

Minutes from November 21, 2015 SFR Annual Meeting

Called to order by RE Gary Pitts at 1 pm

Location: Pleasanton Doubletree, Pleasanton, CA.

2015 Board Members present:

RE Gary Pitts, Rod Simmons, Clint deWitt, Mike Smith, & Barbara McClellan, and SFR Office Newly-elected Board Members present: RE Gary Pitts & RJ Gordy. Approximately 60 members were also present.

Regional Executive **Gary Pitts** welcomed the newly elected board members, R.J. Gordy and Dan Burgoon, and thanked out-going Board Members Mike Smith and Tony Tabacco for their many contributions to the Region.

Gary introduced Dave Arken, long-time SFR driver in DSR, who presented the **SCCA National Mechanic of the Year Award** to Jason Hohmann of Bulldog Motorsports. Many across the country were nominated for this significant award, and Jason won based on his excellent support of drivers, knowledge, and support of SCCA over the years.

Gary Pitts presented the **Minutes from the 2014 Annual Meeting**. The minutes were approved by the membership present.

Significant Region Activities and Accomplishments

Gary Pitts enumerated some significant events transpiring over the past year:

1. 2014 was a very good year due to the Runoffs being in SFR and generating many out-of-region entries throughout the year.
2. Distributed the Region's tax return from 2014 to the members present.
3. As expected, 2015 started off with not too encouraging entries and participation levels. Unexpectedly, participation picked up throughout the last half of the year. We put into effect a number of cost controls to help contain costs. These factors resulted in estimated net financial returns of \$90,000.
4. We have good prospects for 2016, but have no crystal ball to predict accurately how things will go.
5. Most significantly, the Region staffed and successfully ran two races at two tracks on one weekend in September. Contributing to this outcome was the recruiting by Blake Tatum of the San Jose State FSAE club who supported the Regional at Sonoma. Integrating paid Sonoma staff with our volunteers worked very well and proves this is a viable option if needed in the future.
6. A \$250,000 Race To Recycle Oil grant oil has been approved and will be managed by Thunderhill staff. SCCA will receive \$60,000 through the grant and will get exposure in places like go kart tracks, car shows, and Pro Race events.
7. In discussions with National about Runoffs coming to Sonoma Raceway for 2018. Sonoma Runoffs would require that a SF Regional Race occur 4-6 weeks prior to Runoffs to make it technically feasible. Region would want to have more Races at Sonoma that year to be more effective

Annual Awards Banquet

Input from the membership on the move of the banquet to the last race weekend of the year and to Willows was solicited. Those present commented favorably on the new format and the move.

Banquet held in new format & location for variety of reasons:

- Cost
- Most racers and workers already at track
- Consensus appears that those who did attend would like to continue with new format
- Will work on fixing & improving some of the problems encountered such as cold food
- Comments that Banquet related announcements were a bit late
- Rhea Dods asked if last Regional event is coincident with Banquet, how can we figure out Class Championships? Gary responded that Sherry & Mike worked very hard at end of races on Saturday and had pre-prepared points to make it work.
- Linda Rogaski commented that she believes about 40 people, drivers and crews, attended the Banquet for the first time.

Those present were asked if they favored holding the banquet after the final race in Willows next year, and the response was unanimously positive. Therefore, the 2016 banquet will be held on October 22, 2016 after the last races of the year.

Financials

Mike Smith, as out-going Treasurer, gave an in-depth explanation of the Region's current finances with financial results for 2015 and current Balance Sheet. He explained how significant reductions in overhead, plus the favorable arrangement involving worker events and Regional Races at MRLS, plus the inclusion of Pirelli Challenge and PCA race groups there, all helped to put the Region in the black for 2015. He emphasized that further cuts in overhead would not be possible without reducing services to the membership. He also mentioned that for 2016, SFR may not do as well with Laguna Seca events as 2015, as we enjoyed some spillover from NASA due to NASA conducting their West Coast Championship event at Laguna.

Mike compared balance sheets from past years, 2013-2015, showing where the two new tow trucks appear under assets (not in the annual Profit and Loss statement); the value of Thunderhill (as of January 1, 2015), and that the accounts receivable from Laguna Seca is improving.

2016 Road Racing Schedule

Mike Smith presented the 2016 schedule with some changes made at that day's Board meeting.

The three-day Regional events at Thunderhill were changed to two-day events (now May 14-15 and September 24-25. The Pre-Reunion was corrected to its normal two days, August 13-14. The test day for IMSA was added making that weekend April 28-May 1.

The Board also voted not to sanction the RDC Enduro as an SFR event in 2016, but to leave the Sunday after the final Regional open for RDC to make a proposal to the Region for putting on their own Enduro at Thunderhill if they so choose.

Rod spoke about schedule and mistakes made in development and other issues. Some were driven by ISC/Laguna issues and not being able to request or obtain dates until very late in the year. An error led to the September Thunderhill race being scheduled on top of the Runoffs. Sonoma dates were requested prior to getting our dates at Laguna.

Rhea Dods questioned whether or not Laguna Seca would need Pro Support for April 28 and September 8. The Board will re-check those schedules.

Outlook for 2016

1. After the consideration of ISC as the operator of Laguna Seca, we are happy that things will continue as they have been for SFR in scheduling dates and providing workers for the Pro events.
2. The 2016 Majors will be a three-day event with effort invested to produce an outstanding experience for racers and participants.
3. RJ Gordy stated that one of his priorities will be to work to reinstate the Invitational Pacific Coast Road Racing Championships (PCRRC) as a respected championship event (as it was for 25 years, to be distinguished from the open event sanctioned by Cal Club Region).

General Discussion

The presentations were followed by a general discussion and question/answers. The following items were discussed:

1. Rhea Dods is working to recruit potential volunteers who want to become workers.
2. Rhea also spoke about the need to use Social Media and other 21st Century methods in recruitment efforts.
3. Linda Rogaski spoke about the Board's motion to get a Social Media Rep.
4. Gary Corsiglia requested that SFR Board send a letter to all UC college people who represent or are associated with Formula SAE.
5. Brian McCarthy asked a question about whether SFR was going to respond to Track Night in America Participants. Linda Rogaski is already handling this response.
6. Short discussion about HPDE/PDX type events.
7. The Board was requested to have Monthly Meeting Minutes posted in a more timely manner.
8. Chiefs meeting needs to be scheduled.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 PM.