

ROAD RALLY BOARD

SCCA Road Rally Board Minutes Thursday, November 8, 2018

Those present: Jim Crittenden, Mike Bennett, Peter Schneider, Wendy Harrison, Clyde Heckler, Mike Thompson (NEC Chairman), Jamie Mullin (SCCA National Office), Earl Hurlbut (BOD Liaison) and Howard Duncan. Mike Bennett filled in as secretary for Jeanne English.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jim Crittenden at 7:30 PM CST.

The October Minutes stand as published.

Road Rally Media

- A. Planning calendar was last published August 25, 2018. A new calendar is in development.

SCCA Staff Report

- A. Jamie reported that she has been very busy working on the new Sanction forms, and that she will work on the Sanction fee change for Social Road Rallies soon. Jim asked if we should wait until the insurance fees for 2019 are known. Peter summarized the proposed changes for social Rallies and for the USRRC. Howard stated that 2019 insurance fees will not be known until the December Board of Directors meeting. He also described how going to “fillable” Sanction forms is a step toward having true online forms in about 7 months. He recommended not waiting to get our change information out.
- B. Jamie noted that for 2019 Charity events, the organization must be a 501(C) 3 and provide its tax ID. Howard added that we need to get away from “charity” events not really affiliated with charities. Peter asked how often this happens, and Howard responded that anecdotal evidence suggests there are issues. He added that he was not aware of any issues involving Road Rally events, but felt that the best way to avoid issues is to have clear rules.
- C. Howard stated that the Sanction update is a major project involving the I.T. department, and that SCCA staff wants Jamie focused on it. Accordingly, Brian Harmer will take over Road Rally liaison, possibly as soon as December. Howard noted that Brian is already busy with Rally Cross and other responsibilities, so he (Howard) is concerned about the amount of time spent on website updates. He pointed out that the Road Rally Board is “upside down” financially (annual expenses, primarily for attendance at the National Convention, exceed income from all events), so we have to be careful about the amount of staff time used. In particular, we cannot afford to redo forms every year. Jamie stated that the website updates we need can be handled more quickly by Brian than by her, and that she doesn’t expect as much website maintenance going forward. Jim asked who will process Sanctions and Audit forms; Jamie replied that she and Stephanie will continue to handle them.

NEC Report

- A. Mike Thompson stated that the Tulsa event will not happen in 2019, due to a health issue of the organizer.
- B. Mike reported that the 2018 USRRC lost about \$2,000, and that Jim Heine had asked about the possibility of financial support from SCCA for future events. He noted that, given Howard’s comments, it did not seem like a good time to ask for money. We discussed the Grant program, and Jamie reminded the attendees that this program is for Regions doing something new. Clyde noted that Mike Cobb had attended the USRRC and had a positive experience there. He also stated that, if the RRB were to ask for USRRC support, it should be for a 2-3 year commitment, rather than just one

time. Jim asked if the members of the RRB wanted to request funding for the USRRC, and the consensus was that we do not. Mike Thompson stated that one big expense of the USRRC is the banquet. He suggested “lowering the bar” for hospitality at future events. The NEC will work with the USRRC planning committees to create more realistic budgets in the future.

Old Business

A. Finalize Safety Manual and Checklist

Peter stated that he has been waiting for input from one member, but now considers the updated to be done. Jim urged proceeding with the new versions.

B. Training videos

Wendy stated that she will work on this project during the next couple of weeks. Mike Thompson asked if we can avoid the cost of producing videos. Wendy responded that she will solicit videos at no cost from members of the Road Rally community.

C. Improvements to safety steward program

Mike Bennett reviewed the status as reported in the October Minutes. Jamie noted that there is not yet a timeline for support from SCCA staff. Jim asked if the item should be kept on the Old Business list, and Peter responded that it should, so we can take advantage of the new online training tool.

D. Rally starter materials

Clyde reported that he has been working with Jamie on the website changes. He will now work with Brian, and Jamie will hand off the materials to him. Clyde noted that, once the updates are completed, they will not need to be revisited for quite awhile. Jamie said she will discuss with Howard, and does not think these updates are a problem.

E. Status of regions requesting rally assistance

Peter reported that the Mohawk Hudson event was well received, with doubled attendance. Clyde asked how much of the 2018 Regional Development fund has been spent and Peter said under \$300. Clyde asked if some of this money could be funneled to St. Louis to cover USRRC expenses. Peter noted that the Regional Development money is to help Regions start up Road Rally programs, not to support existing programs. He also felt that we have not advertised the availability of funds correctly, having only contacted Regions who expressed interest at the 2018 National Convention. Jim said that he agreed with Peter, and felt that it is more important that we show results, rather than spend or not spend the budgeted amount. Peter suggested asking for a smaller amount in 2019, and Clyde asked if we need to request something be included in the 2019 budget. Mike Bennett asked when the 2019 Budget gets approved, and Jamie stated that it is at the December Board of Directors meeting. Earl strongly suggested that Jim talk to Howard soon, and Jim said he would do so the next day.

New Business

A. Worker credit on dual events

Jim reported that the RRB had voted not to award dual credits at its October 2017 meeting. Clyde stated that we were trying to avoid abuse, and felt that fewer events may be affected in 2019. Wendy stated that she does not feel it is fair to get double points, since (at least in Indy Region experience) double work is not actually required. Jim noted that he believes he explained the October 2017 decision to Chuck Larouere last year, but failed to notify points-keeper Bruce Gezon. Jim had received an inquiry from Chuck Hanson recently, and has since realized that he gave Chuck an incorrect answer. He laid out two possible solutions: (1) take points away from a few people this season, or (2) stop awarding points in the 2019 season. Jim did not think that anyone will care if points are removed this year. Mike Bennett noted that he supported making the change now if

nobody's standing is impacted. Wendy agreed with this approach. Clyde added that he felt the rule should be administered now as voted in 2017. Peter agreed with Clyde. Jim said he will implement the 2017 decision.

B. Letter to BOD requesting approval of rule changes

Earl said that he has received the letter, which contains only two items. Jim noted that Bruce Gezon suggested rewording the time Allowance change. Mike Bennett suggested simply stating that T/As can be used "for any reason". Peter added that all T/As must be "penalty free". Jim stated that we can revise the exact wording for the RRRs without a revote. Clyde noted that, last year, the Chairman sent out an explanation of rules changes to the Road Rally community. Jim suggested waiting until BOD approval is given before publishing. Mike Bennett noted that clarifying changes now would help events scheduled in early 2019. Earl stated that he does not expect the BOD to reject the changes, so Jim will proceed with advertising them.

C. 2019 Convention planning

Jim stated that the RRB meeting will be on Sunday morning from 8-11 AM. This will allow members to schedule flights out at 12:30 PM or later. He asked whether RRB members should book flights now, and Earl said to go ahead. Jim reviewed the planned sessions, and explained the "open house" approach SCCA is taking in scheduling all training on Thursday. He noted that this doesn't flow well with the other seminars we are planning, so Mike Bennett will repeat the RRSS training on Saturday. Jim asked whether the three sessions generally relating to "putting on your first rally" might be one too many, and Peter said he will discuss this with Mark Johnson. There may be an opportunity to combine two sessions into one. Peter asked for clarification on whether SCCA will pay for hotel stay on Wednesday night. Mike Bennett asked what time presenters need to arrive on Thursday. Jamie said she would find out answer to both questions.

D. Proposal to increase sanction and insurance fees for multi-day events

Peter reviewed the proposals, and noted that changes do not have to be effective for 2019. Mike Bennett asked how many three or more day events are held, and Peter stated that there is only one at present. Clyde noted that this event will run again in 2019, but may not be the same length. Peter said that the proposed fees are not out of line with those of multi-day rallies put on by organizations other than SCCA. Clyde asked about impact on the USRRC, and Jim responded that its events are separate (i.e., not multi-day). There was general discussion in favor of adopting the proposal. Earl felt that increasing fees was a good idea. Peter moved to adopt the proposal, Clyde seconded, and the vote was 5-0 in favor.

Next Meeting – 12/13/18

The meeting was closed at 9:11 PM CST.