

## SWMS Meeting Minutes



January 18th, 2024

---

### 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 6:12PM by Vice President S. DeBerry, on behalf of J. Neuman (who was unable to attend due to a prior scheduling commitment).

#### 1. Opening:

- Motion to approve the 11/2023 meeting minutes was approved and seconded.

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

- Winter Series Race 2 has been confirmed and scheduled for 1-28-2024.
  - 2024 SWMS Race Season Updates:
    - SWMS itself is no longer required to arrange and pay insurance for race weekend events occurring at Suika Circuit. Suika Circuit insurance has sufficient coverages for both the track and SWMS.
    - An insurance refund is being issued back to SWMS for unused 2023 SWMS race season insurance previously purchased specifically for and by SWMS.
  - 2024 Suika Circuit Updates:
    - The 1-28-2024 Winter Series race will use the full course.
    - Wall and tire barrier updates are on the way to being fully completed. All tire barriers are now bolted together, replacing outdated banded together tire barriers.
    - SCCA inspections tentatively forecasted to occur during the end of 2024.
    - E. La'mar has been hired by Suika Circuit to manage the Suika Circuit, including the road course.
      - A. Sanford working with E. La'mar along with Hagerty/MSR to set up a dedicated Suika Circuit MSR account.
  - Sponsorship Coordinator:
    - The SWMS board is still actively looking for a member interested in sponsorship coordination.
    - J. Slenes sent documentation to J. Neuman containing ideas, plans, and details.
  - Driving Instructor Training:
    - S. Marino to host instructor clinic and training at 2024 Season Technical Inspection Day (3-23-2024).
  - Awards Banquet:
    - The awards banquet was a fun evening and successful financial event (essentially breaking even).
- #### 3. Old Business
- VMC Follow-Up:
    - It was noted that VMC expressed interest in perhaps classing NA-chassis Spec Miata race cars into a vintage run group.
    - S. DeBerry encouraged SWMS to identify a singular SWMS member to be a point of contact for future VMC communications.
  - Timing System Upgrade:

- V. Yarberry updated that the new timing system equipment was successfully received and used for the December Winter Series 1 race. Everything appears to work well.
- The old system was packaged and shipped back to the vendor (required as part of the discounted upgrade offer).
- The Suika Circuit track loop appeared to work during the December Winter Series Race 1.
- V. Yarberry is researching a new carrying case for the new system. The old carrying case will not work.
- 2024 SWMS Event Schedule:
  - A. Sanford designed the 2024 SWMS race schedule and flyer.
    - S. DeBerry asked A. Sanford to research having 100 copies printed via Vista Print.
  - J. Stoughton asked if A. Sanford could also order more SWMS business contact cards.
    - J. Stoughton provided an example of the older cards, A. Sanford to recreate new cards from the existing design and order more.
- Ongoing negotiations for 2024 track and SWMS organization changes:
  - T. Wolicki asked if he needed to arrange volunteers for Winter Series Race 2.
    - B. Richards suggested that pit and grid be Suika Circuit responsibility, as Suika Circuit is controlling track access for the weekend.
      - M. Travers asked if Suika Circuit insurance policy somehow required Suika Circuit to perform technical inspections. No answer was known by SWMS.
    - After discussion, the following was proposed:
      - Tower, Race Control: Suika Circuit responsibility
      - Flagging: Suika Circuit responsibility
      - Steward: SWMS responsibility
      - Timing and Scoring: V. Yarberry to help Suika Circuit
- 2024 SWMS Membership Process:
  - A. Sanford briefed that while MSR can gate event registrations with a membership list, this process is now complicated by Suika Circuit managing MSR on the Suika Circuit MSR account.
    - MSR is not able to co-process a race event registration fee to a Suika Circuit bank account and then a SWMS membership to the SWMS bank account in the same transaction.
    - More research is needed and/or a SWMS Board approved interim process.

#### **4. Treasurer's Report**

- D. Eilers briefed that the January 2024 financial statements are essentially unchanged from December 2023.
- D. Eilers asked the SWMS Board to consider action to notify and/or ask if the members who donated to the Timing System Upgrade Fundraiser would like their donations back (considering that a single member donated the full equipment cost while the fundraiser was still in progress).
  - The SWMS Board agreed that notification to the members who donated would be appropriate.

- A. Sanford to provide the receipts from MSR to D. Eilers. D. Eilers to send an email asking if donations would like to be refunded.
- No updates on the NM Secretary of State filings with the updated SWMS Board per the 2024 election.

## 5. New Business

- S. DeBerry working to find and coordinate “class leaders” per race run group.
    - Spec Miata: M. Travers
    - Karts: E. Cahan
    - Legends: R. Gayton
    - Vintage: Still Open
  - V. Yarberry noted that SWMS as a club is officially 25 years old as of 2024 (originally founded 1999).
    - A. Sanford to consider some sort of 25-years of SWMS sticker.
  - New 2024 Project #1:
    - The SWMS Board agreed to kick off a new project task to review, benchmark, and summarize the state of safety requirements of other regional and national sports car racing clubs.
      - G. Self agreed to organize this project, more updates at future board meetings.
      - VMC, SVRA, RMVR were mentioned as comparable sports car clubs to benchmark.
  - New 2024 Project #2:
    - The SWMS Board agreed to kick off a new project task to review and update SWMS policies and procedures based on the numerous updates to SWMS operations for the 2024 season.
      - B. Richards prepared a preliminary list of SWMS policy and procedure updates, categorized as “remove procedure,” “revise procedure,” and “new procedure needed.”
      - B. Richards agreed to work with A. Sanford on updates.
    - Included in the discussion were numerous comments on how SWMS might best approach Suika Circuit with SWMS needs for a SWMS race weekend. Historically, SWMS used the Race Chair checklist to communicate and organize race weekend needs. It was noted that this checklist maybe be helpful to revise and share with Suika Circuit.
  - SWMS Equipment Stationed at Suika Circuit:
    - T. Wolicki asked what SWMS would do with the track truck, flags, and radio equipment given that Suika Circuit is now responsible for Suika Circuit race weekends.
      - The Board agreed to talk with J. Neuman and J. Guthrie on how to best manage SWMS assets located at and/or needed SWMS races.
      - J. Stoughton encouraged the SWMS Board to perhaps wait before selling and/or moving assets. With so many changes occurring, having the SWMS equipment may be helpful in a pinch.
6. **Attendance:** A. Sanford, D. Eilers, W. Hollowell, J. Jerger, G. Self, S. DeBerry, B. DeBerry, L. Pittsley, J. Stoughton, M. Travers, V. Yarberry, J. Slenes, M. Luders, T. Wolicki, M. Tribble, B. Richards, K. Adams.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28PM

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