

Sports Car Club of America
RoadRally Board Minutes
December 7, 2016

The RoadRally Board met via conference call on December 7, 2016; meeting called to order at 7:42 CST by Chairman Rich Bireta. In attendance: Rich Bireta, John Emmons, Jim Crittenden, Clyde Heckler, NEC chairman Mike Thompson, RDC chairman Jay Nemeth-Johannes, new BOD liaison Earl Hurlbut, SCCA staff member Jamie Mullin, and Jeanne English, RRB secretary; not present: Clarence Westberg.

At last week's BOD meeting, Peter Schneider and Mike Bennett were approved as new RRB members for 2017. Earl Hurlbut was appointed as a new BOD liaison, he will be working with current BOD liaison Bob Dowie. Earl is a long time SCCA member who last rallied back in the '70s; since then he has been primarily involved in club racing, this is his first term on the BOD.

Minutes: November minutes stand as published.

Front Burner Items:

1. RReNewsletter – The December issue is expected out momentarily. Reminder: Text “roadrally” to 22828 to subscribe.
2. Introduction of new RRB members and BOD Liaisons – see second paragraph above.
3. Planning Calendar – a new calendar has been posted on the SCCA website; event organizers are encouraged to get their dates in, even if tentative; the calendar already has 16 national rallies scheduled.
4. SCCA Staff Attendees - Jamie
 - a. Convention Registration – convention is January 19-21; travel on Thursday, make your own hotel reservations, use the SCCA link.
 - b. Convention Program - Annual Meeting Thursday afternoon, Road Rally meetings are on Friday (see schedule to verify)
 - c. Sunday meeting room reserved for RRB face-to-face meeting.
 - d. Ballots for Teter / Gervais awards - about half have been returned as of today
 - e. BOD Approval of rules changes for 2017 – the BOD approved all rules except the one about Road Rally stickers, so they are still required; this can be revisited next year; see item 8.b. below.
5. Regional Development Committee – Jay: Rich said he is looking forward to next year on the RRB, he thinks the new additions to the RRB share a common interest of developing rally at the regional level; Rich thanked Jay for his nice job on putting together some road rally intellectual property. Jay keeps writing articles and coming up with content for Cheryl for RReNews; he has a concern that he is seeing a problem that road rally is seen as places where national events are held, but not local events, local events are not being done as regionals but instead are being done by other clubs; what can we offer those clubs to encourage them to be part of the SCCA program, we need to recognize what is inhibiting them. Jay needs a repository for materials, Rich has been working with Jon at SCCA HQ to put a structure in place such that the landing page has what you need, and you don't have to go to downloads. There is a commitment from HQ for support. Jim reported the good news is that even with all the data not in yet, attendance was up more than 10% over 2015; 5 regions put on events last year but not this year; 7 regions put on rallies this year that had not done rallies in 2015. Jay wants to contact those 5 regions that did not put on rallies this year to find out why.
6. NEC Report - Mike
 - a. Recent and Upcoming National events (Confirm dates at scca.com)
 - i. Yucatan Safari (LOL), January 14.
 - ii. Mark Haas Memorial Weekend (South Jersey) March 18-19 National/Div
 - iii. Desert Sands, Desert Sins, 2 National Course Rallies, Arizona Border, March 4-5
 - iv. Roads Scholar/Badger Burrow Course/Tour Weekend, May 20-21Things looking very good for 2017; 10 national course rallies, 6 national tour rallies already on calendar. Mike said he foresees no major rules changes, maybe some tweaks. Mike and Cheryl had lunch to discuss the 2017 USRRC; it will be one divisional event run over three days, with awards daily as well as for overall; things are being planned, with emphasis on an 'Alaska experience' rather than a points-gathering event; Peter will do the precheck. Jim

asked Mike to make it clear to Cheryl that the level at which to sanction the USRRC is up to her, not the NEC or RRB.

7. Pointskeeper status - John – points standings are up to date, except for a few late in the season rallies.
8. New Business
 - a. Other items of new business – none
 - b. Road Rally stickers: Per the RRRs, on SCCA national events every car is supposed to have an SCCA national road rally sticker on both sides of the car. Reasons to not have this rule include: they attract attention to the rally cars, perhaps causing locals to think we are racing; the false believe that the stickers were no longer available. This can be revisited, perhaps at the convention.
 - c. Rich said that for him 2016 been a really good year on the RRB, perhaps his best ever of his 5 years on the RRB. He also asked that we read 'From the SCCA Road Rally Board Chair' that was sent out today to organizers, especially the section about volunteers. One of the benefits of being a volunteer in multiple organizations is opportunity to meet new people from across the country. Rich acknowledged John and Clarence's contributions to the RRB over their tenure. Many of these contributions are behind the scenes and not visible to the general rally community (neither will be returning to the RRB in 2017).

Motion to adjourn at 8:44 PM CST
Next meeting at the SCCA Convention
Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne English, RRB Secretary