

Fast Times



Sports Car Club of America - Yellowstone Region 108
http://yellowstonescca.com

Meeting Minutes—March Meeting

The monthly membership meeting of the Yellowstone Region SCCA was called to order by Competition Chairman Chris Brewer on March 3, 2010, at 6:30 p.m., in the GH&R Law Firm conference room.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: A motion was MS&P to accept without addition or correction the minutes of the February 2009 meeting as published in the March 2010 issue of *Fast Times*.

Treasurer's Report: Sec./Treas. J. Reuss announced the current bank balance and reported that all bills were current. J. reported that the total costs relating to the new timing system came to \$2,000. A Motion was MS&P to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Old Business: Chris Brewer submitted an event schedule for 2010. J. indicated he would post same on the website ASAP. The locations of several events are currently listed as "TBA." Such events will probably take place at Rimrock Auto, FSA, Yellowstone Drag Strip, or possible an additional location. Reese Newman offered to begin work on the 2010 posters. Reese also indicated that she was starting to put together the Region's "business cards."

New Business: J. reported that he had compiled a Membership List to use with the timing software. It was unanimously agreed that we would "keep things simple" with the first few events to get familiar with the timing software. Chris reported that his wife, Sarah, had given the "green light" for a Region pre-season kick-off party at the Brewer residence. Chris will provide details to J. for publication in the newsletter and on the website.

A motion was MS&P to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:15 p.m

Regional Officers:

- Regional Executive:**
Scott Cranston
region-exec@yellowstonescca.com
- Asst. Regional Executive:**
Dwight Gilliland
asst-region-exec@yellowstonescca.com
- Competition Chairman:**
Chris Brewer
comp-chair@yellowstonescca.com
- Secretary/Treasurer:**
J. Reuss
sec-treas@yellowstonescca.com
- Membership Chairman:**
Reese Newman
member-chair@yellowstonescca.com
- Member-at-Large:**
Vacant

By the Numbers- by the Rovin' Regional Reporter

The April issue of SportsCar contained some statistics related to SCCA membership and participation at the national level. According to the article, overall membership decreased by 10%, but of the 9,089 new members in 2009, 53% were under age 35. In Solo, regional participation dropped by 2%, but participation at the Solo National Championships was up 6% over 2008. Club racing apparently was down somewhat in 2009, but RallyCross and RoadRally participation were up 10 and 15 percent respectively.

At the local (Yellowstone Region) level, membership numbers dropped a little over 2009, but since every member has a different date when his or her membership expires, it is difficult to make an "apples to apples" comparison with a small group like the Yellowstone Region.

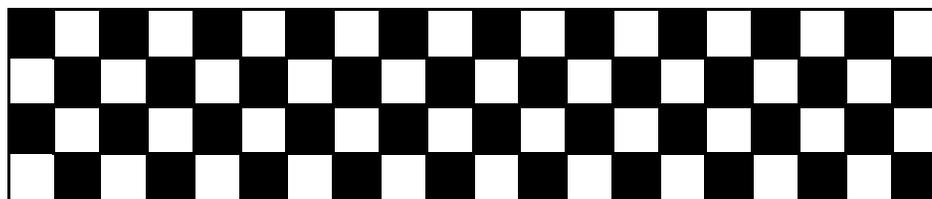
Comparing event participation at Yellowstone Region events between 2008 and 2009, showed a 7% increase in 2009! Average event participation increased from 20.9 entrants to 22.4 in

2009. Both 2008 and 2009 had 7 events, (2009 included the Corvette Convention and the International Mustang Meet. However, I did not include those events in the averages for 2009.)

All in all, an increase in event participation during the worst economic climate in memory is quite an accomplishment. Additionally, as pointed out in a recent issue of *Fast Times*, the Region's bank balance increased in 2009 although entry fees stayed the same as 2008.



To summarize, the Region appears is doing well financially and is also providing a "product" that entrants continue to value during rough economic times. The Region should be proud of its accomplishments. J.





Cranston's Corner — From the RE

Competition Chairman Chris Brewer and his wife, Sarah, have graciously offered the use of their home as the location for the Region's 2010 Season Kick-Off Party. The Brewers' home is located at 2324 Azalea Lane in Billings—across the street from the “Fortin Mansion.” The festivities will get underway at approximately 5:00 p.m. Please bring a salad or dessert to share. The Region will provide the meat and beer. If you favor something different or more exotic, bring some along to share! I confirmed recently that the Rimrock Auto Truck Center site should be available

this summer, but that 2010 plans for the Yellowstone Drag Strip are “up-in-the-air.” We still haven't firmed up whether FSA will be available this year.

I heard that Reese Newman and Kaitlin Reuss have installed copies of the timing software on their home computers and have been putting the software through the paces. (I am a little concerned, however, that Jay has requested approval from the Region to purchase a handheld stopwatch in the event a problem arises with the timing system!)



I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the Kick-Off Party. There is never enough time at events to “chew the fat,” so this will be a good way to get “up to speed” on what fellow club members have been doing over the winter and learn their plans for the 2010 season. (Sent from my BlackBerry Smartphone.)

SC

The Finish Line — From the Webmaster

Having learned that the \$300 Civic properly belongs in the X Prepared class, it was interesting to note the article in the March issue of *SportsCar* which dealt with Rule 4.9 of the Solo Rules. Rule 4.9 prescribes minimum participation levels for national classes. While that subject doesn't sound too significant at first blush, the Rule is apparently one of the more contentious sections of the rulebook. The Rule is a “sunset” provision that causes solo classes with low participation to be “consolidated, eliminated, or restructured.” Specifically, the Rule states that if a class has

three consecutive years where the combined open and ladies participation at the National Championships is less than 17, the Solo Events Board is required to act in some way. Apparently, A Modified is exempt from the Rule, but both A Prepared and B Prepared have been eliminated because of the Rule and have been replaced with X Prepared. B Modified has been below the threshold for two years now. (FYI, the 2009 National Championships saw 1,148 drivers in 33 classes plus several supplemental classes and all the associated ladies classes.) As a side note, the new timing soft-

ware has a feature called “class bumping.” With this feature, classes with low participation are “bumped” to other classes according to SCCA rules. It should be interesting to see how that works out. Please note that the 2010 Event Schedule has been posted online and contains events for Region 108, Eastern Idaho Region (Idaho Falls), Southwest Region (Bozeman), and Montana Region (Great Falls). Time to mark those calendars for this summer's events! In addition to three events this summer in Lewistown, there are no less than four events at Helena. Make an effort this year to attend an out-of-town event! J.

2010 YRSCCA Solo Schedule

Date	Location
May 1-2	GM Petroleum
May 15-16	Lewistown
May 30	Skyview H.S.
June 13	TBA
June 27	TBA
July 11	Skyview
July 24-25	Lewistown
Aug. 8	TBA
Aug. 21-22	GM Petroleum
Sept. 5	Skyview
Sept. 18-19	Lewistown

Monthly Region Meeting
April 7, 2009
GH&R Law Firm
10 N. 27th St, Suite
100
6:30 p.m.

Websites

Yellowstone Region 108
yellowstonescca.com
Southwest Montana Region
swmtsscca.com
Montana Region (Great Falls)
mtsscca.com
Eastern Idaho Sports Car Club
eisccax.com
Big Sky Region (Missoula/Kalispell)
bigskyregion.org
Absaroka Region Porsche Club
vista.pca.org/abs/index.html