

2017 ARMS Race Workshop Minutes

Proxies

- Joel Nelson for Brian Partridge, Paul Susnis, Scott Montgomerie
- Ben Brown for Mike Brown
- Gerald Elliott for Mark Elliott
- Mike McCrea for Michel Malenfant, Jason MacPhee, Gerry Boudreau
- Leigh Pettipas for Paul Machan, Paul Chaddock
- Derek Lugar for Brian Gay, Paul Gray

In Attendance

James Whitman, Daphne Sleigh, Dave Charters, Debbie Miller, Mike McCrea, Andy Hill, Paul Delaney, Jeff Martin, Eugene Pettipas, Leigh Pettipas, Devin Wadden, Brad Wadden, Ben Brown, Joel Nelson, Mike Brunt, Andy Mitchell, Stacy Chapman, Gerald Elliott, Derek Lugar, Ken MacKay.

Late: Steve Phillips, John Drysdale, Brian Partridge, Scott Mongomerie, Ming Duc Wong, Alan Gray, Doug Bland, Michelle Bland, Chris McCrea

Visitors: Bob Doucette, Dave Hull, Stewart O'Connor, Cathy Partridge, Joanne Wilson, Laci Wilson

Meeting called to order at 1:19pm

Meeting minutes from 2016 read by Daphne. No errors or omissions noted from the floor.

Eugene asked about whether anything was moved forward with naming a race/highlighting the history of the Moosehead name. Andy Hill indicated that a stencil has been made, but no barriers were repainted this year, which is the point when they would have used the stencil. Small steps toward fulfilling this commitment. When it is done, Eugene indicated he would like to send photos to Derek Oland.

James read the 2017 Race Director's Report.

2017 Race Financials

James noted that Race ran in the black for all weekends but one. He noted the \$287.50 charged to Race for oil spill clean-up, which shouldn't happen. Racers are reminded that they are responsible for their own clean-up and should be carrying absorbent pads and/or kitty litter for remediation. Mike McCrea noted that there is no waste oil collection at the track – Leigh recommended we put a note that there is no oil collection and all you take in must be removed be put in the Supp Regs for the races.

Race made okay money, fees do not include timing gear - \$1,000 for 2017 and \$1,000 not remitted for 2016.

Discussed the JCM, noted that it made \$2,434 but this is only due to a bunch of generous sponsors, and everyone donating their time. The insurance costs \$2,300 but we only had 16 entrants at \$100 a pop = \$1600.

Eugene indicated that he would consider being a sponsor for the race to improve turnaround. Ideally, we would be able to remit \$2,500 without so much beating the sponsor bushes.

Pro Stock Rules

Leigh and Mike McCrea indicated there are other cars in the region and people who are planning to come racing.

Changes looking to lighten the numbers 2700lbs down from 2800lbs for built motors, crate motors 2650lbs down from 2750lbs. 50lbs lighter for a 2-speed transmission. Transmission rule open for re-evaluation after the June race. Leigh moved, Mike seconded. All ayes, no nays.

Discussion of name brand opened to be branded anything (instead of Chev, Ford, Dodge, Toyota). Derek motioned, Leigh seconded. All ayes, no nays.

Pit Lane Rules

Possibly harsher than it needs to be. What should the age parameters and distance from the pit wall should be? Much discussion of how we are all at risk if we are not paying attention, regardless of our age. Insurance considers all of AMP a single zone.

Was noted that the 10.0 Rules of the Pits and Pit Lane 10.2 needs to be updated or 15-year-old racers technically would not be allowed in Pit Lanes.

Mike Brunt – suggested that perhaps rule should be that perhaps no one should be within 1 metre of the pit wall unless you have a purpose or job to be there.

Jeff noted that he deals with young racers on a regular basis, and that age 10 is very much cognitively a line in the sand.

Andy suggested adding a line painted down in front of the pit wall, making that side part of pit lane which you are not allowed to stand in. Should check to see what rules of "pit lane" in terms of tools and tires are. 1 metre from wall.

Race School and Mentoring

Discussion around the situation that some people need more ongoing instruction and mentoring throughout the year. Derek noted that racers are coming from different places, different avenues and different experiences – especially younger racers coming in at 15 years old, can we do extra instruction in Saturday practices, under race insurance? Joel noted there could be instruction if time attack runs on Saturday, which would mean 2-day full race insurance, and would add chances for mentoring. Areas especially discussed included learning judgement on passing, lines, consistency. Derek indicated he wants to learn more about what people don't know.

Leigh indicated he had never thought of instructing about how to drive off-line. Checklists for race instructors could introduce consistency in what needs to be taught, what students need to achieve and help indicate strengths and weaknesses for each student in areas. A way for Derek to learn what people don't know.

Question on how instructors are licensed. Added to list by Race Instructors.

Stew and Dave came by to talk about the upcoming elections – two members letting their names stand for Secretary – Ming Duc Wong and Alan Gray. Position of President is up for election. Normally what happens if there is no President is that the VP fills in, but our VP has resigned as of 3:31am. Need names to stand as VP, bylaws indicate this person would become president. Barring no one being nominated or elected – the incoming secretary, the current treasurer and the past-president will govern until end of January to come up with new candidates. The insurance and ASN would have issues if we don't have a proper executive. Nominations tomorrow can be written in, but the written acceptance would have to be received if the person will not be present at the AGM.

Awards

Awards were discussed – dash plaques vs papers plates.

Helmets SA2005

Good until the end of 2018, but if you like your head, consider getting a new helmet.

Rule Book – we will get to it this year

Break-out rule

Driver change form

John D noted if you broke out in heat-style races it could impact the race outcomes.

Race Schedule

Schedule – doing away with the Unlimited, GT Series 2 races each? SM series used the Unlimited race for a 15-race series, would have to move to a 10-race series. People noted that they would be less likely to run all 5 weekends with current fee structure, so we would lose money anyway with few cars.

Vintage – 10 or 12 laps (reduced)

Pricing – commit to the proposed fee structure for a few races and re-evaluate if losing money.

Schedule – keep the schedule for a full season, regardless of pricing structure.

Gridding – simplified gridding on a 45-degree angle as per Steve Phillips' suggestion.

Scoring – Andy concerned about value of heat race and using up resources for minimal points – would like to see a more equitable split for the heat race points values.

Discussion of ideal number of races – some people want more laps, others argue that the race is already mostly decided at lap 10 or 12.

Derek noted that the Unlimited race has a lot of history and it is sad to see it go, would rather not see it go. Possible to do it by running it as part of the Atlantic Challenge, as overall scoring.

Mike Brunt asked if we could have a race "on the bubble" where the race could be in or out depending on time (if there were no limit on the time from insurance). Others noted that there is already a lot of racing going on in the day.

Discussion of keeping track of the scoring for the year, Joel and Scott M volunteered to keep track of the week over week scoring for the 2018 season.

Items from the Floor

Leigh noted that there are no rules for fueling in the paddock, and it does seem unsafe – probably should at minimum have a fire extinguisher and car off. Andy noted that if we are requiring teams to have a fire extinguishers that we should specify as size and type. Mike Brunt noted that the rule should only apply for when the track is hot.

James noted that there are new rules for roll cages for new cars being built. Leigh asked how that applied to Pro Stock, James indicated he would find out how it applied to “purpose built race cars.”

Gerry Elliott noted that Maritime Racer Hall of Fame has few road racers in the hall of fame and we should be nominating some more – a matter of filling out the forms. Debbie noted that they do not have an ARMS section in their museum. Debbie noted that ASCC has nominated Derek Lugar and The Partridge Family.

Joel noted that we do give out overall trophies for series, which doesn’t really make sense. Maybe time to restructure? Maybe drop the overall trophies?

James noted that the 2017 JCM was the last one he would be organizing, and the 2018 JCM would need a different organizer, though he would not abandon whomever took over the job – an excellent opportunity to cut your teeth as a race director.

Mike McCrea noted that new guard rail is being installed at AMP along the back straight. Financed by an anonymous donor, with the bike folks adding in funds for the dirt work.

Volunteers

Noted that we need more volunteers, especially people interested in being clerks and stewards, would be really nice to have a full-time scrutineer.

Joel asked if someone should designate someone to try to garner sponsorship for race series. Could it be position for ARMS to put forward? James noted that this might also be someone who is in the soon-to-be discussed Social Media person.

Election of Race Director

James re-offering, everyone clapped (re-elected?)

Dave Charters moved to adjourn, Mike McCrea seconded.