

## MACC – MICHIGAN ALPINE COMPETITION COUNCIL – CALL-IN MEETING 12-16-2020

### Minutes of the meeting:

Alex Carrico called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

### Attendance – Officers:

Alex Carrico – P	Drew Hilger – P	Ginnie Uhley – P	Mike Hietbrink – P	Ryan Bloodworth – P
Shawn Hughes – P	Steve Coatney – P	Mike Sayers – A	Kermit Anderson – A	Dave Carrico – A
Rob Reader – P	Bill Perlmutter – A	Dennis Parrott – P	Zach Jablonski – P	Debi Koltoniak – P
Chuck White – A	Grace Patti – P			

### Attendance – Team Racer Representatives:

Alan Osterdale AA – P	Alfred Cureau JD – P	Gary Bloodworth – A	Chip Dayton SW – P	Gary Konsza SD – A
Mick Serafinski TR – P	Mike Jablonski TB – A	Pat Groves TO – P	Sue Holmes RN – A	Denise Miller TR – A

**General Updates – Alex Carrico** – First up we have reviewing and approving minutes. Debi moves to approve. Ginnie seconds, motion passes. Mike Sayers had surgery on knee, please keep him in thoughts and prayers. If you need anything from him keep his surgery in mind, as it may take a little while for him to get back to normal.

**Updates from Boyne – Alex Carrico** – Superbowl will be the last hill to have the snow done. Boyne had a late start on snow, so the likelihood of us skiing on the south side of the hill is slim to none. Mark will make a start at the top of FIS, to the side of the hiking hill, which should make it easier to socially distance while in line to start. At this point we are planning to be on FIS for the first weekend, but we won't know for sure until shortly before the race, based on conditions, snow, etc. As far as lift ticket access, the current priority of letting people on the hill goes: passholders, Boyne guests, then normal lift ticket holders. (There will be tickets sold in advance and then a limited number of tickets sold the day of.) There is also a possibility that we will have to reduce the number of comped tickets. If that number does go down due to hill availability, we will have to make some decisions. Also spoke to Boyne about how they are handling the current Michigan orders, which we will cover later in the meeting. As a group, we will also need to discuss that if we have a season, will we want to ski on Superbowl instead of FIS, in order to make socially distance easier.

**Registration Updates – Ginnie Uhley** – We have a total of 60 registered racers. Four new racers, one of which found us on Facebook. Two racers that are returning after 4-6 years of absence. A list was sent out to all team reps, with a list of registered racers. Alex – As the numbers come in, we are seeing that class sizes are very small, and skewed towards course 1. While we won't know anything for sure until all numbers are in, we will probably have to rearrange things to balance the numbers on both courses. It may not be a linear break by classes either, as we will have to work around course worker availability. Another thing that we need to consider is that we will likely have to condense classes. We currently have a lot of classes that only have 1-2 people. Steve – I will need to get with Ginnie to talk about how we export/import at some point in the next couple weeks. Alex – Overall, for only being mid-December, I think the numbers are looking pretty good. Debi and Grace have been doing a good job putting info on social media. Grace – We talked earlier about wishing people happy birthdays on social media. Alex – It's a good idea, but we can only do it for people that have their birthday as public on Facebook. Our only concern would be publishing non-public info.

**Possibility of Cancellation – Alex Carrico** – We discussed previously that we are going to have to come up with a participation threshold that would allow us to have a successful season. Drew and I have discussed this a lot and we don't think there is a set number. It is more based on who signs up, what jobs are covered, etc. The biggest obstacle to our season will probably be the Michigan health department. Dennis has already started thinking about how we can make course ops work with lower numbers, but we can't do anything if Michigan bans sports. Reached out to Boyne and they are still waiting to hear back from their legal team, but it sounds like they are assuming that once we time the races, they are considered an organized sport. But if they aren't timed, then it can be considered practice. Boyne thinks that under the current order, we would not be able to have our season. They are waiting to hear back from legal time, but they expect Nastar and MACC to be considered a sport, and therefore not allowed. So, unless we get a clarification from the state that exempts ski racing, we would be in trouble. The other problem is that the order keeps getting extended a week at a time, so we might not know for sure until right before the first race. Drew and I want to make it very clear that if we must cancel the season, partially or fully, it is not at all a political decision. It will be 100% based on having enough people to safely run races while following the state's laws. Alan – If it's week-to-week, and we cancel the first week, what will happen with the rest of the season? Alex – We will have to address that if we have to cancel the first weekend. There are many factors that we will have to consider, and if we have to cancel too many weekends, at a certain point we will have to cancel the whole season. For example, we can't just have a two-weekend season. If the race reps could reach out to their racers, it would be nice to have some input from them to help us decide. Would the racers want to cancel week by week for as long as possible, or would they prefer that we just cancel the whole season if we have to cancel the first weekend or

two? Drew – We will also have a good idea of what people are thinking based on refund requests. If we get a lot of refund requests towards the start of the season, then we know that there isn't much interest in the season. The opposite is true as well, if more people keep signing up, then we know there is interest. Dennis – One thing that makes this difficult is that Lansing isn't super consistent, so it's hard to plan for. Alex – We are not the only club that's going week by week. Most high schools are also planning for a season, even though they know anything could change week to week. Debi – I think the bottom line is that a lot could change quickly, and our decision will be based on a lot of different factors. We need to continue to communicate to our members as much as we can. Things may change quick, and we may not be able to make decisions until the last minute. We need to make sure everyone understands why that is. People may have concerns and it is important that they know we are doing everything we can to make sure we can have a season, but there are lot of factors that go into it. Alfred – What are the chances of rescheduling race weekends? If the first weekend is cancelled, can we add it later in the season? Quite a few racers will want to buy a season pass and will want to know that they will get enough value out of their purchase. Alex – While talking about when we may have to cancel the season, Drew and I have talked about people already getting season passes. Normally in a regular year, it would be very tough to reschedule a weekend, but this year might be different. It would involve Drew and I talking to Ed and seeing if any weekends are even available with Boyne's scheduling. We always avoid certain weekends for a reason. Drew – We also have to take into consideration what our participation level for that weekend might be. Moving to an unscheduled weekend may hit our numbers really hard to the point where we might not have enough workers to even run a race. Debi – Do you think a newsletter is important to send out info, or should we let race reps talk to teams? Alex – A newsletter would be good, to communicate all this new info as well as boosting morale a bit. Race reps should still reach out to their teams as well, to see how they feel about completing the season if the first weekend or two is cancelled. Drew – Newsletter is a good idea; regular communication is very important right now. Give people comfort and let them know the plan. Debi – I am probably not racing this year, but I will continue with my communication duties. Also, even if we cancel the season, I think it's a good idea to continue the monthly e-newsletters, just to keep everyone together. Grace – Boyne also has pass insurance this year. Alex – Can you find that info and link it on the social media for everyone? Alfred – How difficult is it to decide now to move the first weekend to the end of February, and just plan to start the season a few weeks later? Alex – I don't know. It would depend on Boyne but would also introduce difficulties of having races on three back-to-back weekends. That might be very difficult, both for people getting up to Boyne three weekends in a row, and for board members to prepare. We would have to talk to Boyne to see if that is even an option.

As currently scheduled, our next meeting would be the Wednesday before the first race. However, we are likely going to have to meet again before that. Can't give a hard date right now but be prepared for an emergency meeting between now and January 6th. There will be a lot of work done in the background, but we will probably still have to have another meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50PM

Next meeting is TBD.

Respectfully submitted by Ryan Bloodworth, Secretary.