

## SWMS Meeting Minutes



February 20th, 2025

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### General

Note: This board meeting was held in person, at Fuddruckers [4855 Pan American Fwy NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109].

The meeting was called to order at 6:10PM by President J Neuman.

#### 1. Opening:

- Motion to approve the agenda was approved and seconded.
  - The focus of the Board meeting is to appoint new Board Members.

#### 2. Announcements from the President and Board Members:

- J. Neuman led appointment of new Board Members:
  - Nomination of A. Sanford to the SWMS Board, as President:
    - For: All.
    - Against: None.
    - Approved.
  - Nomination of J. Jerger to the SWMS Board, as Vice President:
    - For: All.
    - Against: None.
    - Approved.
  - Nomination of M. Tribble to the SWMS Board, as Secretary:
    - For: All.
    - Against: None.
    - Approved.
  - As such, all mandated SWMS Board positions are filled.
  - A. Sanford to send email via SWMS mailing list to notify club of changes.
  - A. Sanford to work with NM State to update Board member listings in non-profit database.

#### 3. Old Business

- To be resumed at March Board meeting.

#### 4. Treasurer's Report

- To be resumed at March Board meeting.

#### 5. New Business

- A. Sanford presented the following presentation (attached).
  - Feedback and comments:
    - G. Self announced that SWMS annual technical inspections for the 2025 season would be during the March and April race weekends.
    - K. Adams and G. Self to preside over technical inspections.
  - J. Stoughton asked about ownership of the SWMS track truck and timing system. He recommended a proposal be made to Suika Circuit management to purchase these SWMS assets.

- B. Richards inquired on which other groups or clubs are partnering with Suika Circuit during 2025.
  - Knowns: Super Laps (Suika direct), Super Cup (Suika Direct), Drift (Suika direct), SMRI, and SWMS.
  - 2025 Licensing
    - A. Sanford has been working with MSR/Hagerty to set up online membership and licensing process.
    - New membership and licensing application now available at MSR:
      - 1 year membership and licensing renewals are live, with membership and licensing running until 1-Jan-2025, upon which renewal emails will be sent.
      - Membership and licenses are being processed and approved.
      - For \$4 per card, MSR will print official license cards. The proofs of the artwork and formatting for the cards are planned to be available approximately 3/15/2025.
  - VMC Renewal
    - A. Sanford noted that VMC dues and renewals (\$200) for 2025 had been submitted, paid in full, and accepted.
6. Attendance: J. Neuman, A. Sanford, R. Dunn, F. Cordova, J. Slenes, W. Myers, Z. Myers, G. Self, L. Pittsley, J. Stoughton, B. Richards, W. Hollowell, J. Jerger

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25PM

The next board meeting is planned to be held in person on 3-20-2025. See separate upcoming email for meeting details.

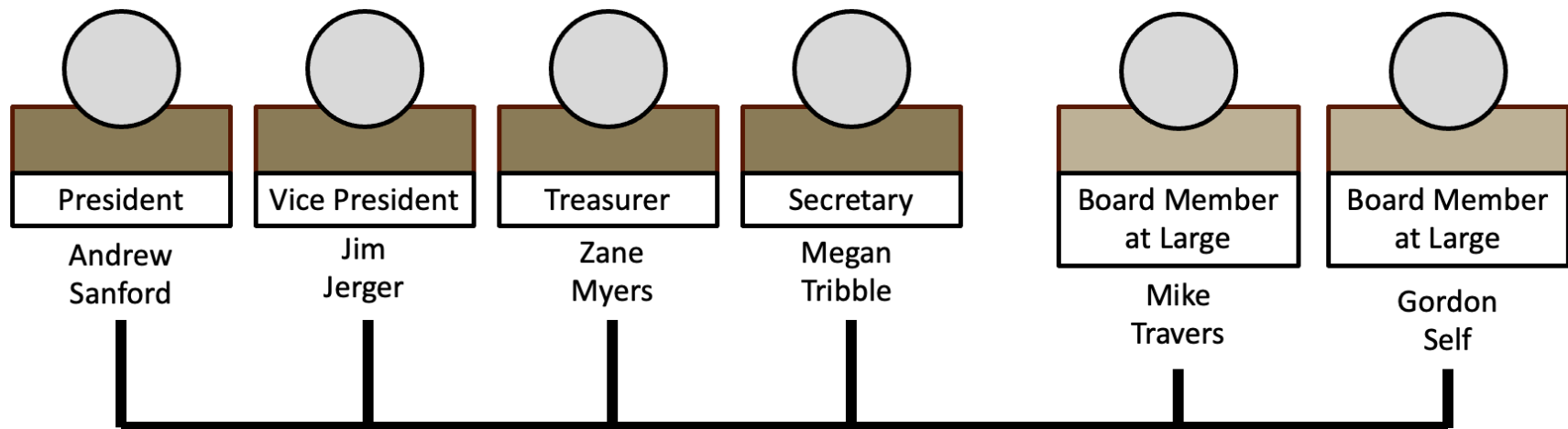


# 2025 SEASON

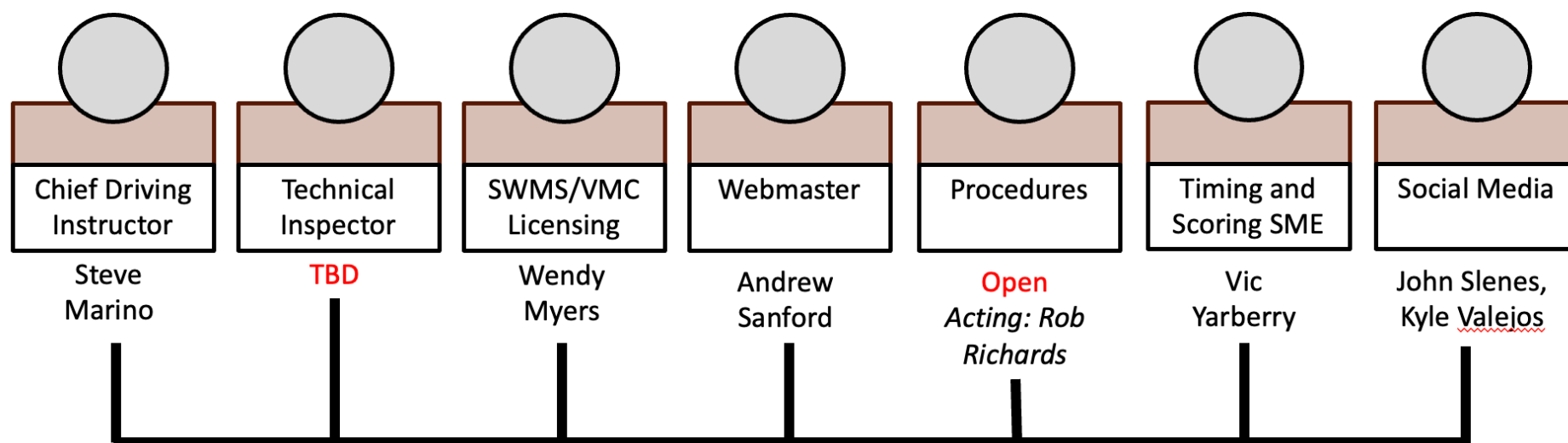
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A. Sanford  
1/17/2025

# 2025 Board of Directors



# 2025 Volunteer Staff



# SO. WHY ME, WHY NOW?



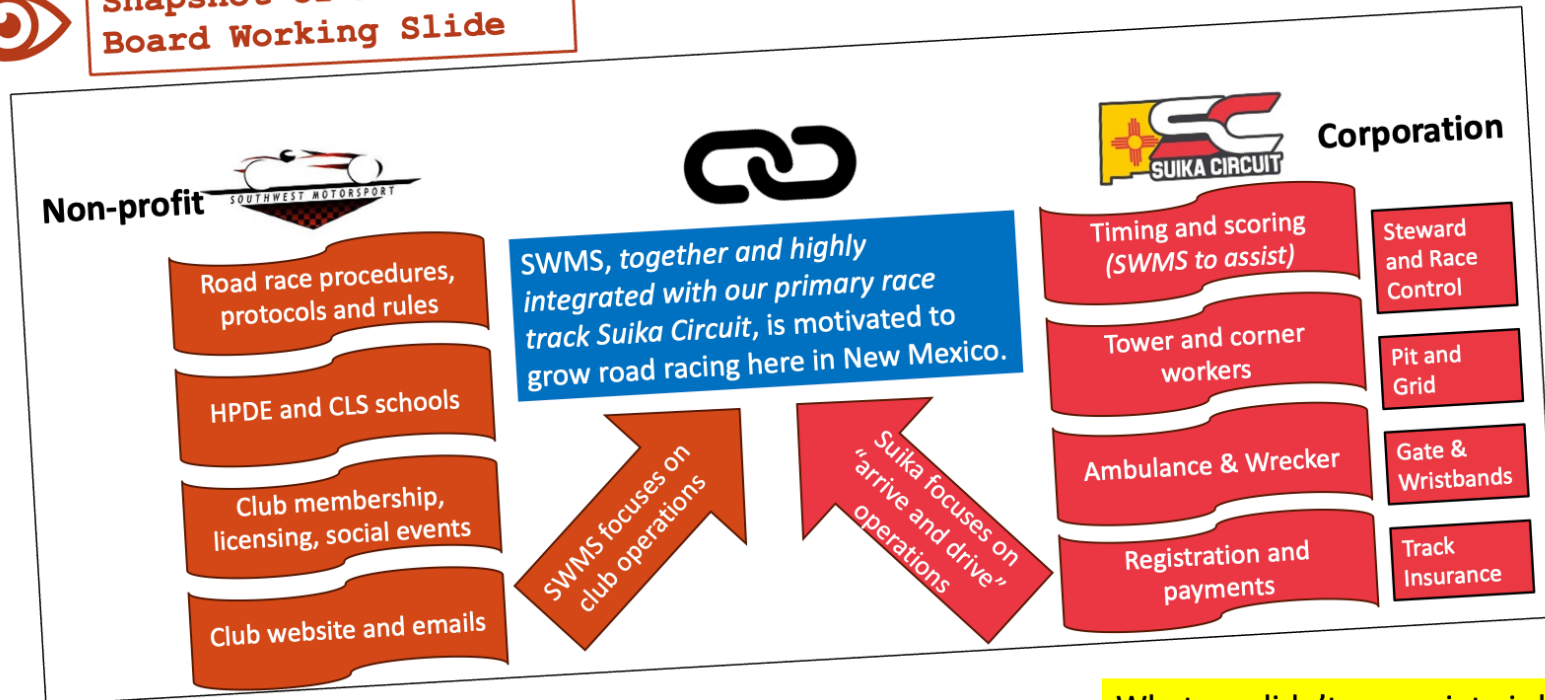
- Nuclear engineer. 37. Married. Sports car passion from age 3. I build my race cars.
- I joined SWMS in 2015 on a path to learn road racing.
- For me, SWMS was a world absolutely worth driving 4.5 hours each way for.
- “Come for the racing, stay for the comradery.”
- SWMS Board Member [Secretary] since 2020, 50+ board meetings to build experience.
- → **Fundamentally, I strongly believe in SWMS: Safe, Educational, Enjoyable**



2015



Snapshot of 2023 SWMS Board Working Slide



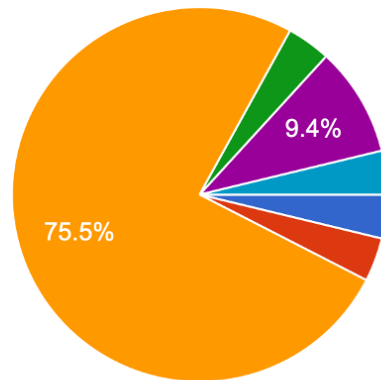
What we didn't appreciate is how hard these changes would be on our club.

# THE BIG VOTE



What should be the future Direction of our club? Please vote for one of the following options. For the privacy of our members and volunteers, all votes are anonymous.

53 responses




- Option 1: SWMS Should Operate Races at Alternate Tracks (Traveling Club)
- Option 2: SWMS Should Become a Purely Social Club
- Option 3: SWMS Should Become a Sports Car Racing Interest/Lobbying...
- Option 4: SWMS Should Consider Dissolving and Closing Operations
- Option 5: SWMS Should Consider Me...
- Option 6: SWMS Should Consider Re...



# 2025: A PROPOSED APPROACH

Option 3: SWMS becomes a flavor of “sports car racing interest group” remaining SWMS as we are today that could perhaps be useful to Suika Circuit. Much of SWMS’s expertise is in racing instruction, procedure development, safety, technical inspections, licensing, track worker and driver training. For instance, this month Suika Circuit asked us to review their new proposed rules for racing without SWMS sanctioning for both their road racing and super laps, which we did provide feedback on. The track is going to hold races SWMS members can race in, only now it is by their rules (a simplification or rendition of our rules) with them accepting our race licenses, or from other sanctioning bodies, and the track officiating the races (we previously provided Tech Inspection, Race Steward and Weekend “Race Chair” Person). For us to continue to train performance driving, qualifying people for race licenses and other related training, we would need to remain SWMS even if we are not sanctioning races. We would remain more of resource and friend to the track. We do not need to make a decision on the future of the club to expand nor end our club in this option, just continue as we are without running races or sanctioning them. This option can also be used to defer an up or down decision on our club’s future until next year. Meanwhile, if we do this, we should work harder to promote Suika Circuit and raise car counts to support the track’s viability and the club’s significance to the track. This can also have a non-profit status.

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- **SWMS as a sport car interests/lobbying organization:**
  - Content and instruction of Suika driving schools
  - Maintenance and compliance with VMC
    - Licensing
    - Annual technical inspection
  - Monthly in-person SWMS meetings to review and summarize the following:
    - What is working well
    - What might need help or improvement
    - A look to future planning
  - I would then share a summary with Jim and Suika Owners, for their consideration.

## What is not on the immediate list:

- Rule book stuff (this is on Suika for their track)
- SWMS needs to keep our rule book separate, and sort of for ourselves, on behalf of VMC partnership



# FEEDBACK AND SELF AUDITING

- Gordon Self and Jim Jerger have been out and about, asking anything and everything to those in our orbit.

"I really want to keep my SWMS/VMC license, which lets me race across the nation."

"A SWMS annual technical inspection sticker is needed to race at SVRA and RMVR."

"Anything SWMS needs, we are here to help."

"The people that make up SWMS are a very important community for road racing."

"Keeping my car log book and race weekend entries up-to-date is important to me."

"When people hear SWMS, they think of a club that is difficult to work with."

"When I first started with SWMS, getting a license was easy. Sure, the medical can be difficult, but the path to a license used to be easy to follow and work through."

"Perhaps the SWMS name itself is trouble, how about a new name for the same good group of people."

The point is not to get caught up in the details of the good and the bad, but to simply hear what others are saying. This is essential to helping shape SWMS to the needs of our membership and partners.



# TOP CHALLENGES *(the SWMS list)*

Priorities Andrew Ordering	Challenges	Status
1	How to restore virtually non-existent Board participation to a quorum (5) <u>in order to make decisions</u>	Done!
2	How to decide and navigate transition to 2025 SWMS (the big vote)	
3	How to robustly renew and manage VMC/SWMS licenses for vintage participants	
4	How to update non-profit status and associated legal standings	
5	How to update/revise membership benefits and fee collection	
6	Review and adopt bylaws and procedures to 2025 SWMS	
7	Update website to match "SWMS 2025" operations	
8	Review and update SWMS mission statement	
9	Identify and attempt to resolve concerns across SWMS run groups	
10	Re-establish good standing with Suika Circuit owners	

Note: for the first time in a long time, it is not about club financial standing.  
 → Freedom to work on what we want and need.

# MY TAKE ON 2025 VISION

- 1. Take a quiet, calm, supportive approach to racing at Suika this year.
  - Not the best: Direct, ad hoc concerns and debates with Suika.--> Come see a Board member first, please!
  - Somewhere in the middle: Last minute issues which hopefully we can articulate before the driver's meeting.
  - Long term goal: SWMS earns the respect of Suika and appoints a single contact to share our preferences and recommendations again.
- 2. Focus on the home front.
  - We need to return to compliance with NM State, VMC, our own policies, etc.
  - Now that the vote is done, we need to update our procedures and website to reflect our actual way of life these days.
  - With our pretty small volunteer staff, an emphasis on streamlined operations and licensing is key.
- 3. Restore respect with Suika and then see about planning for 2026 season.
  - Baseline goal: Suika *would be interested to hear about SWMS* and *be welcoming of our needs/goals/opinions*.
  - Stretch goal: earn a seat at the Suika track ownership table, so to speak.
  - Maybe still a possibility: SWMS could organize and run a SWMS-centric race weekend in the 2025/2026 Suika schedule, ala Motorland Fest but with a SWMS focus.

After last year, remember to take a breath. Most important for our club is to create a friendly, supportive, and wise approach to who we are.

# LICENSING DURING 2025 (MY VIEW)



Class	@Suika, New	@Suika, Existing	@External
Spec Miata	Suika Cert	SWMS/VMC	NASA or SCCA SWMS/VMC @ RMVR
Vintage	Suika Cert	SWMS/VMC	VMC reciprocity
Contemporary	Suika Cert	SWMS/VMC	NASA or SCCA SWMS/VMC @ RMVR
New/Trainees	Suika Cert	N/A	NASA or SCCA

Value-Add/Opportunity/Jim Topic: SWMS could perhaps help encourage or progress Suika School Certificates to a genuine license.

# LICENSING UPDATES

Live Now

## Events near Albuquerque matching "swms"

1/30/2025

1 result



Tue, Jan 21 - Thu, Jan 1

### 2025 Season SWMS Membership and VMC Licensing

Southwest Motorsport



Suika Circuit - Albuquerque, Albuquerque, NM

Membership





- 100% online process, payments and all
- 100% online database
- Online and accepting renewals today, \$75 combo
- ➔ **Procedure edits and process documentation next**

**Memberships, Licenses & Credentials** Add +

**Credentials**  
All credentials issued to this contact

	<b>SWMS/VMC LICENSE</b> Jan 1, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025 Dennis Eilers # 586
	<b>SWMS ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP</b> Jan 1, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025 Dennis Eilers # 586

On or before 3/15/2025

	
	
<b>BARRY TOWNSEND</b> #98291	<b>BARRY TOWNSEND</b> #98291
<b>FULL COMPETITION LICENSE</b> EXPIRES 09 OCT 2018	<b>FAMILY MEMBERSHIP</b> EXPIRES 09 OCT 2018

# TECHNICAL INSPECTION DURING 2025 (MY VIEW)

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- Gordon as located and secured the log books and stickers.
- Find a good day and location to do this at.
- Technical inspection for a few hours, concurrent with a BBQ or something.
- Typically happens in March each year.
- **→ I need help with ideas, locations, volunteers.**