



## **SWMS Meeting Minutes**

September 19th, 2024

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### **General**

Note: This board meeting was held online, using Google Meet videoconferencing.

The meeting was started at 6:04PM by President J. Neuman.

#### **1. Announcements on behalf of the President:**

- Agenda: Motion to approve, seconded. Agenda approved.
- August Minutes: Approved and will be posted.
- August “Fast Heat” race, went well:
  - Unfortunately, generally continuing trend of low car counts.
  - Thanks to L. Pittsley for serving as Race Steward and J. Jerger for serving as Race Chair. Thanks to D. Porter and K. Adams for their usual excellence servings as Pit, Grid, and Technical Inspection.
- September Race:
  - Rebranding from Karting Kraziness to become the first trial of a merged event hosting both SWMS road racing and Albuquerque Super Laps time trials. The new name for the September race weekend will be Suika Motor Land Fest 2024.
- October Race:
  - M. Travers spoke with regional cars in AZ, UT, and CO. A few seem interested in Miata Mayhem at Suika.
- Member Achievements:
  - From the Vintage group, W. Hollowell won driving his Triumph at Sonoma, congratulations!
  - From the Karting group, the Cahan brothers had an excellent season in their respective formula cars. G. Cahan won his championship driving his F2000. A. Cahan had a great first season racing his F1600. Congratulations!
  - From the Spec Miata group, I. Sherman won the national GT America GT4 championship racing in his Rotek Racing Porsche, congratulations!

#### **2. Old Business**

- Sponsorships:
  - M. Travers relayed that he will soon be meeting with University Mazda management about sponsorships for the 2024 Miata Mayhem weekend.
  - A. Sanford reported that the SWMS.org website currently has the most up-to-date list and logos of SWMS sponsors. A recent email mailing/broadcast had an out-of-date sponsor list, which has been corrected.
- Race Chairs for Remainder of Season:
  - September 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>: W. Hollowell has agreed to be the race chair.
  - October 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>: M. Travers and J. Stoughton will co-chair the race.
- Updates to 2024 NM Non-Profit Status
  - J. Neuman noted that in talking with RMVR, RMVR has a Social Club non-profit status/filing and that this could be a similar approach for SWMS.

- Additionally, it has been determined that a 501 c 3 filing requires SWMS to hold a charity event annually, which likely will exclude SWMS from this specific status.
- SWMS Treasurer:
  - Position remains open and not filled. No updates.
- 2025 Procedure Streamlining and Organizing Effort
  - J. Neuman encouraged the Board to consider categorizing the SWMS policies and procedures posted online at SWMS.org into two categories in the SWMS/Suika partnership era: a category clearing stating procedures which SWMS is still actively using each weekend [races SWMS runs] and a category for “reference” which is perhaps more focused for Suika uses [races SWMS does not run].
  - A. Sanford has the action to start to review and categorize the procedures on the SWMS.org website.
- SWMS and RMVR Invitation
  - To be worked for 2025 race season.

### 3. New Business

- Social Media
  - J. Neuman has been communicating with Suika on social media partnerships and opportunities.
  - In parallel, the SWMS board had been working to re-establish and identify owners of the various SWMS social media pages:
    - SWMS Facebook page: J. Slenes, K. Vallejos
    - SWMS Facebook group: K. Vallejos [started to permit membership to post content to a SWMS Facebook location].
    - SWMS Instagram: Owner unknown, started in ~2018 prior to E. Romero developing the most recent SWMS.org website. A. Sanford has messaged the owner, no response.
  - J. Neuman encouraged the SWMS board to consider multiple, redundant ownership permissions for SWMS social media.
  - E. La’mar from Suika also mentioned that better integration with Suika social media accounts could simplify operations and further expand online presence. Especially with respect to cross-posting of Suika professional video and photo media content.
- Lessons Learned from RMVR
  - J. Neuman attended the summer charity race with RMVR and spoke to RMVR President, S. Mercer.
  - Suggestions and ideas:
    - Stop watch used at race control and pit/grid to better synchronize events with planned schedule.
    - 5-minute warnings from an air horn to ensure racers are at the staging area on time.
    - Cones to identify gridding positions.
- Long Time Members, M. Luders and T. Wolicki
  - SWMS sent flowers to M. Luders, who is recovering and feeling better.
- 2025 SWMS Season Race Schedule Negotiations with Suika
  - A few lessons were learned from the 2024 season, where a few conflicts with other weekend race events perhaps lowered SWMS participation.
  - M. Travers is working with NASA CO and AZ to get preliminary/draft 2025 schedules from the regional organization.

- RMVR has confirmed 3 of 5 planned 2025 dates.
- M. Travers and G. Self have agreed to volunteer and work the 2025 SWMS schedule with Suika.
- SWMS will also review the upcoming merged SWMS/ABQ Super Laps race format for consideration during the 2025 race season. It is anticipated that this merged format may be helpful for increasing car counts moving forward.
- Drone Filming
  - J. Neuman has the working draft of the drone policy, as forwarded by prior President J. Stoughton. The updated draft was made available for board review on 9/19/2024.
  - General policy:
    - Drone use will be brief to drivers at the morning driver's meeting.
    - Drone operators should be accredited and approved by Suika to operate at Suika facilities.
    - No windshield-in type shots, maintain an agreed safe distance from cars. Though, the drone will be allowed to be operated overhead of active race cars.
    - Vote:
      - For: All
      - Against: None
    - Suika further explained that the content creators and drone companies will own the videos, which are then planned to be shared/linked on social media.
  - The full policy to be reviewed at the next Board meeting, incorporating lessons learned from drone use at the September race.

#### 4. Treasurers Report

- The SWMS USPS post office box was renewed for another year.

#### 5. Attendance: A. Sanford, W. Hollowell, J. Jerger, E. La'mar, S. DeBerry, G. Self, E. Cahan, J. Neuman, M. Travers.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

The next board meeting is planned to be held in October 2024. See separate upcoming email for meeting details.