



## **Buccaneer Region Board of Directors Meeting April 3, 2023—Zoom meeting**

Present with Zoom: Don Johnson, Bill Dennis, Bob Horansky, Chris Ronson, Sr, Harvey Lewis, Larry Morgan, Jeff Utley, Kurt Breitingner, Kenny Lee, Karen Kern, Jack Abbott and Nona Heinzen

Absent: Scott Reynolds and Craig Tomeo

Call to Order: 7:00 pm. Don thanked everyone for attending tonight.

**JAX SOLO:** Craig was not present but Don gave an accounting. They have had two events at the FIRM and had 120+ participants at each event. They have been saving money. They have their next event on April 16 at Fernandino. This will be the last year at Fernandino Airport because the runway has deteriorated badly. They are looking for alternative sites.

Ron said he has a new contact with the Base commander to try to get on the Base at Whitehouse. Ron said he has also relayed the information to Craig. Don thanked Craig in absentia for his efforts with the club. Don also thanked Ron for his efforts on Whitehouse.

**SAV SOLO:** Kenny stated that they had their February event and had one over the weekend. Kenny hasn't been able to get the numbers together for the weekend event. He said they had 47 participants at the February event and they netted \$550+. The weekend event went smoothly and they had no rain. He gave the checking account balances. He will add the April weekend event details to the June BOD meeting.

Kenny said the next event is at RRR on April 29. Kenny has asked Craig and JAX Solo to join them as well but don't know if they will. Don thanked Kenny for all his efforts.

**TRACK MANAGER REPORT:** Jack began the Track Manager's Report by going over bank balances. He then spoke about the new Bushhog that they received. He said it works great.

He then talked about the upcoming SCCA track inspection. He said that last year they had banded and belted the tires in the impact zone but it still needs work. He stated that at turn 6 and 7, there is a drop off behind the tires. He is getting costs and estimates on how much dirt would be needed to fill in behind the tires. He has reached out to several tire companies about getting 'blemished' tires but has heard nothing back yet.

Bob Horansky suggested we excavate the dirt in the existing sand pit and move it to fill behind the tires. We could rent the equipment to move the dirt ourselves. Bob suggested we just make the pit bigger. Bob said the reviewer will come in before the SIC. Jack said he would be limited to when he can do the work based on what was needed. Chris asked how much time the reviewer would allow you to make the improvements. Bob said

they would work with you on it. If the repairs/improvements are not completed to the reviewer's specifications, they can prohibit the track from receiving sanctions. Chris said there was no point in doing anything until the reviewer makes their report on what needs to be improved. Don said we would look at scheduling whatever needs to be done after we get the review results.

Jack then talked about the March WERA Ambulance Incident. Jack stated that the weekend was a WERA event with WERA Insurance and WERA totally in control on March 19, 2023. The RRR personnel present for the weekend were himself, Nona, Thomas and Eliza, the gate person. RRR provided no corner workers, pit-out or start/grid. The EMS driver followed protocol and communicated that they needed to transport a patient from a previous accident and asked if WERA wanted to stop the race to cross the ambulance. WERA replied that they would cross the ambulance after the last bike. The ambulance was then allowed to proceed to the staging area outside of the Medical building to await instructions to cross. The WERA personnel at Grid motioned for the ambulance to cross, then told them to stop and then to go again per the ambulance driver--- which is corroborated in the Georgia State Patrol report. Once the ambulance was struck by a vehicle, it could not move without knowing if a body was under the ambulance. They have protocols; therefore, couldn't clear the track after being struck.

Jack said we are extremely thankful that no one was seriously hurt. He said everything has been forwarded to our insurance carrier, K&K Insurance. Chris stated that he had received two certified letters already from the lawyers stating their intent to sue RRR in their complaint. Jack said he has sent the letters to our Claims contact at K&K Insurance.

**TREASURER REPORT:** Chris then gave the report on the Drivers School event. Chris gave the total income from the event and broke down the allocations. Harvey asked how this year's Driver School compared to previous years. Don replied that we had better attendance this year but the sanction fees were more this year so they didn't make a lot more money but they will increase fees to cover those costs in the future. Don said we can keep going with this type of event for the future and make money. We can work on increasing entries and control expenses. Chris said we should just leave it like it is since it seems to work.

**RACE CHAIR REPORT:** Bill said that the way we did the Drivers School is the way to continue. He explained that we had SARRC drivers arriving while the students were qualifying, which is productive. Bill said that historically the profit had only been around \$5K and thanks to Don's efforts we are making more of a profit. Chris said the Driverz Cup entries certainly helped so hopefully they will continue.

Bill said Rick Henschel sustained an injury (non-track related) during the Drivers School but he is doing well.

On the upcoming Jim Stark/SARRC event, Bill said pertaining to signups we need 100+ and we are not going to make that. But we are not the only group in that boat. Bill suspects that all groups are suffering from low attendance numbers due to the competing events. Bill thinks we will get less than half of our normal income from this event. He doesn't think we'll lose money but we will lose profit; however, he doesn't see us not going through with the event.

There was some discussion about the Division needing to make changes so that the same issue of competing events in a demographic area doesn't reoccur as it affects everyone. The Regional Executives need to look at

the schedules at the mid-year meeting. The Division needs to look at this seriously since there are too many competing events. We will discuss it further when the schedules have been reviewed.

Larry then spoke about the possible need for workers. He said that most of the need for workers that we might need for the Jim Stark event would be in the Tech field. He said not too many corner workers come up from Central FL to work the Jim Stark anyway. Larry said he oversaw F&C and he feels we'll be ok.

Harvey asked what we could do to recruit more workers. Larry said the only event he struggles with getting F&C workers is for the Drivers School. Harvey said he would like to speak with Larry at the event regarding some ideas he has for possible recruitment. Larry said he would welcome the conversation.

Ron said he has contacted Toni Creighton, Bob Hudson and Fred Clark in regards to obtaining a National Chief's License within this first year. He said he will be in Tech at the Jim Stark working with them. He is accelerating his efforts and learning as much as he can. He has also obtained his Race Data Technician's license. We have no divisional administrator for this now. He and Fred are meeting soon to work on everything. Don thanked Ron for taking the lead on that. Chris also thanked Ron for all he is doing. Chris asked that we add these items for discussion at the next meeting.

Don said we will put the following on the Agenda for the next meeting in June:

- Tech Improvements

- UPS

- Star Link

Don thanked Bill for all the work he has done with the Jim Stark event.

Don said the next meeting date would be Monday, June 5, 2023. He said he would send an email out regarding the date. He then asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion to adjourn was made by Larry Morgan and seconded by Jeff Utley.

All were in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm