

SSSCC June 2007 Club Meeting Minutes

June 13, 2007

Club President, Lynn Rogers, called meeting to order at 6:00pm with a total of 17 present, 14 of which are members.

Old Business

- The Driver's School had 42 drivers and 14 instructors. The format went smooth and the feedback has been positive. Sunday's season event set a new club record for SSSCC with 105 participants. Monday's attendance dropped to 72. Many of the students from the Saturday school showed their newly acquired skills by moving up or winning their classes during the weekend events. Kudos to the instructors!
- The only dark spot on the three day weekend was that during tear down on Monday afternoon, somehow the van managed to be left unlocked with the windows down and the key in the ignition. Nothing happened, but it could have. We need to add that to the list of things to check before leaving.
- Treasurer's Report – The three day event weekend grossed \$5,300 minus \$1,000 for expenses leaving a net profit of \$4,300. The checkbook balance is at \$13,000. Bob has suggested he look into a money market account to put the majority of the balance into that would be interest earning and would serve as our new trailer fund.
- An issue arose from having to pit and grid at the gravel end of Dust Devils lot. Pit piles left in the gravel became vulnerable and someone got their equipment ran over by a car driving through the pit area. Everyone has been encouraged to heighten their awareness as driving through pit areas. Also, if you have a big pit pile it helps to use a box or crate type container as it is more visible to others. If we continue to use that end of Dust Devils for pits it is possible we could put a worker in the area to help the direct traffic but this would only happen if our attendance continues to be large enough to accommodate this.

New Business

- Upcoming events
 - ❖ Saturday, June 16th and Sunday June 17th, Summer Sizzle season events #7 and #8 at TCR. Typical season events. Lunch will be provided by Ray and Danielle Alsbrooks including coffee in the morning and burgers, hotdogs and more. Thanks for the service.
 - ❖ Saturday, August 2nd, Bob's Road Rally, The Hare and the Hound. Bob will be the Hare and will leave the start 30 minutes before the Hounds are released. He will leave a flour pile at intersections that he may (or may not) have turned at and will leave a confirmation pile of flour with ¼ mile so the hound can tell if they choose the correct direction. Trying to catch Bob will be judged by how long it takes you to get to final destination (1 point per minute) and how close to Bob's mileage you come (1 point for each 1/10th mile off). The cost to enter is \$10. Winnings from entry fees will be distributed with 50% for first place, 25% for second, 15% for third, and 10% for fourth. More will be posted on forum and website shortly.

- Discussion of proposed purchases

The club has been talking about the benefits of purchasing a wireless timing light setup. Everyone agrees the benefits are worthy of the money so the remaining issue is the timing of the purchase since we are already committed to saving and purchasing a new club trailer. Questions remain about what system is being considered, what is the cost of the system, what are the benefits, what are the new capabilities, what effect would this purchase have on current plan to purchase a trailer?

The proposed system is a Race America T-Link Wireless timing light set up. It would eliminate timing cables from the trailer to start and finish locations. Either or both sets of lights can be over 1000 feet from the trailer with no signal issues. Longer spans are available with upgraded antenna for really long distances. It would also eliminate the JA Circuits timer box from inside the trailer. The lights connect directly to the timing server with no intermediary device. The new timing lights are smaller and easier to align for set up. They can be spread up to 75 feet apart for signal connection. The wireless sending unit is connected to one light by a 20 foot cable which ensures that the expensive wireless sending unit is always able to be placed in a safe location. The lights themselves are relatively cheap compared to the sending unit.

We are the only club of our size which does not have specific requirements to possess a backup timing system in case of an event problem. We are now in a financial position to fix that issue. Our existing JA Circuits box, lights and cables will act as a fully functional backup system. We can have it set up and working in less than 30 minutes if ever needed.

The wireless lights will allow us far more flexibility in site and course use. Sites that are currently unusable could become usable with this system, sites such as air strips or drag strips where the start and finish would be on opposite ends of the strip. Setting up the lights at the beginning of events would be much easier. We would not need to do the cable fly overs or risk cars driving over the cables. This new system would allow segment timing anywhere on course with the use of our spare set of wireless lights we will have as a part of the kit. Axware will soon be able to interpret segment timing and allow drivers to see how fast they are on individual segments of the course in addition to the entire course. This system is also an integral in the product Race America is creating for Pro Solo events.

The cost of the T-Link Wireless system is approximately \$5000 with all the parts and pieced to run autocross events as we do now. Most items are in stock and ready to ship quickly. It is possible we could have it up and running for the July event at TCR.

So how does this impact the purchase of a trailer? Lynn's reasoning is although the new trailer is a big priority it is not the only purchase the club needs to make. If we spend all our money on a trailer we will have to wait a considerable time for other purchases, like these lights, which will assist the club to host quality events. This is a set back in the trailer purchase timeline but not a huge one. If event attendance continues like we are getting now we can cover the cost of the lights with the gross income of a little more than one weekend event. Having these lights before the trailer will make setting up the new trailer the way it needs to be easier.

With all that said, a vote was taken to decide if the club should proceed with this purchase at this time. Unanimous vote passed to make this purchase. Lynn will put in order and hope to have system ready for next event.

Other purchases the club is interested in making is an additional matching generator. This is not an immediate need but when a deal becomes available we need to proceed. Must be same model number identical to existing generator. The club also needs to have the appreciation plaque made and presented to Bob Hall Mazda. Ray Alsbrooks has volunteered to donate some granite for the background of the plaque and also has some contacts that could do some etching or make face plate. Will follow up with this at next meeting.

- 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 7:00pm.

