

SSSCC May 2007 Club Meeting Minutes

May 9, 2007

Club President, Lynn Rogers, called meeting to order at 6:00pm with a total of 34 present, 19 of which are members.

Old Business

- April events were a huge success. Saturday at the SunDome we had 93 drivers, each getting 6 runs and finishing by 4:00pm. Nearly perfectly run event by all involved. Sunday we were able to give 6 runs to 102 drivers and be finished shortly after 5:00pm, even with a few minor glitches. The parade at lunch to Bob Hall's to join the car show was well received. Next year is already in the planning stages. It has been suggested that the car show be better organized with more promotion.
- The club plans to consider holding two weekend events at the Yakima SunDome in the 2008 season if possible. One in the spring in conjunction with Bob Hall Mazda Car Show and one later in the summer whenever the site is available. Good suggestion received to rent portable toilets for this site as the distance to the bathrooms did cause some inconvenience.
- Treasurer's Report – Yakima event gross revenue was \$4,035 and net income was \$1,700. The club spent \$1,200 to purchase 200 orange cones before this event that leaves the checkbook balance at \$8,300.
- Membership update – the membership count is up to 110.

New Business

- Upcoming events
 - ❖ Saturday, May 12th, Curvy Road Trip with the Columbia Mini Club into eastern Oregon. Anyone planning on participating will need to be at Wal-Mart on 27th and Hwy 395 no later than 8:45am. Course maps will be handed out prior to departure. Bring a 2-way radio if you won one or the older club radios will be available. You may buy in to the optional Poker Run at \$5 for 6 standard playing cards and pick up an additional card at each planned stop for \$1. At the last stop whoever has the best 5 card poker hand wins the pot.

Departure will be at 9:00am heading to Arlington, Oregon for the first planned stop. Depart at 10:15 and head to Condon, Oregon for the second planned stop. Next stop is Hepner where we will take a lunch break at approximately 1:00pm. Final planned stop is Pendleton around 3:30pm where the Poker pot winner will be determined. Come and enjoy some of the best curvy roads around.
 - ❖ Saturday and Sunday, May 19th and 20th, SCCA Packwood event. Course design is by our own Lynn Rogers so promises to be an exiting one. Saturday will be a practice event where you purchase tickets for 6 runs and sign up for two 1hour worker slots. Take your runs anywhere between your workers slots. Sunday will be Autocross event.
 - ❖ Saturday, May 26th, SSSCC Drivers School. There are 42 students enrolled for the 14 instructors to teach. This is the capacity for the school and we have at least one name on waiting list.
 - ❖ Sunday and Monday, May 27th and 28th, School's Out Events #5 and #6. Course

designer is Mark Rieb at Dust Devils Lot.

- Discussion of Drifting and SSSCC

Drifting at SSSCC autocross format events has become a topic of discussion. It has many club members and autocross participants concerned about the safety of the course workers and equipment. It also has the potential to slow events down as it is sometimes necessary to run only one car on course at a time for safety issues. The drivers that like to drift have always followed our requests to dial it back or to not drift a certain element for safety. However, it keeps the Safety Chief busy dealing with drift issues all day, defending them as well as keeping everyone safe. The first issue the club must pursue is whether or not this kind of deliberate loss of grip would be covered under our current insurance policy. Bob checked with our insurance carrier, K&K, and their answer is that it is not allowed under our existing policy. It would have to be a separately negotiated policy with them. The deposit on such a policy is \$5,000 up front. Without insurance coverage for drifting the club has no choice but to restrict intentional loss of grip at our autocross events. It will be the Safety Chief's decision to call intentional drifting or just accidental loss of grip.

It was great that a dozen or so drifters were present at the meeting to voice their thoughts and concerns. Lynn made it clear that the club's position on drifting was in no way an attempt to keep drifters from participating in our events or that it is an us or them situation. The club's Safety Chief was also present. The club would like to offer any assistance available to help the drifters with an event for drifting. Many options and ideas were presented. One suggestion was that the drift enthusiasts get together and organize a group that could be responsible for an event. If they were organized and put an event proposal together and submitted it to K&K insurance, it's possible they might quote a policy for such an event. If that happened and the group could present the club with a well planned and organized event that we are not likely to lose money on, we would consider assisting with sites and equipment, etc.

The ASNW holds drifting events under NASA insurance. Lynn has looked at that policy before and basically the only requirement is that the windows of the cars must be down, no further safety precautions. The policy is not very comparable and leaves the officers of the club personally responsible for any damage. This is not a venture our present officers feel is a viable risk. However, if the Spokane club would sponsor a drift event under their insurance and take all liability, one could be held in Tri-Cities with our club's assistance. This would need to be pursued by the people who want a drift event.

- Miscellaneous

Lawrence, Safety Chief, proposed a rule that all nitrous bottles be removed from a vehicle during tech. Allen, Tech Chief, is already doing this.

In the aftermath of the incident in Portland where cars were damaged from an out of control car at the end of a stop box, Lawrence brought up the need for the Course Design Committee to be paying special attention to where grid, spectators and pits are in relation to the stop box. There are 15-foot portable water filled barriers that can be purchased for about \$450 that could aid the club

in protecting against such incidents.

Manny Bonia said the Mustang Club is interested in coming to one of our events and making it a competition between the clubs. Everyone in attendance says, "bring it on". Manny will follow up with them and see if we can make it happen sometime this season.

TCR has informed Lynn that they will be increasing their price for renting the track to \$650 per weekend effective immediately.

- Sponsorship

Existing 2007 sponsors include:

Autobahn Car Care Center

Kaizenspeed

KartSports Northwest

Bob Hall Mazda from Yakima event

- Event Calendar 2007 Season

March 31st /April 1st – TCR

April 28th and 29th – Yakima Sun Dome

May 27th and 28th – Dust Devils

June 16th and 17th – TCR

July 7 – TCR – Night event (Double points)

Sept 1st, 2nd and 3rd – Dust Devils

Oct. 13th and 14th – TCR (Two day combined time event)

- Course Design Volunteers

January – Lynn Rogers

February – Victor Livengood

March – Allen Hare

April – Lynn Rogers

School – Lynn Rogers

May – Mark Rieb

June – Greg Swank and Mikey Hall

July – Mitch Lewis

September – Victor Livengood

October – Lawrence Danton

Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.

