 2007. See <http://scca.com/newsarticle.aspx?hub=1&news=3253> for 2008 contingency programs.

Jeff Dahnert presented year-to-date financial data. He projected that SCCA Inc. will finish the year in the black and presented a proposed budget for 2008. All-in-all it was a good report for the Club's financial status.

Colin Arnold from Member Services gave us a very complete report. His short list of program changes and new programs is below.

- First Gear, increase the maximum age to 24 (change from 22)

- The Member Referral Program has brought 655 new members since June (new)
- Club Racing Weekend Membership (new)
- Rally and Solo Weekend Membership (new)
- Copies of *SportsCar* available to Regions for recruiting and to provide to libraries (new)
- Brochures with special first-year dues rate (new)

Additionally Colin told us that current membership stands at 50,007, a decline of 1,076 from January 1st.

Rally and Solo Department's Howard Duncan briefed us about the RallyCross National Championship: "George Anderson at MPH has been a great partner in establishing the concept of the RX Nationals, but the time has come for the 2008 event to move to a location that will have a larger base from which to draw, as well as a site/surface that is well suited to bring the Championship to the next level. The 2008 location will be the Nashville SuperSpeedway." Here is a link to the 2008 schedule for RallyCross.

<http://scca.com/newsarticle.aspx?hub=2&news=3246>

Sanctioned Solo event numbers were projected through 2007 at 1,198 events with 86,433 entrants. Solo Nationals entries were 1,185 (1,169 in 2006).

Key areas targeted for improvement at the 2008 Nationals include:

- Site/surface cleaning using a sweeper/vac
- Further revisions to grid to avoid surprises from garage rentals
- Fine-tune viewing areas

Howard also gave us the slate of 2008 Hall of Fame inductees, Roger E. Johnson, Don and Ruth Nixon, Kjell Qvale, Robert Ridges and Fred Schmucker. For more story on these inductees and the Hall of Fame follow this link.

<http://scca.com/newsarticle.aspx?hub=6&news=3235&archive=true>

Terry Ozment, Vice President of Club Racing presented a comprehensive Runoffs review. Much more material than I can describe here. Of note to MiDiv, there were 436 volunteers; by my count 160 of those came from our Division.

Targeted by the Club Racing Department for potential improvement at the 2008 Runoffs:

- Communications
- Radio System improvements for F&C and Dispatch
- Paddock PA system
- Volunteer amenities
- Volunteer ability to park near their specialties
- Parking improvements in the paddock areas
- Safety issue with paddock congestion on roads
- Event schedule more conducive to driver preferences and to support TV needs

The Board will present a list of its own concerns when it is compiled.

Terry reported that the Time Trials program showed growth in 2007, especially the PDX which went from 25 events in 2006 to 50 in 2007.

Fees for some licenses will increase as well: competition license fees of \$85 for a National license, \$65 for a Vintage license and \$40 for a Time Trials license.

Fees for Court of Appeals actions were raised from \$125 to \$175, with the minimum retained by national increasing from \$50 to \$100. This will offset the cost of increasingly common video transcription, which has risen to over \$200. This increase is designed to underwrite some of the appeal fee expenses to SCCA

Jeremy Thoennis, head of Technical Services, explained the Spec Miata compliance fee and program. The \$10-per-entry fee would go toward a four-part program.

- Sending National Staff to the field to check compliance
- Developing sets of specialized tools
- Ongoing research of parts competitors are using
- Training Divisional staff to perform the inspections

Director Larry Dent talked about SCCA Foundation's Street Survival program. Dent reports, "In conjunction with BMW-CCA the program will benefit young drivers, its primary purpose, but will also serve other things that will be of benefit to the regions. They will build community awareness of the SCCA, they should make site acquisition for solo's easier to obtain, they should show a surplus of funds for the region and the foundation, and the program's will certainly build a sense of togetherness in the regions between the solo community and the road race community. All in all, a win - win situation."

National Executive Steward Ken Patterson highlighted improvements in the Stewards program.

- More active evaluation of NSCS candidates (Stewards who are Chief Stewards of National events)
- Team building to make the program better as a whole
- A training program that can be tailored to each individual Division
- A committee to respond to CRB requests for input on rule changes

He also told us that the Stewards Manual is now online and available for all members. This accessibility will help to increase understanding of how the Stewards Program works.

<http://www.scca.com/documents/Club%20Forms/2007-stewardsmanual.pdf>

OTHER BUSINESS IN SUMMARY

Some Board members and Jim Julow met with MazdaSpeed at the Orlando PRI show. The talks were fruitful and came to a good resolution. Mazda will continue its programs with SCCA through 2008. They were pleased that the BOD had taken action to resolve some Court of Appeals procedural issues and the timing of "trunk kit" approval for the race season.

<http://scca.com/newsarticle.aspx?hub=6&news=3242>

<http://www.mazdamotorsports.com/pages/news/survey.html>

The other hot topic has been GT3. It was my preference to see the class included in the 2008 Runoffs schedule. Even though I couldn't vote or officially make the motion, I put forth the motion to do so at our conference call on 12-10-07. It was passed.

The directors asked the CRB to look at some different ideas for the Runoffs schedule including combining the 26th through 30th place classes into the existing groups. The Board of Directors will discuss those options in February at the National Convention—hope to see you there.

<http://scca.com/newsarticle.aspx?hub=1&news=3243>

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