

Sports Car Club of America
RoadRally Board Minutes
February 8, 2018

The Road Rally Board met via conference call on February 8, 2018. The meeting was called to order at 7:31 pm CST by Chairman Jim Crittenden. In attendance: Mike Bennett, Peter Schneider, Wendy Harrison, Mike Thompson, NEC chairman, Earl Hurlbut BOD liaison, Jamie Mullin from SCCA Staff, Jeanne English, secretary, and guest Rich Bireta; not in attendance: Clyde Heckler.

1. Approval of January minutes. Minutes stand as published.
2. Road Rally Planning Calendar (Jeanne)
 - a. Last published February 1, 2018
3. RReNewsletter – Reminder: Text “roadrally” to 22828 to subscribe.
 - a. Expecting February issue any day now. [the secretary got hers just hours after this meeting was over – nice job, Cheryl!]
4. SCCA Staff Report (Jamie)
 - a. 2018 RRRs are available online and in print from Amazon.
 - b. Awards for National Championships – certificates for 2nd – 10 – done by tomorrow.
 - c. Expense reports from convention – let Jamie know if you don’t get your check
 - d. Mike Cobb letters – working on that, hope to have them out in the next couple of weeks
 - e. Some flyers and forms don’t open in Edge, but do open in IE and Chrome; working on getting that fixed
5. NEC Report (Mike)
 - a. Sent out minutes
 - b. Upcoming Nationals - Arizona, has been sent the National Rally checklist of what is expected; New Jersey, precheck done; Pennsylvania, nothing yet; Wisconsin
 - c. USRRC status report – everything in order, wants to add a historic class and regional class with championship for each, only have to run two events
 - d. RRRs, hopefully no major changes for next year. Mike T will send John Sears a note asking him to clarify what he thinks needs to be done to Article 9
6. Old Business
 - a. RRB requested funding from the Regional Development Fund for training videos: for RoadRally Safety Steward video update, and for Peter’s convention presentation; over 40 proposals received; Earl said next BOD meeting is April 7, doesn’t know if they will be voting on these or not
 - b. Rally starter materials – Clyde not here; next month
 - c. Status of 3 regions requesting rally assistance:
 - i. Mohawk Hudson – Peter – nothing yet
 - ii. Ohio Valley – Wendy – nothing yet
 - iii. Reno – Jeanne – nothing yet
7. New Business
 - a. Suggestions for improvement of safety steward program. RRB received list of suggested changes from Dave Head; Peter wants to use this list as a starting point for changes, which can be easily incorporated, to be sent to rally community; how to put out to community? Peter will send first to RRSS Instructors and the Divisional Road Rally Stewards. Jim will mention this in his next road rally email.
 - b. Ideas for 2019 USRRC? – any ideas? Volunteers? talk it up
 - c. Rally Software –Rich. What’s available today is a pretty complete list of traditional rally equipment: clock, calculator, odometer, and computer. New in cloud computing is automatically sharing data multiple devices via a service like Google’s Cloud Firestore, which can enable scoring to be done in real time with no human intervention – checkpoint workers can post scores to the cloud scoring system, so organizers and competitors can make inquiries easily. It will soon be possible to have automatic, un-manned passage controls. This would open the possibility of having dozens of timing controls on an event. Great Race tried GPS scoring 10 years ago, but found it was not accurate enough and, in fact, the GPS system missed timing several cars at various points. GPS systems now have very accurate time; a typical national tour has 18 to 24 controls, what if there were 50 or 100? What if timing was

done to the 0.1 second instead of the current 0.6 second? Measurements are an order of magnitude better than they used to be – US military satellites and Russian satellites are now available. Rich has written an app, available on Google Play Store for those interested in trying this out; this will be expanded to perform all the functions and he plans to use it on his November rallies. (The current name in the Google Play store is "Richta CPA Checkpoint POC", which means "Richta Closest-point-of-approach Checkpoint proof-of-concept".) Rich has looked at Tag Heuer timers as used in WRC, wants to make a similar system and widely available, such as with smart phones and tablets. Jim asked if the procedure is that contestants have phone or tablet preloaded with GPS locations, when they go past control locations the phone/tablet records it, transmits to the cloud; Rich added that there needs to be wifi at breaks; the software is designed around intermittent wifi connections; it has to be idiot-proof and extremely easy to use, so the national competitor can use it without fear of the technology. If interested, see the Road Rally Tech Talk Facebook page, or contact Rich directly if you want to be involved in the project.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm CST

Next meeting by teleconference March 8, 2018, 7:30 pm CST

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne English, secretary