

Nelson Ledges Road Course - Update (2/17/15)

Since my last update there has been a continuation of “non replies” to requests for information sent by myself and others. I had heard that Jim Green had gone to Track Manager Todd Karom’s Cleveland store and met him. I texted Todd and he said he would be there on Friday, February 13. I met him for approximately an hour. Most of the conversation was businesslike. I had three topics to discuss.

1. During its February 3rd membership meeting the Mahoning Valley Region of the SCCA voted to drop our June 20-21 Regional race weekend at the track if nothing had been forthcoming from the track prior to February 15. Amongst other unanswered questions, we did not have any firm rental information in order to budget and plan our event. Deadlines for event information to be sent to the National office, while not imminent, were getting close. It was becoming obvious we would not be able to properly execute the event. There was nothing said during my meeting with Todd which I felt would reverse the membership’s decision. Finger Lakes Region, co-sanctioning the event, stood behind our decision. A letter was mailed on 2/17/15 officially notifying Todd we were dropping the event. A copy of the letter was sent to track owner Marvin Drucker.

It was stressed in person and in the letter that the reason for cancelling the event was the lack of communications from Todd. It was not our intention to drop involvement with the track on any future events which might be scheduled. As a matter of fact we are hoping to do something, but at a lesser level than a race weekend. We simply felt we could not continue with planning for the June 20-21 weekend without the information requested from the track.

2. We had notified Todd last year that the Kryderacing run racing gas concession at the track might not continue. The amount of gas sold in 2014 did not justify keeping the operation open and unless there was signs of things turning around in 2015 Kryderacing would drop it. The disposition of the tank and equipment would be left up to Sunoco Distributor Bazell Oils since they were the owners. The situation had been discussed with both Sunoco and Bazell at the Performance Racing Industry Show in December. They understood our position and we agreed to make a decision following February of 2015. Todd had been informed of this possibility following the show. During our recent meeting I informed him Kryderacing had reached a decision to drop the concession. I mentioned the possibility of having Sunoco/Bazell contact him to discuss his taking over the operation. I’m not sure he was receptive to the idea, but I will suggest it to them.

3. Fundays were discussed and Todd plans on having them again. The schedule will be announced in the future. I told him I would like to continue as Chief Instructor, but that decision is up to him.

There were several additional topics discussed. Todd is extremely busy with two businesses in addition to managing the track and would appreciate any help he could get with websites, track improvement photos, property maintenance, and other stuff. Initial plans to demolish the barn failed to materialize and help is needed in that area. The tire wall still needs to be rebuilt. During the Neohio Region Annual Banquet on February 14 I spoke briefly about the above items. I also stressed the need for SCCA and its membership to stay involved at the track. The current situation may not be conducive to running a Regional, but there are other things we can be doing either as groups or individuals.

Reed Kryder