

MACC – MICHIGAN ALPINE COMPETITION COUNCIL – IN-PERSON MEETING 10-24-2019

Minutes of the meeting:

Alex Carrico called the meeting to order at 6:40 PM.

Attendance – Officers:

Gary Bloodworth – P	Shawn Hughes – P	Steve Coatney – P	Mike Hietbrink – P	Jeanette Uhley – P
Mike Sayers – P	Debi Koltoniak – P	Zach Jablonski – P	Drew Hilger – P	Bill Perlmutter – A
Ginnie Uhley – P	Dave Carrico – P	Lou Oles – A	Alex Carrico – P	Jason Kanakry – P
Kermit Anderson – A	Ryan Bloodworth – P	Kathy Bauer – A	Dennis Parrott – P	Renee Churette – A

Attendance – Team Racer Representatives:

Chip Dayton SW – P	Denise Miller TR – A	Alan Osterdale AA – P	Scott Pyles RN – A	Chuck White - P
Alfred Cureau JD – P	Gary Konsza SC – A	Mike Jablonski TB – P	Pat Groves TO – A	
Rob Reader SD – P	Mick Serafinski TR – P	Holly Polopolos AA – A	Sue Holmes RN – P	

General Updates – Alex Carrico – There is a contact sheet being sent around, this is to verify that the phone numbers we have for everyone are correct. The minutes from last meeting need to be approved. Chip motions to approve, Mick seconds. Nobody opposes, minutes from the April 24th meeting are approved. Mick also requests that minutes be emailed out to everyone in pdf format going forward. Rob wasn't at the last meeting, so he still needs to be voted into the "Director of Course Officials" position. Dennis motions to approve, Chip seconds. Nobody opposes, motion passes. No changes to the 2020 schedule. No updates from Boyne over the summer. Boyne Highlands scheduled their downhill on the Sunday of our second race weekend. Currently, we have no intention of rescheduling/cancelling our race, but we want to stay aware of this to make sure we have enough racers/workers for that day. The final race schedule is not complete yet, as we are waiting for registration data to come in. Once this is finalized, it will be sent out to all the race reps. It will follow the same format as last year. There were some extra shirts from the 2019 season, if any past racers want one. Gary agrees to run the qualifier.

Updates – Drew Hilger – No updates. Drew will continue to ghost write some newsletter content for Debi throughout the season.

Finances – Mike Hietbrink – The current balance is \$6,673.60. Based on last year's figures we will be left with approximately \$3,500 in discretionary funding this year (net after "fixed" items like insurance and awards). There were several larger purchases upcoming that were raised including: new headphones (\$1k), new computers (\$1k), and new timers (\$5k) just to name a few. Aside from raising membership, alternate income streams were mentioned including a separate raffle for the bigger ticket items at the banquet. No final decision was made regarding which items will be prioritized this season.

Registration - Jeannette Uhley – Updated registration for 2020, sent updates to Alex and Dennis. Bibs are still good for another season; we have enough extras to account for potential new racers. Alex added that new bibs used to be changed every 3 years but isn't needed anymore as the bibs are durable enough to last longer than that. Debi asked if the online registration was up, and Alex said that it isn't yet.

Course Operations – Dennis Parrott – Sent out an email over the summer but didn't get a great response from the old crew. We are also going to lose a couple chief of courses (Roger and Bob Rentschler). We were already thin on workers coming from course 2 to work course 1, and this makes the number of workers even lower. Radios are getting old, but we might be able to get through another year. There were about 80 bucks a pair, but we will have a better idea of how many we need to replace as we get closer to the start of the year and we start testing them.

Course Officials – Rob Reader – No updates. All protests will go to Rob going forward.

Course Setting – Jason Kanakry – No updates. We could use new plastic drill bits, but they aren't essential.

Equipment – Dave Carrico – A few gates in our fencing need to be replaced. Timers are getting old and are no longer supported. If they break, we will be unable to repair them, and they will need to be replaced. They could last for a few more years, or they could go out mid-season. We were able to repair some headphones last year, but they could also break at any moment and are no longer supported/repairable.

Timing – Shawn Hughes – Same as last year, no needs at this point.

Race workers – Bill Perlmutter – Not present.

Computers – Steve Coatney – Per Alex, the team votes for this season are as follows: AA 1, SN 1, SW 1, SD 2, TR 2, TB 1, and TO 2. Steve said there are no updates as far as results go, but our laptops are getting quite old, and we need to be thinking about purchasing new ones. We could get away with buying 3 new ones for about \$1,000. The Split Second software is the bulk of that, around \$700. Jason asked about combining some of the smaller groups in order to avoid having classes with 1 or 2 people in them. This was followed up by some general discussion about the pros and cons of combining the smallest classes. Shawn pointed out that the best solution to this problem would be to recruit new racers. Some ideas were brought up for recruiting new members: Having Gary run clinics on the other half of Superbowl during our races, recruiting from the local beer leagues, and giving free guest race passes to potential young racers.

Awards – Zach Jablonski – Zach presented 5 possible options for this year's awards. A Belgian beer glass, a beer mug, a glass coffee mug, a white wine glass, and a stemless wine glass. The Belgian beer glass got the most votes with 7 votes.

Publicity – Debi Koltoniak – Debi asked if using the printable pdf for registration would be an option again this year. Alex said yes, and that Jeanette would get Debi the info she needs to make it again, but to leave Jeanette's address off the form. We can have people email Jeanette if they are interested, and she can send an address to people that request it. If there are any race rep changes, let Debi know so she can make the appropriate updates. This should be reflected in the updated email/phone list Ryan is putting together. Phone numbers should be removed from the publicity info as well. We should also try to use more social media, if there are any volunteers willing to help. Also, we don't currently have an Instagram account. Per Alex, Janessa has access to our photos, and she can touch base with Jason to get those pictures posted to our social media accounts. Ginnie pointed out that some racers aren't getting the newsletter. Shawn said nothing major has changed, so if they got it in March, but not July, then their email filter might be flagging it as spam. Shawn also asked for a list of all the people who aren't getting it, so he can check to mailing list. Suggestions were also made to add a link on the website, to allow people to sign up for the newsletter if they aren't getting it.

Webmaster – Mike Sayers – A few changes were made to the website over the summer. The contact page no longer has phone numbers. The 2019 registration application has also been removed. A few changes have also been made to help make the site more mobile friendly. If anyone looks at the website and finds any problems, let Mike know. The original reason for the website was to get the results/schedules out, and even though the rest of the site has been redone a few times over the years, it was never really optimized to be on a phone.

Old Business:

Sub-committee Reports:

Trip Planning Committee – Renee Churette – Renee is out, but sent updates to Alex. There is currently a trip planned for 2020, information went out in the newsletter. We are currently looking into possible places for 2021, a survey will be sent out to see what people are interested in. We will use the 2020 trip to see if there is enough interest to do a yearly trip, and hopefully grow the trip over the years. For more info on the trips, contact Renee.

Race Shack Renovation Committee – Mike and Ted Jablonski – Mike reported that he and Ted met with Ed Grice and a group of other Boyne representatives in July. We reviewed previous plans to build a new single, two story timing shack at the bottom of Superbowl to replace the current two old shacks. After much discussion, Boyne said that they would review this plan and determine the current cost to construct it. They would also evaluate the feasibility of using a single shack to handle both courses, as they felt that there were potential issues with this plan. When this proposal was originally made over ten years ago, MACC offered to do all the labor if Boyne paid for materials. This offer was not made or discussed at this meeting. Ed Grice stated that this review and evaluation would take two to three weeks to complete and that they would get back to us, which did not happen. Per Alex, no changes have been made to the Othmar or the shacks. However, the chairlift hut has been updated to match the rest of Boyne's visual aesthetic. At this point, it is looking like no updates will be made before the 2020 ski season.

Web/IT Strategic Plan Committee – Dennis Parrot – In our last meeting, Dennis identified seven IT items to fix. This is a follow up on three of them: the need for a common computer platform, a document archive, and official MACC emails. To collect all our documents in one place, we looked at multiple online file storage platforms. Most of them were too expensive. Using Google's free g-drive seems like the most reasonable platform for now. The idea would be for us to be able to make a form (like a protest form for Rob, our official rulebook, or minutes from meetings), this would then be uploaded to g-drive and everyone with the right permissions would be able to access the file at will. This would also help a lot with collaboration on projects. For the website redesign, a small group worked over the summer to come up with a new design. There is currently a working shell on the web, at kowabunga-dude.com. The new design is responsive, adapting to the size of the browser, including mobile devices. There are also banner alerts, allowing us to quickly get information out to all racers. Shawn added that our current web host has been declining, and it may be worth looking into a new one. Mike Sayers pointed out that with the changes

he made over the summer, our current site is responsive as well. And that the problem with content on the current site isn't that it can't support it, but that he was never provided with content or updates to post. Mike thinks we should be focusing less on mass IT changes, and more on recruiting new members. Alex added that a new website design (with an updated look and more content) should help with attracting new members. Also, this is just a committee looking into potential changes, nothing is final. We are currently just looking for feedback from everyone, so we know what functionality we are looking to get out of the website. If possible, people should go to the site and evaluate the changes. We will vote on the potential changes in a future meeting. In the meantime, any feedback/requests can be emailed to Dennis.

Handicap Calculations – Mike Sayers – We went over most of the handicap changes in the spring. The handicaps for the 2020 season aren't up yet, it will be posted once people are registered. Most handicaps should be the same as they were at the end of the season, but there will be a few minor changes, mostly due to races from 2 years ago being dropped. (This is only in cases where racers didn't finish enough races last year.)

New Business:

Proposed Rule Changes – Drew Hilger – Proposed rule changes were handed out to everyone and will be emailed out to everyone after the meeting. A special meeting will be called to vote on the proposed rule changes at least 10 days from now. Proposal 1 would raise the age of worker to 75. Anyone already 70 would be grandfathered in and won't be required to work. Proposal 2 would allow hiking in GS, but not in the super G. Proposal 3 would add an official handicap and stats director. The goal of this isn't to replace anyone who is currently working on handicaps and stats, but to officially create a position/committee to further discussion and documentation. Proposal 4 is a rule clarification, which defines how we count runs in the Super G. The written rule was outdated and is simply being updated to match our current practice. Proposal 5 clarifies our current stance on using video evidence to challenge DQs. Proposal 6 is a rule clarification about team scoring. The intent of the rule doesn't change at all, it is just reworded to avoid potential confusion. Proposal 7 is a new rule that officially recognizes our special awards. Mike Sayers pointed out that the proposed rule, for most improved racer, is slightly different than our current practice. Drew said he will look at how it is worded on the site and adjust if necessary. Proposal 8 is an addition to the bylaws that would require teams to designate who their primary voters are, along with backups. This will help racers identify who their reps are and let them know who is voting for them. This will also help Ryan with tracking votes during board meetings.

Gary asked if we plan on making any adjustments to the way we are calculating team points. The current system seemed to heavily favor one team last year, and the way the classes are, it will likely favor the same team again, to the point where we know who is going to win going into the season. Dennis said that we don't really have enough data yet. Alex said that statistically, one year of data isn't enough, but we plan on keeping our eye on this throughout the year.

Registration Fee / Additional Revenue – Alex Carrico – We really don't want to increase the price of registration, but financially, we may need more income going forward. Shirts were expensive last year, but racers liked them. Going forward, we may be able to find a less expensive option, or we could have people opt in/out of receiving a shirt (with an added cost for those who want it). We could also offer additional merchandise, that people could buy. We have tried this before, but with the addition of online registration, it could be more successful now. Alex's friend that designed the bib is also available to do additional designs if we want. One last money suggestion would be to sell raffle tickets for the big-ticket items at the banquet. We don't plan on implementing these immediately, but this is the beginning of a needed discussion on raising additional revenue going forward.

Chip motions to adjourn, Mick seconds. Meeting adjourned at 8:51pm.

Next meeting will be a special call-in meeting to vote on the proposed rule changes. Date is TBD.

Respectfully submitted by Ryan Bloodworth, Secretary.