



## SWMS Meeting Minutes

September 21, 2021

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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 6:06PM by President G. Sanford.

### Announcements from the President and Board Members:

- Motion to approve the 8/2021 meeting minutes was moved and seconded.

### Treasurer's Report

- A comprehensive treasurer's report is now generated by J. Colbert in Excel format, both as event balance sheet summaries as well a monthly, running summary. These new documents will be sent out separately to the Board. A snapshot is provided below:

Beginning balance for September 2021	\$12,712.53
Deposits	+ \$3,954.55, Income from fees, licensing, memberships, ect Fast Heat IV
Withdrawals	- \$4,442.87, Final 2021 insurance payment, worker ice and drinks
Estimated Ending balance Reported for September 2021	\$12,224.21 (estimate prior to September Event)

- Motion to approve the prior treasurers' report was moved and seconded.
- Treasurer's Notes:
  - The final insurance invoice for the 2021 season was paid (approximately \$4,000) during September.
  - The October race event is anticipated to bring a financially-strong end to the SWMS 2021 season, many thanks to the October event sponsors.

### Old Business

- Track Truck Decals
  - L. Pittsley and the excellent group of SWMS track workers affixed the many sponsor decals onto the track truck on Saturday of the August race weekend.
  - It was noted that a few more are needed, including large-format new SWMS stickers. L. Pittsley to coordinate printing of renewed stickers with Highway Supply.
- SWMS and Boy Scouts (D. Eilers)
  - D. Eilers and G. Sanford continue to work on the topic of having a SWMS weekend involve/partner with the Boy Scout program.
  - In general, the plan is to target a date during the SWMS 2022 season.

## New Business

- Drone Process and Procedure
  - The Board is generally favorable to the operation of drones during SWMS race weekends.
  - It was recommended to implement rules preventing use of a drone directly over racing cars. Similarly, it was recommended to give notice to participants that a drone would be operating during the weekend.
  - G. Sanford took an action to work with B. Lee and J. Slenes to work on drone rules and a procedure. This will also involve investigating if an existing procedure is in place with Sandia Speedway.
  - J. Slenes also noted that footage would be beneficial for SWMS advertising and media content.
- 2022 SWMS Board Nominating Committee
  - Per procedure and Bylaws, a committee is required to be assembled starting in September of an election year for the 2-year election term coming up at the end of 2021.
  - S. Marino agreed to serve as a member of the committee. Open committee positions remain for the chairman/chairwoman and a second member.
  - It was proposed to send election ballots to confirmed 2021 members.
  - J. Stoughton recommended getting committee members representing all major run groups.
- SWMS and the Spec Miata Race Group
  - Based on inputs from the August event, the SWMS Board is open to comments and suggestions for perhaps separating the SM race class into its own run group.
  - Common SWMS policy requires a minimum race group of 6 entries to operate a separate run group. In practice, historically if ~15 SM entries then SWMS separated SM into its own run group.
  - The Board heard the following comments:
    - Separating the SM run group from the Contemporary run group may not leave enough cars in the Contemporary run group.
    - Mixed classes are a common dynamic in sports car racing.
    - Any run group is likely to have new/student drivers which may complicate on-track race dynamics. At the same time, it was noted that class dynamics at the start of a mixed SM/Contemporary race start can indeed be higher risk than running separate classes.
    - It was agreed that due to the October race purposely having its own SM run group, a formal decision would be further discussed and potentially implemented in the 2022 SWMS season.
    - The Board then discussed split-starts within a combined group at length:
      - Split starts have historically been conducted without issue.
      - L. Haynes agreed to research SCCA guidelines for a split start.
      - It was noted that in IMSA professional sports car racing, the separation between class starts is relatively small, perhaps 10-15 seconds.
      - Many details of timing, flagging, and spacing were discussed. It was agreed to postpone formal decisions for a future Board meeting.

- Event Summary and Review: August 28/29 – Sandia #4, “Fast Heat IV”
  - S. Claunch briefed that the weekend went really well, the weekend went to plan and the schedule was on-time.
  - It noted that the weekend went well thanks to a competent, supportive, and active member base and volunteer group, thanks!
  - The turnout of racers and students was also good.
  - L. Haynes recommended that consideration be given to open-wheel practices in the morning combining is ok but should not be a standard.
  - sure the kart circuit would be ok.
- Next Event: September 25/26 – Sandia #5, “Karting Kraziness”
  - *Event Coordinator/Race Chair: E. Cahan, G. Sanford*
  - *Steward: B. Lee or B. Richards*
  - *Instructor: J. Slenes or S. Marino*
  - The track volunteers are organized, confirmed, and Sandia Speedway was also good-to-go.
  - It was suggested that SWMS organize a potluck or similar based on the forecast for good weather. Ultimately it was agreed that SWMS should target a BBQ catered dinner, G. Sanford agreed to see if a SWMS sponsor would be interested in sharing costs.
- Next Event: October 23/24 – Sandia #6, “Miata Mayhem by Car Crafters”
  - *Event Coordinator/Race Chair: J. Stoughton, M. Travers*
  - *Steward: B. Lee or B. Richards*
  - *Instructor: No students for October event.*
  - University Mazda/VW management is actively interested in the event.
  - J. Stoughton noted that multiple announcements for the race weekend were planned to be broadcast in the coming weeks.
- Arroyo Seco Event (Late November or March/April 2022)
  - The Board noted that COVID Delta variant risks appear to be decreasing. However, fall travel and holiday travel remain a risk for new COVID restrictions.
  - It was also noted that many SWMS members truly enjoy running at Arroyo Seco and that the club has high interest to return soon.
  - G. Sanford agreed to speak with Arroyo Seco management to give an update on SWMS planning and to see if an early 2022 event/season opener would be possible.
  - J. Colbert confirmed that the 2021 SWMS insurance policy would support an early 2022 event under the existing contract.
- Other items:
  - S. Marino recommended that lunchtime track access should perhaps more communicated and controlled by race weekend organizers.
  - The Board agreed that per procedure, the Race Chair has ultimate responsibility for the safe coordination and communication with respect to lunch time lapping.
  - Improvements will be communicated and implemented at the September race weekend.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:42PM

The next Board meeting will be held via Zoom on October 19<sup>th</sup>. See separate upcoming email for Zoom instructions.