



TRACK

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF MAHONING VALLEY REGION SCCA

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The Director's Chair

MVR CALENDAR

September 1, 2020

Wolf Creek Equestrian Center
3684 S. Bailey Rd. (Rt. 45)
North Jackson, Ohio

Time: 7:00pm

**This will NOT be a picnic meeting.
Nominations for 2021 Officers will be taken.**

Beverages are BYOB

WEB SITES

MVR - www.mvracca.org
SCCA - www.scca.com
KRYDERACING - www.kryderacing.com
FUELPORTS - www.fuelports.com
NESCCA - www.nescca.com

REReport – Brian Vondran

Be still my beating heart.....rumor has it there will be another race at Nelson Ledges this fall. More news to come (that is why it's important to come to the meetings); but it looks like MVR will be co-hosting a race at Nelson Ledges on Halloween weekend. I'm very excited about this opportunity to work with the track and show off all of their investments, including the remodeled timing tower and the soon to be Tech Center.

We're going to need everyone's help to make sure the event is successful. If you can volunteer to help out in some capacity, please reach out to me at brian.vondran@gmail.com.

COVID-19 Update: It wouldn't be a 2020 REport without a COVID-19 update. Since the early shutdowns, we have had race weekends at Mid Ohio, Nelson Ledges, and Pitt Race; the autocross programs are in full swing, and we've even seen some rallycross and road rallies in the area.

While these events by all accounts appear to have gone well, it has taken a lot of effort on the volunteer side to make sure everything goes according to plan and that risks of COVID-19 transmission are mitigated. If you make it to an event, please make sure you reach out to our volunteers and organizers for helping make sure we can have events in the middle of the pandemic.

Looking forward: It still feels like we have been dealing with COVID-19 forever (I've been working from home for almost 6 months), and we know we have a long way to go, but things are starting to change. Schools are reopening for the first time since March and major pro spring/summer sports are back in full swing....although I'm not sure I can get used to seeing cardboard cutouts of fans in the stands. It's a good time to remember to be vigilant and stay safe, and help take care of others while you're at it.

Best wishes,

Minutes of the August Membership Meeting - Sandi Kryder

Meeting was called to order by RE, Brian Vondran at 8:12pm.

Motion to accept the previous months minutes as printed in Track was made by Bill Pintaric, seconded by Sandi Kryder, Motion passed.

Motion to accept the Treasurers Report was made by Paul Morrison. Seconded by Reed Kryder. Motion passed.

Old Business:

The Time Trial most likely broke even. Full financial recap to be furnished by NeOhio.

New Business:

A Time Trial in 2021 perhaps with National Corvette Council.

Potential Regional Date - May 15 or June 5-6.

September Membership Report

We have about 115 members including duals.

Welcome new members:

Cindy Benchina - welcome back Cindy
Christopher DeSue
Gary Mazurk
Brian Ross, Jr.
Liam Sood
Patrick Watson

September Renewals

Adam Lerch, Bill & Sandy Pintraic and Lanny Ritz

Happy Birthday Wishes to:

Cindy Benchina	9/23
Michael Britvich	9/15
Roger Cox	9/9
Christopher DeSue	9/14
Ann Fickenscher	9/10
John Gingery	9/22
Glen Hlebak	9/27
Reed Kryder	9/9
Sandi Kryder	9/27
Ken Mast	9/25
Domenic Nigro	9/29
Pam Petrusko	9/12
George Rood	9/19
Brian Ross Jr	9/25



THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR
"Hard Choices In an Anomalous Year"
Jack Burrows, Area 2 Director

At the risk of stating the intuitively obvious, 2020 has been a bummer of a year. We've been dealing as best we could with a pandemic which has largely left us sitting at home daydreaming about that thing we all love during the competition season and making "vroom-vroom" noises into our facemasks.

SCCA took the lead in developing protocols to mitigate the risk of COVID transmission as much as we reasonably could. But mitigation doesn't mean elimination, and the 2020 season has been gutted. States and localities have adopted closures and restrictions which, combined with our collective caution about exposing our members to the risk of a highly contagious - and often deadly - pandemic resulted in postponement and cancellation of events around the country. This has been financially hard on SCCA and its regions, but our main concern is and must be the well-being of our members. We're particularly concerned about events which involve a "gathering of the tribe". As has been so sadly demonstrated in states which dropped proscriptions against meetings of large groups, such events can be a Petri dish for COVID transmission.

In this context, the Solo Events Board (SEB) took deep look at this year's Solo Nationals. They polled potential participants and looked at factors such as travel restrictions, quarantine requirements, and spiking of COVID cases in the Lincoln area. The SEB's polling showed that over half of potential participants preferred not to attend due to COVID risks. After all this, the SEB sadly

made the recommendation that the most responsible thing for SCCA to do was to cancel the 2020 Pro Solo and Solo Nationals. That recommendation also supported by SCCA's national staff and was submitted to the Board of Directors. We voted to accept that recommendation. So, as sad and unfortunate as it is, there are no Pro Solo or Solo Nationals this year.

It's important to note that, while SCCA's core business is to conduct motorsports events, our mandate is to make our events as safe as reasonably possible. Our primary responsibility is to our members, without whom we wouldn't exist. The SEB, national staff, and Board of Directors simply did not feel we could assure the safety and well-being of our members at an event as large and held at a location virtually devoid of protective facilities as Solo Nationals. I've long said that the COVID pandemic would make 2020 an anomalous year for us. Nowhere is that more plainly borne out than in the sad decision to cancel this year's Solo Nationals.

This raises the question of what will happen with the club's other championship events or if solo was somehow singled out as a "second fiddle" to other competition programs. That is absolutely not the case. As I write this our RallyX championships are taking place at Heartland Park, Time Trials nationals are still scheduled in Bowling Green, Kentucky, and the Runoffs are still scheduled at Road America. While this may seem somewhat inconsistent to some, there are significant differences that set them apart from Solo Nationals. None of the other three events draw the sheer number of people as the Solo Nationals with the resultant compression of participants necessary at Lincoln. The venues for the other three are permanent racing sites which have the type of permanent infrastructure to mitigate risk factors as well as paddock areas which provide for the type of social distancing required in this pandemic.

So, cancellation of the Pro Solo and Solo Nationals is heartbreaking to SCCA and a large chunk of our membership, but it was the responsible recommendation by the SEB and national staff and approval by the Board of Directors. This was a classic case where it's easy to make decisions between obviously good and bad options; the hard decisions are those where we need to discern the last bad option. But we'll be back in Lincoln next year, bigger and better than ever.