

MACC – MICHIGAN ALPINE COMPETITION COUNCIL – CALL-IN MEETING 4-15-2025

Minutes of the meeting:

Drew Hilger called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM.

Attendance – Officers:

Drew Hilger – P	Shawn Hughes – P	Ginnie Uhley – P	Mike Hietbrink – A	Ryan Bloodworth – P
Kurt Adams – A	Jenessa Hilger – P	Mike Sayers – P	Nick Carrico – A	Dave Carrico – A
Grace Kerbrat – A	Bill Perlmutter – A	Dennis Parrott – P	Zach Jablonski – A	Alex Carrico – A
Chuck White – P	Art LeVasseur – P			

Attendance – Team Racer Representatives:

Alan Osterdale AA – P	Gary Konsza SD – A	Chip Dayton SW – P	Sue Holmes RN – P	Gary Bloodworth SN – A
Rick Van Houdt TR – P	Mike Jablonski TB – P	Denise Miller TR – A	Kathy Bauer TR – A	

General Updates – Drew Hilger – Any questions about minutes from last two meetings? None. Motion to accept the minutes from Dennis, seconded by Sayers. Minutes approved.

Updates from Boyne – No updates since we talked about schedule. One item they did mention was safety bar usage. They want racers to lead by example and use the bars more.

Election of Officers – This concludes Drew's third year. He will be resigning, and nominating Shawn Hughes as president and Art LeVasseur as vice president. Art is a great choice for the role. Has been in B/class 4 for quite a while. He is a lawyer by trade and has quite a bit of experience leading organizations like this. Art – Audio is breaking up a bit but Art is ready to give back to MACC for all the time he has enjoyed with the group. Drew - Motion to accept nomination of Shawn and Art from Dennis, second from Ginnie. Nobody opposed, motion carries. It's really important to keep the three-year stint as pres. It keeps things fresh and makes the role a little less daunting for future presidents to take over. Shawn – Hope to fill those shoes and continue to grow the organization.

Updates – Shawn Hughes – No updates.

Finances – Mike Hietbrink – Not present. Drew - Season end balance is \$9,868. Total expenses were around \$13,000. Pretty good financial shape overall, but with the new expenses from Boyne we will need to generate some extra money next year. Sue – will we be talking about lane fees and increased prices tonight, or in the fall? Shawn – We talked to Boyne, and they are pretty set on the lane fees. This will bring our prices up to about \$150 to cover those expenses. Sue – Are lane fees not part of Boyne's sponsorship? Drew – Most of our sponsors donate gifts for the banquet. Sue – Could we get a cash sponsor to cover the lane fees? Drew – It would be \$375 a day. We don't currently have someone that is actively looking for sponsors, it kind of got rolled into Drew's duties. Sue – Could we have a sponsor with naming rights? Drew – We would have to check with Boyne, but if they are ok with it, then it would be up to the board to approve it. We currently get about 15 comp tickets from Boyne for each race. Sue – \$150 for registration isn't that much, but any increase could send people away. Could we get discounted tickets (like friend and family tickets) and give them to people to help do course work? Dennis – I would be ok with a discounted season pass, but paying \$35 for a ticket at the window wouldn't be as good. Also don't think cheaper passes would save MACC, I think the financial burden is way too high to get new, young racers. Drew – In the march meeting, we weren't sure if the comp tickets were guaranteed. We were willing to give up some other concessions to get rid of the lane fees. \$375 for the whole day is a discounted rate from Boyne, but they were also pretty firm on it. The comp tickets and the sponsorship didn't seem to bother Boyne at all. Dennis – One thing about workers, my observation over the last few years is that the people who don't want to work have mostly left already. Shawn – It's worth thinking about discounted tickets for sure. We would need to refine the idea and put it into a proposal that can be voted on by the board. We would also need to talk to Boyne about it, as we would still need their approval for the discounted tickets. The math would need to work for everyone. We have also talked about hiring people

Mike Jablonski – Biggest impediment for young people is that it costs a fortune to get up to Boyne, pay for lodging, etc. The other thing is that the lane fees would eat up most of our costs if we don't raise prices. Nubs has their speed series, which is about \$10 per person, and you pay for the races you show up for. If Boyne looks at us as a potential entity to squeeze for profit, we probably won't be around for too much longer. Drew – It would be tough to run MACC without the comp tickets.

Registration – Ginnie Uhley – 78 racers this year. A couple people that registered but didn't race. Emailed them to see what the reason was. We have been hovering around this level of registration for about the last five years. Agree with Dennis, we are pretty much down to the people that really want to participate and are willing to work for it.

Course Operations – Dennis Parrott – As everyone knows, my participation this year was limited. Once again, thank you to Art and Alan, for filling in on the hill. The entire team did great. Has all the main gear at his place in Novi. Will tinker with some of the equipment, to make it better/lighter. We currently have 7 gate keeper bibs, we usually only use a couple each day. We might want to rethink what we are doing with gate keepers. Some people do enjoy being a gate judge.

In respect to North Boyne, Boyne hasn't been consistent with moving our gear to the top of North Boyne. We can move stuff with advance notice, but it's not necessarily easy. Participation has slipped, leading to fall off in attendance among course ops. Combining the chief and outside starter has also led to some responsibilities falling through the cracks. Think we need to do some serious thinking about what would happen if we lose a few key people. For example, what happens if we lose two timers? We should have some kind of disaster plan, for what we do if we only have an absolute bare bones crew.

Mike Jablonski – Has Boyne provided a replacement for Mark Skope? Drew – Up until this year, it was David Shaylor. He moved stuff for us. We put in requests this year to have stuff moved, but nothing really got done. Going forward, now that we aren't racing for free, we have a little more pressure we can put on Boyne. We may be getting more support in the future, but we will have to see. Shawn – My impression from meeting with these people is that everyone is new, and they are scrambling to get up to speed. Buy also enthusiastic to do a better job: grooming, prep, wiring, equipment, etc. Also want to say that it's everyone's job to recruit, but we should also spend some time over the summer to brainstorm ideas to improve enrollment. Jablonski – Who is the contact at Boyne? Drew – Scheduling/paperwork is Kayla Potter. Nuts and bolts of racing is Jack Talcott. They are both pretty new, and we are hopeful that they will be in a better spot next year to support us more.

Course Officials – Jenessa Hilger – Pretty quiet year. Didn't have any issues. A couple people reached out about the banquet videos. Will get those posted on YouTube. Also plan on putting together a promo commercial for MACC.

Handicaps and Statistics – Chuck White – Showed a report for Registration and Attendance numbers. 38 racers on course 1, 37 on course 2. Attendance by race ranged from 52-65 for each race. Showed a breakdown of each team, with registration data and average number of racers. Showed a breakdown of each class, with registered number and average showing.

Handicap analysis – Slalom vs GS Handicaps – Pretty close to keeping handicaps balanced between the two disciplines. Various breakdowns all show that overall, there is a fairly even split of racers with a higher handicap in one discipline or the other. Throughout the season, GS handicaps -1.44%. SL average -4.44% decrease in handicaps.

Drew – One observation, looking at the numbers. Our Friday in March had a pretty good turnout. We did GS on Friday, could that have led to an increase in numbers?

Course Setting – Nick Carrico – Not present.

Equipment – Dave Carrico – Not present.

Timing – Kurt Adams – Not present.

Race workers – Bill Perlmutter – Not present.

Awards – Zach Jablonski – Not present.

Publicity – Grace Kerbrat – Not present.

Webmaster – Mike Sayers – Minutes that were approved are on the website. Updated the officer's page as well. No updates for the home page.

Secretary – Ryan Bloodworth – No updates. Chuck – Side note, every club will get one vote next year, except team rust (cut off is 12 avg racers).

Motion to adjourn from Mike Sayers, second from Ryan. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Ryan Bloodworth, Secretary.