

Houston SCCA Solo Committee meeting minutes 26Jan2016

Tech Report:

- Chris Levitz substituted for Andy at the last event.
- A custom cart was rejected for safety reasons. Two engines with a solid axle connecting them. A bench seat with belts that were not attached in a normal manner.
- Failed an MR2 due to missing studs.
- Two helmets that were confiscated were not picked up. Still in the timing truck.
- Andy volunteered to be the helmet nazi.
- Annual Tech >30 at the last event.
- \$20 for a pair of numbers. Just numbers, no class letters. Still selling them.

Fastrack:

- Gender depends on what is shown on your license.
- Looking for member feedback on moving the Fiat 500 Abarth from GS to HS.

Treasurer:

- Average attendance went from 106 in 2014 to 131 in 2015. Old geezers bragged about numbers > 200 in previous years.

Last Month:

- 128 drivers including DBs. 504 runs, 61 cone runs, 26 DNFs. That is fewer DNFs and coned runs .
- Wet in the morning, dried up later.
- We set up the course slightly wrong, safety noticed when they measured things and we fixed the setup error.
- Discussion centered on how to address the issue of whether we treat the ditch as a hard object or not. For future course designs where there is a sharp maneuver such as an offset or pinch we will provide 50' buffer to the ditch instead of the 25' we have been using. In particular near the finish we need to look for this situation. The course design guideline is to provide 100' between the last maneuver and the finish lights.
- We need to put more cones up next to the course area to signal the spectators to keep the proper safety distance.
- We did not start until 10:00. Course tweaking took longer. Course setup was about on time.
- We need to have two workers that put up the perimeter cones up hustle through the job probably by using a car to carry the car with one worker to set the cones.
- 30-45 minutes during 1st heat spent on the two incidents.
- Finished at 2:45 running cars with 4 runs.

Next event

- Next event is January 31st at Grand Sport Speedway.
- 99 registered today.
- Confirmed with GSS. We need to do setup on Saturday. We will contact the track to see what time we can setup. Daniel will send email on what time. Robert will bring his car for safety drive.
- Wayne will bring down the trailer on Saturday.
- Daniel will bring the setup maps.
- The food truck will be there. We may have another food truck that wants to show up at future events for some variety.
- Specialty emails need to be sent.
- We will set up waivers at the site entrance. The track has their own waiver which their personnel will handle. Truck should be there no later than 7:30.

- Last car has to be finished running by 5:00 PM
- Track management wants some volunteers to assemble a building sometime in Feb. or March. We would get a free track rental for later in the year. 10 people can do it in one day.

Misc items

- The banquet is on the 30th of January.
- Jackets and trophies will be handed out at both the banquet and the autocross.
- Starting Line. We got a contract from them today. Still need a check. We have to provide workers. March 5 & 6.
- Roger went to the **SCCA Convention**.
 - Yearly waiver talked about at the SCCA convention. What is required? We have to have a registrar. There was a debate as to how much that would benefit us.
 - The value of web advertising. Tens of thousands more hits then if we just have group on facebook or we mention an event on facebook.
 - Roger will see what detailed information on results the National office has available and whether there is some support in the nature of the material to be used in the advertising.

Radio proposal

- Jim Hedderick brought a proposal to replace the FMRS radios.
- Committee radios are set up so that non-committee radios hear gibberish.
- The radios would be labeled with the purpose: safety, grid/course/waiver, committee, timing. Committee radios will be programmed with channels that can be used for private encrypted conversation if we feel it necessary.
- All 16 channels can be programmed to use the same channel. They will all be able to communicate. Some channels will be set for 1 watt, some for 3 watts. If a corner station finds that they cannot communicate with timing they can switch to a channel with greater power which means greater range or ability to punch through interference.
- We have 30 FMRS radios.
- The radios should be kept in a pocket when it is raining and use the waterproof lapel mike/speaker. There is also a secret service like ear and mike system that is available.
- Jim Hedderick will manage them, program them, provide tech support, etc.
- We can set up the truck to charge when the truck is connected to the generator. Jim will build the rack to hold the radio and recharge them.
- Proposal is that we buy the 34 Chinese radios, 1 Lisheng for Timing radio (\$66) plus sound isolating headset. Full list in Jim's handout.
- Jim will provide some labels that explain the operation guidelines.
- Proposal approved.