

MACC – MICHIGAN ALPINE COMPETITION COUNCIL – CALL-IN MEETING 10-25-2023

Minutes of the meeting:

Drew Hilger called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM.

Attendance – Officers:

Drew Hilger – P	Shawn Hughes – P	Ginnie Uhley – P	Mike Hietbrink – A	Ryan Bloodworth – P
Kurt Adams – P	Jenessa Hilger – A	Mike Sayers – P	Kermit Anderson – A	Dave Carrico – P
Grace Kerbrat – P	Bill Perlmutter – A	Dennis Parrott – P	Zach Jablonski – A	Chuck White – P
Alex Carrico – P				

Attendance – Team Racer Representatives:

Alan Osterdale AA – P	Foster Butler JD – P	Gary Konsza SD – A	Chip Dayton SW – P	Gary Bloodworth SN – A
Rick Van Houdt TR – P	Mike Jablonski TB – A	Sue Holmes RN – P	Denise Miller TR – A	Kathy Bauer TR – A

General Updates – Drew Hilger – Meeting called to order at 8pm. Any questions about the minutes? Motion to approve the minutes from Mike Sayers, second from Alan. Nobody opposed, minutes approved.

Updates from Boyne – New Superbowl chair is mostly in. No concerns there. One update is that the chair will have RFID scanners built in. This will affect racers that are wearing a speed suit, as you must have your lift ticket on you at all times. Good note to send out to all members. The theme from Boyne this year is to declutter the hills. They are removing extra shacks that they weren't using. The gate shack at the top of Superbowl has been removed. Long term plan is to replace our finish shacks with old chair shacks. They might not be as big, but they are quite a bit newer. Another thing that we will have to keep our eyes on is the new chairlift for Boyneland. It now cuts across North Boyne, so we need to make sure we don't have any safety issues.

Debi is not planning on skiing again this year and will be stepping down from the MACC board. Motion to accept resignation from Debi and nominate Grace as her replacement. Motioned by Mike Sayers, seconded by Alan. Nobody opposed, motion carries.

Updates – Shawn Hughes – Rules committee didn't make enough progress to suggest anything for this year. Most of the suggestions we came up with were for increased readability. Our goal is to reconvene and come up with a proposal that will be ready by the spring. Drew – It would also be nice to consolidate the rules into something more digestible for the "on the hill" rules. Shawn - A few other things on the list, like more portable displays for shacks, etc. Will look into these further.

Finances – Mike Hietbrink – Drew – Mike is not on, but we are in a strong position financially. Bibs set us back a decent amount, but we didn't want to profit off the bibs directly, so as we sell more over the next couple years, we will recoup a decent amount of that cost. Around \$8,000 in the bank. Drew and Mike talked about the registration fee, and then both agree that \$100 per racer is still a good fee.

Registration – Ginnie Uhley – Online registration update, Dennis has been working on getting everything ready to go. Status of the bibs, we did not have any discussion about ordering new bibs. They confirmed that we received medium and large bibs, so we got what we ordered. We sent them old bibs to compare the sizes, and they said that they were using a new source and we got what we ordered. We already paid them as well, but we can continue to talk to them if we want. Kurt – Do we have a plan for people who don't fit in their bibs? Ginnie – Most people were able to move up a bib size and get a new number.

Marketing and Promotion – We tried to have several meetings, with limited success. One of the main stumbling points we had is that we really don't know who our target population is. If our target is 20-40 year olds, we haven't been successful in the past. We typically get a lot of push back for the cost and for the time required to work/race each weekend. We have also heard from our own racers that the more time we spend working, the less people look forward to the races. Most beer leagues have gone to only GS, while we still provide slalom. There are people like Tom Halsey who offered to meet with us and help us move forward. Drew – Another thing I've thought about is our target market. The local area has grown quite a bit in the last couple years, I wonder if there are people in the local area that would have interest, but wouldn't have a huge barrier due to cost. Our target before has been metro Detroit, but maybe the up north area should be our target. Lift tickets are one barrier, but finding a place to stay is even bigger.

Handicaps and Statistics – Chuck White – Shared power point with breakdown. Showed that handicaps are skewed very slightly towards GS. They are closer than they were in the past. Overall, more racers improved their handicap slightly. Recommendation for coming season is to not make any changes to handicap calculations. Will continue to monitor. The last thing is team points. If you ignore the really small teams, there is a very slight advantage to larger teams, but it is quite minor. Not recommending any changes to the points either. Will be sending out a note to all pace setters in the next couple weeks.

Course Operations – Dennis Parrott – We will be ready to open registration as early as the end of the week. Will need some help to get it ready, but we are really close. On the course ops front, we might have some issues with the number of quality workers, as the old course 2 crew was already a little short, and we are losing a couple people this year. The 4th weekend in particular, we are already looking really thin, quite a few people already know they are missing it. Will likely need to recruit more people.

Course Officials – Jenessa Hilger – Not present. Drew doesn't think she had any updates.

Course Setting – Kermit Anderson – Emailed saying he won't make it. No new news and will contact the team to see who is coming back. Will need some new gate shafts.

Equipment – Dave Carrico – Equipment is alright. Main thing is, we may need to find someone to train as a replacement. May not be back next year and will need to work on training someone to take over. Will need to get together with Chuck to setup and test all the new equipment.

Timing – Kurt Adams – Will get with Shawn to reset all the database tables. Crew is getting thin, operated a lot without supervisors, which may be the new norm. Is there any way we could reduce the number of pacesetters, in order to free up people for other jobs? Mike Sayers – Pacesetting isn't a work assignment, so people shouldn't be unavailable to work due to pacesetting. Drew – We might be able to identify some classes that are the same size, to see if we can swap them between courses every weekend. Sayers – Now that we have fast racers on both hills, pacesetters are less important. Chuck – We can still treat some of the more consistent racers as pseudo pacesetters, and weight them heavier. Shawn – Our software can't really handle people switching courses from week to week.

Race workers – Bill Perlmutter – Not present.

Computers – Chuck White – Shawn mentioned the idea of portable monitors, not sure if that's in the budget or not. Shawn – they are becoming cheaper and more available but may not be durable enough. Chuck – Expenses shouldn't be as high as last year. Also working on tweaking the layouts on the screens a bit, to change what everyone sees. The goal is to have them see a layout more relevant to their roles.

Awards – Zach Jablonski – Not present. Drew will reach out to Zach. We voted on an award last year but couldn't get it in time. We will use those for this year if we can get them in time.

Publicity – Grace Kerbrat – Once we have registration details, they will be posted. Please remember to follow the MACC Facebook page and share it with friends and family. Will get with Debi to work on getting everything transitioned over and will start working on brochure for the new race season. Will get some QR codes created, so we can easily share with potential racers. Will put together a short newsletter to let them know that registration details will be coming soon. Drew – Make sure we let people know that they will need a lift ticket on them at all times due to the new chairlift.

Webmaster – Mike Sayers – No updates. Will update website to reflect Grace's new role.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05. Next meeting will be mid-December.

Respectfully submitted by Ryan Bloodworth, Secretary.