



## **SWMS Meeting Minutes**

January 5, 2022

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### **General**

Note: This board meeting was held via the internet-based Zoom video conferencing application.

The meeting was called to order at 6:03PM by President J. Stoughton.

**Attendance:** J. Stoughton, J. Colbert, L. Haynes, T. Wolicki, V. Yarberry, A. Sanford, M. Lueders, E. Cahan, M. Travers, R. Kells, B. Lee, J. Slenes, M. Tribble, S. Marino, Z. Myers, S. Brown, S. Claunch, M. Travers, R. Richards, L. Pittsley, G. Sanford

### **Special Topic: Track Ownership Update and Winter Series Planning**

Introduction by J. Stoughton:

- Sandia Speedway is in the process of undergoing change of ownership. A team of investors, led by J. Guthrie, is in the process of purchasing the race track.
- The closing date of the deal is anticipated to be at some point during January.
- Finalization of the formal deal and contracts are in-progress, as far as SWMS has been made aware.
- The goal today is to discuss planning for SWMS, particularly the Winter Series road racing activities at Sandia Speedway.

SWMS Communications with new track ownership:

- SWMS has been in constant contact with the new track ownership team, principally through J. Guthrie, and the overwhelming desire of the new ownership is to keep motorsports and road racing alive and supported in New Mexico.
- SWMS is excited to work with J. Guthrie and could not ask for a better track owner and operator.
- The new management is aiming to perform a few strategic activities during 2023 to attempt to sanction the track for NASA and/or SCCA events during 2024.

Background, Goals, and Proposal for SWMS and Winter Series

- SWMS was asked to try to operate the Winter Series races upon request from the new Sandia Speedway ownership.
- The goal of the SWMS Board is to work together with Sandia Speedway's new ownership to simply get road racing going again for 2023.
- The SWMS Board has met a number of times to best develop a plan to co-operate Winter Series races together with Sandia Speedway.
- Furthermore, the SWMS Board has been in discussion with both Sandia Speedway and the Legends race group, with the goal of trying to merge and/or better integrate more Legends racing within SWMS events, particularly during the Winter Series races of 2023.
  - The SWMS Board long term vision, as of 2023: Build relationship with Legends group and boost SWMS and road racing fields. Review and hopefully implement a Legends run group within SWMS race weekends.

- Dates and events proposal:

Date	Event
19-Feb	Single Winter Series race day, supported by SWMS
11-Mar	SWMS annual technical inspection and training day
12-Mar	Single Winter Series race day, supported by SWMS

- As co-operated events, essentially organized and insured by SWMS on behalf of Sandia Speedway, the SWMS Board reinforced the need to operate each Winter Series race day and/or race weekend according to established procedures, safety standards, and organizational requirements.
  - Use SWMS procedures, methods, insurance, and workers to co-operate the Winter Series races for 2023.
- Proposed Fee Structure:
  - SWMS financial models, calculated by J. Colbert, show good viability given the following assumptions and agreements:
    - \$140/day per car
    - \$95/day per kart
    - Agreement for minimal, special Winter Series track pricing with Sandia Speedway [fixed \$50/car fee]
    - → Summary: minimum 10 cars and 3 karts needed to break even, given Winter Series track pricing.
  - Furthermore, if the Legends group was to join, SWMS viability and financial standing further increases, providing better margins.

#### Additional Discussion Points:

- Legends Group dynamics, open questions from SWMS Board
  - Does the Legends group want to fly into ABQ to race the 2023 Winter Series?
  - Does the Legends group want to race in February or March or both?
  - → J. Colbert is in contact with the Legends Group and will have the next phone call update in the coming weeks.
- SWMS 2022/2023 Insurance Standings
  - As 'carry over' from the 2022 SWMS racing season, SWMS currently has 3 full race days' worth of insurance coverage that can be used in 2023 before purchasing more insurance.
  - The SWMS insurance provider is able to sell more days, as necessary, to the existing 2022 insurance policy, at the same pricing, before the new 2023 insurance policy is needed (May 2023 renewals).
- Prioritization and Inputs on 11-Mar SWMS Technical Inspection and Training Day
  - S. Marino noted that scheduling would be key, as tech inspection and trainings consume most of the available SWMS staff on this day.
  - J. Stoughton noted that planning would be of paramount importance. Indeed, perhaps an opportunity exists whereby trainings and inspections occur in the morning and then an abbreviated race schedule could happen in the afternoon.
  - J. Colbert noted that perhaps Sandia Speedway can arrange for a few track volunteers too.
  - SWMS agreed that K. Adams and/or D. Porter would be needed to staff pit and grid during the race.
- B. Richards suggested and reinforced that workers are the key piece to operating a SWMS race weekend.

- Would more training be needed to adjust to Winter Series races?
- Are there, in fact, enough confirmed SWMS worker resources for Winter Series races?
- Does the SWMS Board need to consider doing something to incentivize the added worker load?
- The SWMS Board noted that SWMS and J. Guthrie are working to try to partner with the Boy Scouts to help with corner workers.
- L. Pittsley asked if there is an insurance-mandated age limit for workers?
- J. Colbert confirmed that no contractual limit or regulations for work age are present.
- It was confirmed that a separate liability/adult consent form is required.
- SWMS Board Poll to Workers:
  - J. Stoughton polled key SWMS workers and volunteers, to which a positive response was collected:
  - All positioned were confirmed as being able to filled to support the additional 2023 Winter Series race weekends.
  - Additional Required Race Weekend Track-Provided Services:
    - J. Guthrie has agreed to provide EMT/ambulance service for the Winter Series races.
    - J. Guthrie has also agreed to provide tow/wrecker service for the Winter Series races.
    - Both of the services would be provided at the fixed, \$50/car track fees, valid for Winter Series races only.

#### Look Ahead to 2023 Regular Board Meeting Topics:

- The SWMS Board fee analysis has shown that fee structure adjustments are required for the 2023 regular SWMS season; more to follow.
- G. Sanford thanked J. Colbert for his detailed financial records, which are key to evaluating and setting SWMS event pricing.

#### Open Questions:

- S. Marino was interested to see how the relationship of Winter Series participation now that the Winter Series races will be co-operated and promoted via SWMS for 2023 – particularly with non-Miata entrants.
- G. Sanford commended the SWMS Board and noted that with the track ownership changing, SWMS is in a good position to make changes and/or try to boost car counts.
- L. Pittsley agreed, SWMS has a viable opportunity to grow and develop along with the ownership changes at the track.
- B. Richards agreed, noting that it was important for SWMS to grow and adjust along with the energetic new relationship opportunities with the new track ownership.
- M. Tribble noted, that as a volunteer, she would be able to support the Winter Series but plans herself to race for the 2023 season, creating an opening for her volunteer position.
- E. Cahan noted that he was talking with an AZ region karting promoter: he noted that he is working an opportunity to start and/or grow a “Southwest Karting Tour.”

#### Board and Membership Vote on 2023 Winter Series Proposal:

- Against SWMS co-operating the 2023 Winter Series races: 0
- For SWMS co-operating the 2023 Winter Series races: All present; unanimously passed

#### January 14<sup>th</sup> Awards Banquet Updates:

- G. Sanford briefed that catering had been confirmed, supplied by Saddle's.
- Caterer to deliver food, SWMS Board to serve food.
- Kenny at the museum has museum and tables ready.
- Decorations have been requested to be dropped off/installed Thursday before the weekend.
- SWMS Board authorized to plan and procure food for 60 people.

- SWMS to charge \$25/person, payments to be collected at the door.
  - F. Cordova is generously sponsoring worker and volunteer meals.
- Final List of Responsibilities:
  - Setting up and decorations: Z. and W. Myers, L. Pittsley
  - Beverages: J. Stoughton, M. Travers
  - SWMS Sign: J. Colbert
  - Trophies: L. Pittsley
  - Catering: G. Sanford

The meeting was adjourned at 7:12PM

The next Board meeting will be held on 17-Jan-23. See separate upcoming email for Zoom instructions.