

COMPETITION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Tuesday, February 12, 2008

Miller Nissan

5425 Van Nuys Blvd. Van Nuys, CA.

1. Meeting called to Order at 7:34 PM.
2. Introductions/Attendees: Bruce Allison, Jerry Andersen, Walter Carlos, Ross Olney, Les Phillips, Mark Nichols, Dave Golik, John Norris. Absent: Mike Marshall, Darren Young, Doug Stewart. Guests: Kathy Allison, Tom Irwin, Angela Swan.
3. Approved Agenda.
4. Reviewed the book: 'Go Ahead - Take the Wheel' by Dave Gran, it was generally agreed to be a good resource well worth having.
5. Review of Board of Governors actions and direction to Committee (Agenda Item 4):
 - a. Super School Graduates to receive 1 free entry for 1 paid entry at Regional event.
 - b. Discussed using signal to be heard throughout paddock (airhorn) at 5 minute board for run group to help notify competitors that the next group is preparing to go on track. Also try to tighten schedule to prevent getting ahead of schedule which is causing discontent among competitors. **Suggestion: try to take some of the extra time out of the schedule and put it at the end. All agreed difficult to keep from getting ahead of schedule when races end early.**
 - c. Plan to identify CalClub workers at the Long Beach Grand Prix. Provide CalClub hats, Banner at corner stations for public interest.
6. California Speedway issues (Agenda Item 5):
 - a. The pit out is controversial. Discussion on supplemental regulations to mandate remaining on the apron until Turn 3 if entering onto a hot track. **After discussion, it was agreed that this rule should be added to Supplemental Regulations for California Speedway.**
 - b. Car #'s: our GCR mandated 8" car numbers can't be seen by anyone with normal eyesight from the T&S area. Distance measured 300 feet from T&S to track apron. **Suggest prior to next California Speedway event that competitors provide contrast between numbers and car color, some form of outline, etc. Bruce has agreed to contact Tech Steward to provide reminders regarding Numbers at events leading up to California Speedway.**
7. Discuss PRO7SRX7 preliminary information regarding possible group change for Willow Springs (Agenda Item 10): Ross: Has not received listing of class contacts from Amber. One four-car team out for season. Numbers down at California Speedway possibly due to on/off nature of event and drivers already having decided to skip the event and Friday race day, some competitors unable to take day off for event. Expects little better turnout for Willow Springs. Is hesitant to incorporate run group into another group at this time. Dave: Not optimistic, small group possibly 4 or 5 cars.

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8. The Speed Ventures and McKeever's school programs have been publicly announced and will soon begin feeding the club new members. IF we can convince newbies to run the SCCA licensing gauntlet, do we currently have (Agenda Item 6):
 - a. Good classes for new members?
 - b. Classes that interest new members?
 - c. A racing format that intrigues new members:
 - Suggestions: 3-wide starting grid; discussed and concerns centered on safety.
 - Inverted grid; discussed concerns were related to drivers sandbagging during qualifying so as to not be as far down the grid from their normal qualifying position and safety with too many fast cars trying to improve positions too fast.
 - 15 lap race with first five laps run, double yellow to allow field to close up with green and 10 lap race. Willing to try this option.
 - 15 lap race with 10 green laps, double yellow and 5 lap sprint.
 - Australian Pursuit. Difficult to control outcome.
 - Standing start. Willing to try, but not at Willow Springs, first gears too tall.
 - d. How can we improve what we have?
 - e. How do we compare to our competition in this regard?
9. Long Beach Grand Prix Booth (Agenda Item 8):
 - a. Logistics
 - b. Location
 - c. Number of cars: 2 or 3, would like to get sports racer included if possible.
 - d. TV's with DVD's.
 - e. Speed Ventures: Able to provide car/.personnel to man booth.
 - f. Schedule/Calendar magnets
 - g. Brochures/flyers
 - h. SoPac News: Special Edition LBGP issue with expanded classifieds.
 - i. Sell book: Go Ahead - Take the Wheel, Dave Gran. Suggest possibly get edition personalized to be CalClub specific.
 - j. Information/People for Solo and Rally Cross.
 - k. Listing of cars for sale within the region for those interested in seeing the cost of cars within the region.
10. Encouraging previous/inactive members (Agenda Item 7):
 - a. Word of mouth/peer pressure?
 - b. Monetary incentives/discounts: Provide Free Entry for member returning after 1+ year absence. Theory: One competitor gets license (waiver?), prepares car, possible physical; the likelihood is that he will come out again soon.
 - c. Similar to California Speedway, provide on-track sessions at lunch time with pace car front and rear to control pace of field, 55 mph limit. Angela Swan/John

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Norris/Mark Nichols volunteered to run F & R pace cars for this. Les agreed that Regional races generally have between 30 and 60 minutes of clear track at lunchtime.

11. Motion to adjourn: Walt. Second: Ross. Adjourned 9:15pm.