

Sports Car Club of America
RoadRally Board Minutes
September 14, 2017

The RoadRally Board met via conference call on September 14, 2017; meeting called to order at 7:37 pm CDT by Chairman Rich Bireta. In attendance: Rich Bireta, Mike Bennett, Jim Crittenden, Clyde Heckler, Peter Schneider, Mike Thompson, NEC chairman, and Lee Hill, BOD Chairman. Not present: Earl Hurlbut, Jamie Mullin, Jeanne English.

1. Approval of August minutes. – stand as published
2. RReNewsletter – Reminder: Text “roadrally” to 22828 to subscribe.
 - a. Cheryl did not have time to put out a newsletter in September due to USRRC efforts. Rich expects that there will be an October issue.
3. SCCA Staff Report (Jamie)
 - a. Rich found that Championship Standings as of 9/09/17 have not yet been posted online. He will ask Jamie to update them when possible. Standings have been posted to the Yahoo! Group.
 - b. Final version of the RRB Minutes needs to be delivered to John Burkhart by 4 PM CDT on 9/15/17! Mike Bennett is publishing this month’s Minutes since Jeanne unable to attend.
4. NEC Report (Mike T)
 - a. Recent Nationals – Oktoberrally and Badger Trails were discussed.
 - b. Upcoming Nationals – Have not reviewed the two California events as yet.
 - c. USRRC Report – The committee is well organized; there are 27 cars entered; checkpoint procedure and scoring have been reviewed with workers. Expectation is for a great event with lots of good publicity for RoadRally.
 - d. There has been a recommendation to use mobile communications in addition to emergency signs. There was a need for emergency signs on the odo check of a recent National event. Rich suggested an app called “Group Me”, which he uses with his family, and plans to use during his events in November. In addition to notices, provisional scores could be communicated. Clyde said he believes this is a good approach. Rich asked if the topic had ever been brought to the attention of the NEC, and Mike T said “no”. Jim said he had seen Google Docs used to send out scores, but he was concerned that when sending out critical / official information, confirmation must be available that all competitors have received it. Rich stated that inexperienced competitors sometimes miss the emergency signs.
5. Old Business
 - a. 2018 Rules Changes – Rich noted that responses to the proposed rules changes have been fewer than expected, although a few have been received. This may be due in part to there not being a September newsletter. Rich will send the proposals to the most experienced competitors and seek their input.
 - b. New Road Rally Safety Steward licensing process – Peter explained the rollout of the new process and the Knowledge Test to all Regions. He said he has received only one response to date. That response pointed out some minor typos which have been corrected. As part of the rollout, Peter will ask all RRSSs and RRSSIs if they want to continue in their roles. Rich asked “who needs to do what next?” and “where should the information be kept so that future RRBs can find it?” He suspected the answer to the second question is the National Office. Lee agreed and said to make sure Jamie is in the loop. Peter stated that the desire is to put the Knowledge Test in the Downloads section of the SCCA website, but limit distribution of the Answers to active RRSSIs (names yet TBD). Lee agreed that this approach made sense. Peter also noted that he has been pursuing RRSSs who do not have email addresses in the National database. He said that, based on this evening’s discussion, he will send the information out tomorrow, and request responses by the end of September. Rich stated that he will announce the rollout in his column in the October newsletter.
 - c. Rally Development Fund – Rich explained that the idea of requesting funding was sparked by the trips Peter and Bruce Gezon made to lay out and run Targa Southland last year.

It is believed that the lack of experienced personnel is sometimes the impediment to getting a RoadRally program started in a Region. Peter noted that the idea was discussed at the Convention, and that the fund would only cover reasonable travel expenses. Lee said he assumes no money got into this year's budget, but there is still time to get it into next year's. He supported the idea of including a few thousand dollars into the next budget, but said that the RRB needs to push Howard and Heyward. Lee suggested also discussing the idea with new SCCA President Mike Cobb. Rich committed to "poking" Howard and sending a reminder to Lee.

6. New Business

- a. Gervais / Teter Award Announcements - Jim explained the end of year voting for best Tour and Course rallies, and how attempts have been made to announce the awards where the winners are present, sometimes at their event the next year. This can drag on well into the year, which is not good. And, the winners' names do not get into the next publication of the RRRs. So, he suggested that winners be announced as soon as the voting results are known. Peter stated that he is OK with announcing winners before the convention. Rich said we should consider timing of the announcements only, not delivery of the actual trophies to the winners. Clyde stated that he likes the announcements being made at the convention, but that the winners should be informed if we are going to put their names in the RRRs which are published before it. Lee noted that announcing the winners at the convention reminds the club that RoadRally is one of its parts. Rich moved that: following determination of winners for these two awards, (1) names be included in the next published RRRs, (2) names be announced to the club at the convention, and (3) winners be notified before publication of the RRRs, by telephone, by the RRB chairman. Peter seconded the motion, and it was approved by a vote of 5 – 0.
- b. Rule Clarification – Rich stated that Article 9-D of the RRRs needs to be fixed. Currently, the Article requires only that responses to questions submitted before the event be posted, not the questions themselves. Clyde asked if we need to change the list of proposed rule changes which has already been communicated. Rich said he had checked into that, and determined that only a vote to clarify by the RRB is needed; competitor input is not required. He also said that the clarification will be communicated through the RRB Minutes. Rich moved that the wording of the Article be revised to state: "These questions and their responses shall be posted..." The motion was seconded by Jim, and approved by a vote of 5 – 0. *See following page for approved version.*
- c. Jay Nemeth-Johannes requested movement of his Tour worker points from Class L to Class E. RRB approval is required to make sure such changes are handled fairly. Rich moved to allow the change, Clyde seconded, and the motion was approved 5 – 0.
- d. Peter gave a brief synopsis of Targa Southland 2017, which drew 50 cars and was enjoyed by both last year's competitors and those who were new this year. Lessons learned included: (1) The layout and pre-check can be combined into one trip, although it does make for a few hectic days, (2) the cooperation of several Regions is needed to run such an event. Peter noted that Mark E. Johnson has volunteered to be rallymaster for future events. Clyde asked if there has been any discussion about Targa events in 2018. Peter responded that there is a slight possibility of something happening in the Northeast. Rich mentioned the "Targa-type" event which ran at Hartland Park this year, and Lee noted that a RoadRally was included in the Showcase event at Daytona in March.
- e. Rich stated that the main focus of the October meeting will be on 2018 rules changes.

Meeting adjourned at 9:43 pm CDT
Next meeting to be October 12, 2017
Respectfully submitted,
Mike Bennett, RRB Member

September 14, 2017

To: The SCCA Road Rally Community, Organizers and Competitors

From: The SCCA Road Rally Board

Subject: Rules Classification – Article 9-D

Effective immediately, the language in the Road Rally Rules Article 9-D is changed from:

“Contestants may submit written questions concerning the GIs. These questions must be received prior to the opening of registration unless the event’s GIs specify an earlier deadline; if possible they should be worded so as to be answerable “yes”, “no”, or “does not occur”. The response to these written questions shall be posted prior to the opening of registration and nothing added thereafter. ...

To (bold type changed)

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