

Sports Car Club of America
RoadRally Board Minutes
July 13, 2017

The RoadRally Board met via conference call on July 13, 2017; meeting called to order at 8:23 pm CDT by Chairman Rich Bireta. In attendance: Rich Bireta, Mike Bennett, Jim Crittenden, Peter Schneider, Clyde Heckler, Jeanne English, secretary, Mike Thompson, NEC chairman, Jamie Mullin, National Office, and Earl Hurlbut, BOD liaison. We were supposed to use Skype for the meeting, but after 45 minutes of people not being able to call in/login, the meeting was switched to a backup phone conference service.

1. Approval of June minutes, stand as published.
2. RReNewsletter – Reminder: Text “roadrally” to 22828 to subscribe.
 - a. July issue should be out shortly. Rich was late getting his column to Cheryl, and Cheryl has been busy working on the USRRC.
3. Event Planning Calendar (Jeanne) – most recent calendar has been reissued in color.
4. SCCA Staff Report (Jamie) –Why are phone call-ins not working? Best answer right now –wrong settings. Jamie and Michael Fitzgerald will do their best to have the Skype system working properly for our August meeting; this month’s attendees may be contacted for their experiences this month.
5. NEC Report (Mike)
 - a. Recent Nationals – already discussed
 - b. Upcoming Nationals – this weekend Indy; LOL events, Labor Day weekend. are under control in various stages of measurement and precheck
 - c. USRRC Update – generals received from Cheryl, Peter suggested deleting things that don’t apply; Saturday and Sunday count as one divisional course rally, Friday is a regional rally (warm-up); Peter wrote a synopsis of rallies as part of generals, emphasizing that this USRRC is a destination event (see the beauty of Alaska)
6. Old Business
 - a. At the end of July, a memo to all rally organizers will be sent out reminding them about control locations, speeds into controls, and certain aspects of pre-checks.
7. New Business
 - a. Starter Kits (Clyde) – updated, if you have more suggestions let Clyde know
 - b. Standard Rally School (Peter) – not ready yet
 - c. 2017 Targa Southland (Peter) – agreed about expenses, meeting with Heyward Wagner tomorrow to go over things; rally date is August 12, it will be the same format as last year, followed by a 6 hr transit to Memphis
 - d. 2018 Regional Development Funding proposal (Peter) – Howard Duncan said there is no budget for it, Peter asked when the budget deadline is for 2018. It was suggested that we ask our liaisons for help with this; Earl asked for an idea of what is needed/wanted.
 - e. Veterans in Motorsports (Crittenden) – Sasha Lanz contacted Jim about a Vet Motorsports article in SportsCar, which mentioned that they had been given a grant from the SCCA Foundation; there are still more events in Texas, and Sasha wondered if there was any interest in including road rally in this program? Jim will contact Howard Duncan about this.
 - f. Other items of new business – Stu Helfer accepted the position of Divisional Road Rally Steward for Northern Pacific.
 - g. 2018 Rule Change Proposals

Rich sent 5 separate emails to the RRB each containing a different proposal for RRRs changes which were received from various people by the June 30th deadline. Mike T sent the NEC proposals separately. Rich wants final RRB action on the changes to be October, so they can go to the BOD for final approval by the end of the year. Emails 2 through 5 are being released for public comment, and are listed at the end of these minutes. Email 1 is not being released for public comment, but is listed below.

 1. Email 1: Rich thinks this is a bad idea; Jim said that, if approved, it makes Divisionals just short Nationals. **Motion: Release for public comment.**
Rich/Mike B/Fail
 2. Email 2: **Motion: Release for public comment. Rich/Peter/Pass** (there is also an NEC proposal for this)
 3. Email 3: multi-item list:
 - 1 – **Motion: Release for public comment. Jim/Rich/Pass**
 - 2 – **Motion: Release for public comment. Rich/Jim/Pass**

3 – Postpone until equipment discussion (NEC proposal) for final wording; no comments yet, please

4 – The RRB recommends the following change to RRR.13.C.2:

~~In addition for night events~~, it is recommended that each car have aboard ...

Motion: Release for public comment. Rich/Clyde/Pass

5 – Already done, see March 2017 RRB minutes, no public comment needed

4. Email 4: (there is also an NEC proposal for this) **Motion: Release for public comment. Rich/Jim/Pass**

5. Email 5: there is confusion/ambiguous wording about how year-end scoring is done (there is also an NEC proposal for this). **Motion: Release for public comment.**

Jim/Rich/Pass

h. Defer NEC proposals to next month. Rich will contact the people who submitted Emails 1 and 3.

i. If the Skype system is not working, we will again use an alternate call-in number.

Motion to adjourn at 9:52 pm CDT

Next meeting via conference call, August 10, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne English, RRB Secretary

Email proposals for RRRs changes:

1. I suggest the divisionals adhere to the complete RRR's (no public comments, please)

2. In 2017, Article 8D of the RRRs (Championship awards) was changed to say that in the event of a tie in the year end Championship standings, the next position would be vacated. I propose that this rule be changed back to the way it was prior to 2017, that is, in the event of a tie the next position would NOT be vacated.

3. Multi-part proposal:

1. Art 4.C - Remove 4 "equivalent" per 7 day restriction. Rationale: Rulebook simplification. With expanded (Divisional) minimums for course length and number of controls there is no danger of the previously-feared "10-rally weekend" occurring.

2. Art 8.B.4 and Art 8.D - Remove any requirement for a competitor to enter at least one National rally to establish eligibility for year end awards in a National Championship. Rationale: Elimination of unnecessary obstacle to participation in National Championship. Last year's elimination of the "70 Point" rule was a good start.

3. Art 11.B - Remove restriction on direct input of GPS-derived mileage in timekeeping calculations in Limited class. Rationale: Allow for proliferation of new "tech" devices, which, because of limitations of GPS-based mileage estimates, are not currently competitive with dedicated rally computers in Equipped class. These devices should be competitive with skilled teams using wheel-sensor derived mileages and semi-automated hand calculations. (this one is being postponed until we get the NEC equipment proposals, so no comments, please)

4. Art 13.C.2 - Remove reference to night events. Rationale: Automobile accidents only occur after dark??

5. Art 13.C.4 - Delete any requirement for competitors to display SCCA logo sticker(s) (already done, no comments needed).

4. Article 16, paragraph C currently says:

No open or passage control shall be positioned in or so soon after a congested area, a heavily traveled road, a lengthy no-passing zone, or any other condition likely to delay rally vehicles so as to deny contestants adequate opportunity to recover all time lost as a result of such conditions.

This wording could maybe use some more specific expansion. The following might be a bit wordy, but a suggested addition: If a control immediately follows a traffic control device such as a traffic light, blinker, stop sign, or yield sign, the contestant shall not be required to exceed the legal speed limit following a typical delay at that traffic control device in order to recover any time lost prior to that control. (there is also an NEC proposal for this)

5. Proposed clarification to Article 8 B) 4). The wording in yellow is to be added.

"contestant may count the best ten (10) of their first fourteen (14) equivalents entered in each series, with at least two (2) of those **ten** equivalents coming from a national event." Bruce Gezon has indicated this is already how he is applying the rule, but he felt that clarification certainly wouldn't hurt (adding 'ten' is his suggestion, 'best ten' is mine). At least a few people expressed that in their opinion if someone ran a national, but didn't win, they qualify for a year-end award and could then earn 100 points from divisionals. (there is also an NEC proposal for this)