

MACC – MICHIGAN ALPINE COMPETITION COUNCIL – CALL-IN MEETING 3-6-2024

Minutes of the meeting:

Drew Hilger called the meeting to order at 8:30 PM.

Attendance – Officers:

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

Attendance – Team Racer Representatives:

Alan Osterdale AA – P	Foster Butler JD – A	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 – Any questions about the minutes? Motion to approve? Sayers motions, Alan seconds. Minutes approved.

Updates from Boyne – We obviously lost a lot of snow. We will be able to set up timing equipment on the bottom half of North Boyne. It is also likely that we will only be able to use stubbies, which only require half the snow depth. Don't think we would be able to use full gates, as we struggled with them two weeks ago. We have plenty of glasses to give away, so we can do awards either way. But do we want to count the races if we use stubbies? Also, do we want to keep it a three-day weekend? Friday might have rough conditions. Rain/snow on Friday should give us the moisture we need to race on Saturday. Sunday should be below freezing all day. Boyne would let us race Friday, but they are discouraging it due to conditions. Alex – As someone who doesn't have a lot of vacation days, it's not really worth taking a vacation day to race in terrible conditions on Friday. Dennis – That cuts both ways. Some racers have said that if we don't race on Friday, they probably won't come up this weekend at all. Drew – Also, if we don't race at all, we could look into hosting some social activities as an alternative. Possibly a bowling event in the afternoon/evening. Alan – Weather report said it would rain Friday/Saturday, but Sunday looks great. Good for any activities we decide on. Grace – One thing to keep in mind, if the races aren't counting, we can't require people to work. Chuck – Technically, the Cantor Cup doesn't count, but we have workers for that. Drew – Don't see that being an issue, but it could be. Alex – Are you saying if we race at all, it will be on stubbies. Drew – Yes, there is not enough snow for full gates. Alex – Do we think it's fair to have a race on stubbies, when people who don't train have never skied on stubbies. Drew – There is nothing in the rules about it, but that's why I want to vote on it. Kurt – DSQs are hard to see already, even harder to see on stubbies.

Drew proposes a vote: Do we want to count the races if we use stubbies? Ryan, Alan, and Mike Sayers voted yes. Dennis, Ginnie, Dave, and Chip are opposed. Motion doesn't pass, races using stubbies won't count.

Drew proposes another vote: Do we want to race on Friday? Nobody votes yes, the motion doesn't pass.

Drew – So the plan is we will do slaloms Sat/Sun, but they will not count as official races. We still have about 400 cups for this season that we haven't given out yet. We will give some out as World Cup awards that have the World Cup awards printed on the back. Alex – Are we planning to do team trophies as well? Number 1 bibs? Etc.? Drew – Don't think we have any rules about minimum number of races, and the current owners of the number 1 bibs have been notified of the case. Drew – Plan is to race Sat/Sun, will run it like a normal race, but it won't count towards the world cup. Grace – To Alex's point, we really haven't had many races, do we really want to count this season? Especially as far as handicaps, upgrades, etc. go. Alex – Yeah, missing one weekend was the entire season this year, just want to have a discussion about basing the whole season on one weekend. Alan – As one of the people that missed that weekend, and I know a couple of other people that didn't sign up this year due to the cancellation of so many races. I am glad people got to race, but it really isn't a good representation of a real season. Dennis – I get Alan's point, but we did announce the schedule way in advance. It feels like we jumped through a lot of hoops to get some racing in on a single weekend. Why don't we just call this whole season unofficial. Sayers – On the one hand our season is over, this weekend doesn't count, so the results on the website are the final results. Agree with Dennis though that it's hard to count a season with one weekend. Ginnie – Agree with Mike and Dennis, just a tough season, nothing we can do. Shawn – The season sucked, guess I look at it as: the results are what they are, in respect with daily awards and world cup class awards. Don't think the team results are really relevant. Other way to look at it is that none of this really penalizes anyone for next season, except for voting rights for next year. Ryan – Agree with Shawn. Chuck – Agree with Ryan, we have cups, let's give them out.

We can call it unofficial results, but let's give them out. Drew – We have rules, and nothing in the rules says we need to have a certain number of weekends. I think we should follow the rules and give out the awards. Chip – Agree with Ryan, give out glasses, but make the team awards informal. Kermit – On Drew's side, if we are going to give out individual awards, we should give out team awards as well. Sayers – Only thing in the rules talks about dropping races, nothing says we are required to have a certain number for the season. Ginnie – We didn't change the schedule, but we did change how we are counting the races. So, missing one weekend resulted in missing 4 races, which was the whole season. Drew – So the vote would be to ignore the rules, which say to give out awards, with no mention of a minimum number of races needed.

Proposed vote: Should we call this an unofficial season, and not award team trophies? Mike Sayers, Ginnie, Chip, Dennis, and Ryan vote yes. Kurt votes no. Will not do team awards.

Proposed vote: Who supports giving out world cup awards? Kurt, Chip, Dave, and Ryan support giving out awards. Mike Sayers opposed. Will do World Cup awards.

Chuck – While on the subject of awards, what about most improved? Rules say 5 runs of each discipline, which we only had 4 of each. My recommendation was going to be to reduce the runs from 5 to 4, but that was before we decided to make this season unofficial. We can still do that if we want. Sayers – We could make next year a two-year window, instead of one. Drew – We should look at all the rules this summer to adjust them based on a very short season. Dennis – Is there a way to look at how this would have affected things in terms of the minimum number of runs, etc. Would this have created some unfairness. Chuck – Five was based on someone only racing half the season, we didn't want them to be eligible for the award if they didn't make at least half the races. Kurt – If someone missed this whole year, will it basically reset their handicap for the next season? Sayers – We changed that to two seasons now.

Proposed vote: Is anyone in favor of giving out most improved awards? Nobody is in favor of awarding most improved this year.

Drew – We will still be giving out the Bernie Bast award.

Looking at the itinerary, we will have no race Friday. We will start with course 1 on Saturday and start with course 2 on Sunday. Talking to Kermit, course setters should be able to get started at 8, have course ready for 9am inspection, 9:30 start. Also, originally had an early start scheduled for Sunday, but we will change that back to our usual 10 start. Will also look into doing a social event Friday evening, thinking 6pm. Can we do another Facebook poll to get a rough idea of how many people would be interested? Grace – Yeah, can do that.

Drew – Dates for 2025 were sent out. If anyone has any concerns, let's talk about them. We wouldn't vote until the end of April, at our next meeting. Would like to have these dates into Boyne ASAP. Sayers – Don't see how we can improve it. Grace – Only change that I would suggest is the final race weekend. Boyne always has their kids' weekend the second weekend in March. We typically get moved to the side that weekend. Drew – Don't see the race hill being an issue, but that could affect the banquet. Alex – Either room should be fine, don't think anyone really had a strong opinion about the banquet space. Cost is the same for either space. Drew – Boyne has built a Superbowl chair swing for the banquet, but we will be raffling it off in 2025, so being in the cafeteria, we are able to put it in the banquet room. Alex – Civic Center is fine unless someone has a strong opinion. Shawn – Don't recall having an issue with kids' weekend in the past, on Superbowl. Grace – Yeah, typically it's not an issue on Superbowl, but might be an issue if there are only a limited number of chairs/runs open. Drew – Issue with March 2nd is Boyne having their racing resources used up.

Updates – Shawn Hughes – No updates.

Finances – Mike Hietbrink – Not present.

Registration – Ginnie Uhley – Final count is 80 racers for the season.

Handicaps, Stats, Results and Scoring – Chuck White – Since the races on Saturday aren't going to count, then getting results ready for banquet will be easy. We are going to treat Saturday as full race, with timing crew, etc.? Drew – Yeah. Will award cups at banquet for last Sunday and this Saturday. Chuck – We can call it race number 5, but just won't load it into final results. If it's not an official race, we can do without pacesetters.

Course Operations – Dennis Parrott – Since we aren't counting any races this weekend, probably won't have many show up, but we will work it out. There are a few radios on permanent assignment that will need to be gathered at the civic center desk after the race on Sunday. Ginnie – So for this non counted race, do we need start sheets? Drew – Think we should treat it like a normal race: awards, start sheets, guest racing, etc. all normal. Alex – Slalom subbies both days? Drew – Yeah, if we tried a GS, it would only be a 15 sec race.

Course Officials – Jenessa Hilger – Did have one informal protest. It was more of a documentation, question raised about the use of photo evidence. Maybe we look into that over the summer.

Course Setting – Kermit Anderson – On Saturday, we plan to put down salt. Will won't be there but the rest of us will. We will make it work. Drew – Don't think we will have 2 starts, or enough stubbies to do dual on Sunday. Kermit – Ok, we will be all set then.

Equipment – Dave Carrico – Same as last time for corral and display? Drew – Yeah, don't know if we will have any fencing up top, but if we do, we will have to take it down.

Timing – Kurt Adams – Are we still going to run handicap analysis? Chuck – We will run it, but they won't count towards people's real handicaps.

Race Workers – Bill Perlmutter – Not present.

Awards – Zach Jablonski – Not present.

Banquet Update – Alex Carrico – We currently have 34 adults, and 1 child. Are we still, with such few tickets sold, planning on doing paid tickets for large prizes? Drew – Lets plan on doing the full raffle, like last year, but it may be a game time decision based on the number of prizes we have. We don't know what we are getting or how many yet. So, if we don't have anything big, we might want to just do door prizes. Alex – Cutoff to buy tickets is probably midnight Thursday, as we need to get a final count to Boyne by noon on Friday. Drew, do you know if there is a minimum number that we need for the banquet? Drew – I think we will be ok, the only number issue we may have is with the bartender. And if we lose some money on the banquet, we should be ok. Also, banquet numbers are low, but still climbing, will probably get quite a few more tomorrow. Will need a few helpers to check people in and sell raffle tickets.

Publicity – Grace Kerbrat – Got banquet info, will communicate that raffle details are TBD, but plan to bring cash for raffle tickets. Other newsletter items: schedule for Sat/Sun and that we are doing guest racing. Will be online like normal. For Friday, will poll people to see if they want to go bowling. Drew – Would ask who is in for a gathering at BC lanes, and then ask if they want to bowl or just eat/drink. Grace – Also thought about doing nighttime sky bridge, especially if Boyne can give a discount. Drew – Hadn't thought of that, but it is supposed to rain Friday night. And probably won't be done with the banquet Saturday to do it before it closes. Could possibly do it Thursday night for those that get up there early. Might be a great idea for next year.

Webmaster – Mike Sayers – Please send schedule and banquet details.

Alex – Kurt, I'll send you some announcements for Saturday, about what time the doors open for the banquet.

Dennis motions to approve the results from the last race, Sayers seconds. Results are approved.

Motion to adjourn from Kurt, second from Alan.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Ryan Bloodworth, Secretary.