



Buccaneer Region Board of Directors Meeting May 14, 2025—Zoom meeting

Present with Zoom: Kurt Breitingner, Bill Dennis, Bob Horansky, Chris Ronson, Sr., Harvey Lewis, Larry Morgan, Pete Horansky, Kenny Lee, Jack Abbott and Nona Heinzen. There is a quorum present.

Absent: Craig Tomeo, Chris Schneider, Shane Doles and Phillip Cheshire

Call to Order: 7:02 pm. Kurt thanked everyone for attending tonight.

JAX SOLO: Kurt presented Craig's report. Craig's report stated that their last event was in April and had over 70 drivers at their Gainesville site. Their next event is on 5/17, then followed by 6/14 at the FIRM where they will use the entire track for an epic autocross.

Craig's report stated that the new truck continues to work perfectly and they are grateful for the loan.

SAV SOLO: Kenny's report said that they had event #2 at RRR on 3/29/25. They had 92 drivers and netted \$1,063.44. Their event #3 was at Hutchinson on 4/26/25 and netted \$601.90 with 58 drivers. The report listed bank balances and expenses. They are looking forward to event #4 at Hutchinson Island on May 24th.

RALLY REPORT: Phillip's report said that their first event was in St Simons in conjunction with and the day after the SEDiv conference. He stated that they had several members of the national staff attend, including Chris Robbins, and everyone had a great time. They had a total of 9 teams (with 2 being non-members). The entry fee was \$20 and the event netted \$25. He states that they aim to host the same event next year, but with the hopes of more incorporation with the SEDiv conference itself.

He states that at the SEDiv conference, he was asked to become the SEDiv Road Rally point of contact and he accepted. He now has the responsibility of assisting other regions with their road rally programs. He asked that if we hear of any regions in need of assistance, to please pass along his point of contact information so that he can lend a hand.

He states that they had their 2nd rally, 'May the 4th Be With You Episode 2: Attack of the Clocks' on Sunday May 4th as the follow up to last year's wildly successful event. They had hoped to duplicate the success but fell short from an attendee count. He said they should have raised entry fees. With a \$30 entry fee for 11 teams and between app fees, sanctioning fees, MSR and awards/prizes, the event lost around \$350 putting the "virtual" balance in the red by about \$50. He hopes to make that up with the last two events of the year, July 12th's Summer Sizzler and the fall event in conjunction with the American Legion.

TRACK MANAGER REPORT: Jack began the report with bank balances given. He said since their last meeting they have had multiple events. He said they have been busy in between events with maintenance around the track. They have been crack filling, painting the T5 bathrooms floors, working on the Tower steps and washing several of the buildings preparing to paint the ramps, etc.

UPDATE ON THOMAS' HOUSE: The house was delivered on Friday, May 9. It has not been assembled/set-up yet due to the rain. Anthony (TPHC rep) said they were behind because of the rain but they are trying to catch up. Anthony said they will get the septic scheduled after the house is set.

UPDATE ON THOMAS' LEG INJURY: Jack explained Thomas' injury to his Achilles tendon and the complications he has endured since the injury on February 27. Thomas has had three surgeries and now has a wound vacuum on his leg. He has a port in his arm for antibiotics.

Jack then spoke about an adjacent property that was purchased. He said that Byron Stauffer had purchased the property next to the parking lot and had contacted Jack. Jack asked if the BOD would be interested in the purchase and possibly expanding the parking lot. Multiple members of the Board responded affirmatively. Jack will discuss with Byron.

TREASURER REPORT: Kurt then presented the Treasurer's reports and Chris narrated. Chris gave the totals on the various accounts. He then gave the accounting of expenditures of the Jim Stark for this year. He stated that \$7.50 of every entry must be paid to SEDiv for trophies for year-end. Bill asked if they had increased the fee – it had always been \$5.00. Chris said yes, it has increased. We need to keep this in mind in figuring entry fees for next year. He said that between the increase in stipend fees and other expenses, the fees definitely need to be increased.

Chris asked if there were any questions—there were none.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

Solo Mash-up/Club Racing Experience: At the last meeting, Bill explained that a Club Racing Experience is like a TNia. Bill had said the nice thing about CRE is that it can lead to a novice permit. Bill's question to Kenny was instead of having a one-day solo, we have a solo one day and a time trial and CRE on another day--- and entice the participants to work one day and play the other day. The participants that want a FREE solo would work another day. It doesn't require that they work. Bill would like Kenny to broach the subject with his folks to see if they might be interested. Kenny explained that not everyone is from Savannah so that might be an issue. Bill asked how much Kenny charges for a SOLO--- Kenny said \$50 for members. If they need a weekend membership, it would be \$65 (\$50+\$15 for weekend membership). Bill doesn't believe it's feasible to do this in 2025 but it can happen in 2026.

Kurt said that he had spoken to Kenny about this since the last meeting and that Kenny said he doesn't see where his participants would be interested for a free entry. Bill said to drop the idea of a Solo Mash-up/Club Racing experience with Autocross. Bill thinks we should just not do it.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jim Stark Race Report: Bill said that we had a new Chief Steward this year, Bob Gardner. Bill said he is looking forward to working with Bob again next year. Bill said we had 113 people sign up and had 104 turn wheels. All together he feels we had a great event. Bill gave feedback from Bob Gardner:

- 1) Water and ice for workers. Bill said he will take responsibility for that. He said he has spoken with Mandy (concessions) regarding purchasing the water for us in the future. Bill wants to work offline with Kurt regarding his with all of Buccaneer's events.
- 2) Communicator and Logger. Bill said we must provide these positions and not rely on the Stewardship Program. He will be working with Kurt on this.
- 3) PA System. Bill said we had some PA issues that Bill will discuss shortly.
- 4) Clean-up of schedule and run groups. This is something that Bob Gardner will handle.
- 5) Pace Car visibility. Bill has discussed this with Jack already. Jack is putting a light bar on the top of the Pace Car. Chris made a few comments on dispersing the Pace Car. Chris said Control is late in dispersing the Pace Car. Bob said that is due to the fact that we have no professional communicator. Bill will continue dialogue with Kurt on this.

6) Increasing social media in the area to update our social media. Bill would like to have someone in the region who would manage the social media accounts. Chris asked if he was looking for a paid position or volunteer. Bill would like a volunteer rather than a paid poster.

7) Recommend that we don't advertise in Grass Roots if it's not bringing us customers. The question was asked at registration if people saw the ad, and the result was one person. Bob agreed.

Pace Car and PA System Issues- Bill said Jack has agreed to place the light bar on the Pace Car. The remaining issue is the PA System. We need a better PA presence in the Turn 5 region. Jack said they would go around and evaluate what speakers may need servicing. He said they will have to rent a lift for this. They will evaluate and repair, if needed. Chris asked if maybe additional speakers could be installed in the garages. Bill would like to reevaluate this after the July SEDiv event. Kurt asked if the speakers were hard-wired and Jack replied yes. Chris said the station (101.5) isn't working because it's close to another station that is stronger. Jack explained that some people hold the radio too close to their mouths when speaking and that makes the announcement garbled. Bob said we also need a competent logger in the tower as well as a communicator. Bob said that whoever we nominate to cover RRR, needs to go to another track to see how things are done. Bill said we have our homework items.

T&S Chief Replacement Ideas- Dan Dodson will not be able to fill the Timing & Scoring position and we are looking for a replacement for next year. Kurt said he had asked Dan if he had a replacement in mind and Dan replied that he does not. Kurt said we may need to borrow from another region until we can fill the position.

Region Financial Assistance for Thomas- Bill said that he feels that the BOD should help with Thomas' situation. Bill asked Jack and Nona what specifically Thomas' needs were. Nona explained that due to his injury, Thomas had missed six paychecks. She stated that basically they are a two-paycheck family and have been without the second paycheck for a while. She explained the steps that he has been through with his injury and the complications.

Bill asked if anyone on the BOD has an idea of how much we should give Thomas. Bob said \$10,000. Chris and Harvey agreed. Bob said we should have had a medical plan for the employees in place. Nona explained that RRR has never offered Health Insurance or disability insurance to their employees. She said she believed the Managers had allowances within their salaries to purchase their own policies—but not the employees.

Nona stated that a couple of years ago, RRR had surveyed the FT employees to see if they wanted Health Insurance when trying to put together a group policy for the Track. They all replied that they did not want Insurance. Nona said she will see what she can find in ways of Health and disability Insurance.

Bill motioned that the Board gives Thomas \$10,000 to help with his expenses. Bob seconded the motion. No one opposed the motion. Motion carried.

Chris then motioned for adjournment

Bill seconded the motion

All approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm