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Information for Area 4 Members

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Dear Area 4 Members,

Here is Newsletter Number 6 with a few more factoids.

Road Racing Part 1 – The “Majors”

Back when I joined the BOD, the plan for the “Majors” was still being formulated. I was asked to commit to a program that had not been tested or even vetted by our members. Being a new board member, I diplomatically tried to point out that more feedback was needed before making such fundamental changes to our National race program.

Butch Kummer, from Atlanta, was recently hired as Director of Club Racing, a new position meant to support the “Majors”. Butch is well respected and has had an outstanding track record organizing races in SEDiv. After being on the ground for a month, he reported to the BoD some of the same concerns I had earlier expressed.

So, the latest version of the “Majors” has all classes competing in a Double National format each weekend. I have more comfort with this. If we have a National class, it should be fully supported in all respects – not separated by class participation. Now, the challenge is to make the “Majors” special – a combination of our current format with victory celebrations, more contingency prizes, and clustered competition. It is a work in progress, but there is progress.

Road Racing Part 2 – Zones

Butch also recognized the SCCA Staff was capable of supporting 4 Zones instead of 3 for 2013. So, it now appears that we in GLD will be clustered with CenDiv. This is good news for our Michigan tracks, GingerMan and Grattan, as their proximity to CenDiv should enhance their National entries.

Road Racing Part 3 – Scheduling

I was asked by a Western Michigan Region member why they could not get a Super Tour event for Grattan this season. Apparently they asked Topeka but were turned down. My answer is – let me, your Director, know of your interest and let me take the fight forward. Which means, you need to inform me NOW of your interest and what dates would be available. Personally, I would like to see the SCCA support the track owners who are supporting us – Nelson Ledges, Grattan, GingerMan along with Mid-Ohio should all be candidates for key SCCA events.

SOLO

The Tri State Challenge at Connersville, IN was a blast. But next time you guys put me into a competition car, let’s make sure the steering wheel stays attached to the column. After the steering broke, it made me thankful that the course designer did such a good job that we were able to slow the car without the aid of a light pole!

Next weekend is the National Solo Series Tour at Peru, IN. It will be big with many of the top shoes competing. If you want to see Solo at its best, be there.

RallyCross

Attended the RallyX at Roo’s Farm in Waynesville, Ohio; what a trip! If you have not done this before, try it. It will have you looking for a used Subaru like I am. Watching the skill of these competitors was simply amazing. I’ll be back! Also, I helped Indy Region get their RallyX program started by working with the RallyX Board to get their sanction. This program is growing across GLD, so get out there and have some fun.

Road Rally Board

Jim Wakeman has resigned as Chairman of the RRB. Rich Bireta has been named as his replacement. As liaison to the RRB this year, I have placed a motion with the BOD confirming this change on our August 6th Conference Call.

Bluegrass Motorsports Park

This topic is still ticking, but nothing new to report. We are still trying to get our hands around the liabilities and valuation of the property. Discussions are ongoing.

As always, if you need help navigating the SCCA waters, let me know how I can help.

Yours for a better SCCA,

Steve