

MACC – MICHIGAN ALPINE COMPETITION COUNCIL – CALL-IN MEETING 11-19-2024

Minutes of the meeting:

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

Attendance – Officers:

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

Attendance – Team Racer Representatives:

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

General Updates – Drew Hilger – Any questions about the minutes from the last two meetings? Sayers motions to approve, Dave Carrico seconds. None opposed, minutes are approved.

No updates from Boyne, hopefully we get snow soon. Inside Great Lakes Skiing posted a new video to YouTube today. There is a segment on there about MACC. We should try to highlight and post the video to our social media to improve awareness. They may also come out to do some filming and check us out during the season.

If we stick with Tuesday meetings, our next meeting would be New Years Eve. We should pick a new date for our next meeting. December 17th was chosen.

Updates – Shawn Hughes – Have been working on updating some of the rules. Started annotating and adding notes to the current rules. If anyone is interested in joining in, feel free to reach out. Drew – One item that needs to be revisited is video review. We don't currently allow it in protests, but at this point, we have quite a bit of video being taken and its rough when you can see on video that a call was wrong. Sayers – Other racing groups allow video, but it has a time limit. Dave – High schools don't allow it, unless they have changed it in the last two years.

Finances – Mike Hietbrink – Not present.

Registration – Ginnie Uhley – No updates. Grace – We don't have registration open yet, but for guest racers, will they be able to register on the hill? Do we need to have further discussion about that? Also, if we need to create any documents, let Grace know. Ginnie – People can sign up online, but biggest issue is paying. Drew – Another challenge is that Boyne has their own waiver as well, which needs to be done online. Shawn – Started playing with a tablet that could go to the top of the hill, and help us connect to online forms/payment, etc. Drew – It would also be reasonable to have it in the finish shack where it might get a better internet connection.

Course Operations – Dennis Parrott – Not much to say. Started polling the workers to see who is coming back. Also need to make sure we shut down the registration website after the season ends. For registration at the top of the hill, one of the issues we have is that our interface to Boyne is just a link to their site. Having people fill out that form at the top of the hill could be complicated.

Course Officials – Jenessa Hilger – No updates. Our photo site license needs to be renewed, not sure if charges have gone through yet.

Handicaps and Statistics – Chuck White – Reminder to Dennis and Kurt, when you get responses back from your team, let me know as soon as you can. Will need to course allocations. Last year, we did an experiment with pace setters to minimize conflicts with work assignments. It probably wasn't a great sample, as we only had one race weekend. Do we want to continue with that strategy? Drew – We will want to see the numbers; it may be a necessity.

Course Setting – Nick Carrico – Not present. From Alex, nothing to report at this point. Drew – De did let me know that the course crew is in need of new gate shafts. Around 10 red and 10 blue. Will cost about \$1650. Might be able to get by with 5 of each for now. Dave Carrico – The shipping is what kills you on the price, gates are around 60 each, shipping is 20 per gate.

Equipment – Dave Carrico – We hardly used the equipment last year, so equipment should be fine. We won't really know for sure until we are able to get up there to test. Drew – Can ask Boyne if they can test some of the wires for us.

Timing – Kurt Adams – No updates. Will send out notice to timing crew to see who is planning on coming back.

Race workers – Bill Perlmutter – Not present.

Awards – Zach Jablonski – Not present.

Publicity – Grace Kerbrat – Will need to know when registration is running, along with the date cutoff for the ski raffle. Will also let people know the details on the vote tonight. Could write up a little email that people can copy and paste to invite new people. Drew – Did we have any brochures or anything to share with Nubs, that we can post in their locker room? Grace – Need to customize it for Nubs but will get something to you.

Webmaster – Mike Sayers – Will need to update the contacts on the website to reflect Fosters passing. Will leave Jim Dandy as open for now. Dennis – At Foster's wake, spoke to Brittany, she is thinking about coming back to race this year, as she will be in the Detroit area.

Secretary – Ryan Bloodworth – No updates.

Class Restructuring – Sayers – Sent an email out this afternoon, wanted to make sure that we account for racers that are near the threshold, so that they don't bounce up and down every week. Dennis – Sat down with the proposal and everyone's final HCs. What do we do with skiers on the thresholds? Chuck – It will be rare to fall on the number, but we can define it how we need to. It used to be if the cut off was 15, then you would upgrade when you dropped below 15. Chip – We have a couple racers that would be bummed if they dropped down. If we gave them the option of moving up, it might be good. Drew – I think that's a tough one, cause if people are in the right class, it should be more fun. Shawn – I think we also need to approach this as people don't know who they will be racing against. At the end of the day, if they want to self-upgrade, maybe we allow it. Ryan – If it breaks class sizes should we allow it? Chuck – It might be a moot point if we are completely shuffling all the classes. Drew – We should allow self-upgrading with board approval. It would give us the ability to look at it and base our decision on if there are any adverse effects to others. Shawn – Because we are doing it all at once, there may be another racer or two that are moving down with them.

Alex – In the proposal there was wording about the numbers in the vet classes. We need to make sure we clearly state that both classes will have good numbers. Ginnie – Echo that when people don't know what they are registering for, they will ask a lot of questions. Not knowing what classes people will be in until the last minute will make people uneasy. Drew – The intent is to open registration, there will be a deadline for the ski raffle, then we will be publishing a roster. Everyone will know what class they are in, when they race, the other racers in their class, etc. Ginnie – People will likely request upgrades before the season starts. Don't want people to drop out because they are angry about the changes. Chuck – People won't be able to downgrade before the races start. The other thing is that the ranges won't be secret, so people can look up where they belong based on their current handicap.

Grace – There are some key things we need to decide on, timing wise. When do people need to register by? When do upgrades/downgrades need to be requested by? There will be people that are upset, but there will be people that are upset either way. People are asking for change, and this seems to be a change in the right direction. Chuck and Drew have come up with a good plan. Ryan – In the future, can we look at SV classes as well, if the base class size is big enough. Also, can we get old class sizes to show racers. Drew – We aren't getting rid of SV as much as rebranding vet to be 55+. And with newer ski technologies over the last few decades, the age classes have been less impactful. Chip – As registration comes in, should we consider potentially going back to the old system? Drew – In the survey, people wanted 8-10 people in their class.

Sayers motions to adopt rule change, Ryan seconds. None opposed, motion passes.

Drew – When do we think we can open registration? Dennis – End of the week, probably Sunday. Just need to make a few changes to the system to reflect the new class changes. Perhaps links to explain the new system, they might not read it, but we still want to put the information out there. Ginnie – Will need verbiage to go along with this, because we will have a lot of questions. Dennis – There will be an overall sequence of events that need to happen. Sayers – We have pages on the website that involve HCs, so we need to make sure those pages all reflect the new changes. Grace – If you can send over and questions or feedback you get from your racers, we can put together an FAQ to we can address the common questions.

Drew – Would propose to have registration up and running on or before Dec 2nd. Early registration would end on Dec 15th. Tuesday, Dec 17th would be our next meeting.

Chuck – For Dennis, the fields will be the same except for the selected class. Will any other fields change? Dennis – We are putting in one more field, for the time/date that you started your registration. Leaving class field in there, but users won't be prompted to fill it in. That page will likely be replaced by a description of how classes will work.

Sayers motions to adjourn, Dennis seconds. Meeting adjourned at 9:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Ryan Bloodworth, Secretary.