

Notes from November 2015 SFR Board Meeting:

Date: 11/21/15

Location: Pleasanton Doubletree, Pleasanton, CA.

2015 Board Members present:

RE Gary Pitts, Rod Simmons, Clint deWitt, Mike Smith, & Barbara McClellan, and SFR Office Manager, Sherry Grantz.

2015 Board Members absent:

Tony Tabacco & Blake Tatum (both travelling).

Newly-elected Board Members present:

RE Gary Pitts & RJ Gordy.

Newly-elected Board members absent:

Dan Burgoon (travelling).

Guests present: Race Chairman, Ian Cook, and SE46 Class Director, Mark Drennan.

Guest invited, but absent: SE46 Class Director, Tim Barber (on honeymoon).

Called to order by RE Gary Pitts at 9:00AM

1st order of business: the October Board Minutes were approved as submitted.

2nd order of business: Re 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 announced that Rod will be Treasurer and Competition Director. Blake continues as Secretary. R.J. will replace Mike Smith as the liaison with Laguna Seca.

3rd order of business: Mark Drennan was invited to give his analysis of the Spec E46 class in 2015 and prognosis for 2016. Mark explained that although the SE46 competitors who competed with SFR in 2015 (himself included) all felt that SFR provided: better track time, a second class and group to run in, and better officiating; NASA was more attractive because: NASA provides better competition with larger car counts, West & East National championships, attractive (and contractually exclusive) contingency programs with Redline Oil & Toyo Tires, and a Saturday night BBQ open to all (for which each person pays \$10 at the gate).

Moreover, SFR's 3-day events are disfavored because they consume competitors' valuable vacation time. For 2016, the first 2 NASA and SFR events conflict, and he predicts the SE46 drivers will all attend the 2 NASA events to protect their points standings towards the NASA West National Championships.

Lengthy discussion followed: Mike Smith suggested that SFR offer a "mini series" of 3 events for SE46 (& SE30) in 2016 that do not conflict with NASA events, but offer benefits that NASA does not – a suggestion which was met with unanimous approval by

the Board. Drennan suggested that the mini-series include events at Laguna & Sonoma, and inviting SE46 competitors from Conference and SoCal.

4th order of business: Each old and new Board Member present gave his or her report: **RE Gary Pitts** proudly announced that despite early concerns that the Region would no longer benefit from the out-of-region entries spurred by the Runoffs the year before, the Region is expected to finish well in the black for 2015. Moreover, the Region will benefit from a 2nd Governmental Recycle Oil grant, this time to be administered by Thunderhill, but with the benefits to be passed through to the Region.

Rod Simmons, as 2016 Competition Director, explained how he avoided numerous conflicts to arrive at the tentative 2016 Road Racing schedule. In the discussion that followed, there was unanimous agreement to change the 3-day Regional events at Thunderhill to 2-day events (including the final Regional), but keep the Majors a 3-day.

Motion (Pitts/deWitt): 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 put on their own Enduro at Thunderhill, if they so choose (or if RDC does not, for a PDX or some other event).

PASSED.

Clint deWitt explained that while the SE46 class struggled in 2015, the new-for-2015 Novice Trophy program (under which the highest-placed novice in each class at each Regional Race received a trophy regardless of placement in class) was greatly appreciated by the 2015 class of Novices, and was credited with keeping many Drivers' School graduates within the SFR ranks (even though they may have sought licensure in order to race with another organization).

RJ Gordy, newly re-elected to the Region Board after a 10 year absence, stated that one of his foremost priorities would be to reinstate the Invitational PCRRC as a championship event (as it was for 25 years, to be distinguished from the open event sanctioned by Cal Club Region). He also explained that Majors competitors were evenly split between a 2-day and a 3-day event, but stated that a 2-day event was more profitable for the Region.

Mike Smith, as out-going Treasurer, gave an in-depth explanation of the Region's current finances, complete with Profit & Loss Statement and Balance Sheet for 2015 (to also be published in The Wheel). He explained how significant reductions in overhead, plus the favorable arrangement involving worker events & 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; but emphasized that further cuts in overhead would not be possible without reducing services to the membership. He also explained how the SCRAMP Board has been split into a 7-member Governing Board and a 25-member Event Operations Board, and gave his prognosis for the future of SCRAMP & MRLS.

Barbara McClellan explained that the Annual Awards Banquet held at the Veterans' Hall in Willows was largely a success, drawing more racers than previous Banquets; but not surprisingly had a few teething problems, mainly the fact that most of the food served was no longer hot (the Region had rejected Jim Thompson's suggestion of a buffet style banquet that he traditionally does so well at the track). She urged the Board to reconsider a buffet and have Jim BBQ the entrée right at the Veterans' Hall. It was agreed to get input on the Banquet at the Annual meeting in the afternoon.

Barbara also said that for 2016 Scot Zediker and Heather Streets will be Co-Flagging Chiefs. Bruce Runyan will be Assistant.

RE Gary Pitts then announced that, without objection, the next Board Meeting will be at 11:00AM, Wednesday, December 16, at Vic's Kitchen in Pleasanton; and there being no further business, adjourned the meeting.