

NE Division Council  
Roundtable Convention  
March 8, 2009  
Rocky Hill, New York

Chairman Dave Panas called the NEDiv Council Meeting to order.

The Members of the NEDiv Council were then introduced.

At the time of the Region Roll Call, the following Regions were not present: Central New York, Central Pennsylvania, Northeast Pennsylvania, South Jersey and Southern New York.

The Minutes of the 2008 Mini Convention were accepted as corrected.

Bloeser/Stewart

Corrections:

Page 1: NESCCA

**Bloeser**

- This is an interim report.
- We are holding even with our worker/driver programs.
- There is over \$8,000 in the NESCCA Account.
- The actual NESCCA costs for 2008 are expected to be \$5,868.
- This should result in a net gain of approximately \$900 revenue vs. expense.
- The NESCCA and NEDiv accounts will be consolidated into one set of books for 2009.
- There will be a separate full report of NESCCA revenues each year.
- The recommendation is that event/car fees should remain the same for 2009 (i.e., \$5.00 per car).
- This will still allow us to continue to provide appropriately for our workers and drivers.

Page 4: End of season Club Racing Divisional Championship Event

**Bloeser**

- This would be to earn end of season championship trophies for our NEDiv National class winners.
- Question to Jerry Wannarka on a related National BOD National Club Racing Committee. Is there anything beyond level 1? If there are any actions on the effort, the National Office is not making us aware of it. Will the National Club Racing Committee remain active? Have you given any thought to Divisional Championship events?
- Based on this discussion, I will send this proposal out again in April after the 2009 Roundtable.
- There was an investment of two years in this study in NEDiv, so for the moment it will remain tabled.

Corrections provided by Bloeser 03/05/2009

Treasurer's Report:

**Roberts**

- Remember the railroad hat.
- The Division is in fine shape.
- The 2009 season will probably not be a carbon copy of 2008.
- REs, you will need to stay on top of things.
- In this Division, Darrell Anthony can be looked on as a personal hero, time and again; he has financially able to make lemonade out of lemons ... Thanks Darrell!!!
- NER also had to face up to the facts and take action as needed.
- As we heard at the National Convention, our economy seems to follow the economy by about 2 years, so we all have to play heads-up ball and watch where the dollars come from and where the dollars go.
- Just as a reminder the assessments are a one time fee.
- Compliments of Pete Smith we have received about \$6,000 in licensing fees. This means that over 2,000 competitors needed Pete's assistance.

Roundtable 2009

- The Divisional rally program only has a small amount of fees.
  - Divisional Solo has an arrangement to pay for the web site.
  - Outlay of fees:
    - \$800 in general administration
    - Registration system
    - Rally awards (**Ted Goddard**)
    - Solo website
    - Investment in brass futures (**Phil Henderson**)
  - Solo, we collected a small amount per car for each championship event.
- Barnes:** This was either \$.25 or \$.50 per car

**NESCCA**

**Bloeser**

- We are going to combine the books of NESCCA and NEDiv
- In 2008 we had about 1363 entries. This was down 64 enters from last year.
- Our projections for 2009 are about 1280 entries, which at \$5 per car is \$6,400.
- There are operating expenses of approximately \$600.
- Regalia (decals, patches, hats and jackets) amount to about \$5,850, therefore we will have a small gain.
- We can be down a few more entries and still take care of the regalia, so the recommendation is to stay at \$5 per car.

**Regalia**

**Henderson**

- We have a new stock in brass. Our current burn rate has gone down because Solo currently does not use brass.
- The regalia program is in its 10<sup>th</sup> year.
  - 2009, the color scheme will be red
  - Hats are in a 4-year color rotation
  - Patches are in a 6-year color rotation
  - Also in the program are:
    - decals
    - jackets
      - red for drivers
      - white for workers

**Executive Steward**

**Hoffman**

- This was a great year of planning ahead, especially considering the economy
- There were 9 Nationals in the Northeast that equated to 1,383 entries or an average of 156 entries per event. This also was equivalent to 14% of all the Nationals.
- At the Regional level, there were 45 Regionals for an average of 5 per Region. There were 5,962 entries. This is more than any other Division.
- In SSM, there are 640 SSMs in the Northeast. This goes a long way to make an average entry of 133 cars per event.
- Divisional Administrators, please make use of the funds available for training. You should be visiting as many of the tracks in the Division as possible. Please let us know where the Division can help.

**Enduro**

**Panas for Bergman**

- The Enduro program will be in the black for 2008
- The ITR class has been added to the classes that can participate in the Enduros
- There are currently 4 tracks in the Enduro program with the hope to add 1 or 2 more

**Solo**

- No Report

**Time Trials**

- 2008 was a good year
- An additional event will be added at NJMP

Rally

- No report

Registration

**T. Roberts**

- Minor wavier
  1. If it is event specific,
    - Must be listed as a participant
    - For all, write in minor participant
    - Annual waiver plus photo id
    - Participant list for minor
    - Lime green ids
  2. 16 year old
    - The waiver must be from National in order to drive
    - Workers need the same National waiver
    - Hot Areas: Each region declares what are hot areas. This information should be available for the registrars
    - There seems to be a lot of confusion on this
    - It is nice to know that we have teens that want to work.
    - This is good for 2 years.

Discussion:

- Armbrust: Will this be available for the first event at Summit?
- Noel: This is good until the person turns 18?
- Bloeser: If the teen comes to the track, they can work, but not in a hot area.
- Noel: Logical
- Roberts: I think that this is because they want to work and not drive.
- Noel: My concern is that they may to work now and drive later.
- Hanifan: I think Lime Rock has an age limit of 16 or 17
- Holtz: How is National planning to get this information out?
- Roberts: I don't know. Please don't shoot the messenger.
- ???: Get the minor waiver and use it for the next 2 years
- Roberts: There are 3 types of credentials:
  1. 2 sided
  2. hard card
  3. hard card with annual waiver
  - The strip for 2009 will be blue, the strip for 2010 will be red.
  - There are also 2 different looks, but in general they will all be the same. All licenses will be listed on the back.
  - This is not effective yet, but minors will be a different color.
  - Bar coding is where we are headed.
- ???: USB scanners are only about \$35.
- Roberts: If you have got the annual waiver signed, be sure it is notarized.
- Stewart: Does this apply for Solo?
- Barnes: It applies for all.
- Stewart: For weekend memberships, there is a controversy as to whether it is a full page or a 2 page
- Roberts: It is a full page for Solo and Rally and 2 page for race.
- Stewart: Will there be any sort of audit list?
- Roberts: Capture old and new and list on a website.

Scheduling

**McDonough**

- Donna is not here

### Street Survival

### Panas

- This will be accepted at National.
- NNJR is looking for a site.

Hurlbut: We did this last fall with Finger Lakes. It was well received. There were a lot of smiles and some criticisms, but as the day went on you could see the good habits starting to develop. Was there retention beyond the day, I don't know, but I certainly hope so.

Bloeser: We are working with BMW to do this. We think this should go with our Solo safety program. We had one roll-over during the program with no injury. We are also looking forward to doing more of these sort of events.

Toombs: Just to add a bit more to what Earl said. We did not have enough kids (30) to break even.

Stewart: Are there any plans for this year? The ones I know about are in Philly, Jersey and Finger Lakes.

Zebrowski: The Glen is also planning an event. The plan is to have the event in the paddock at the Glen. WGI does donate the paddock.

### NEDiv Meeting

### Panas

- Prior to this meeting there was a question why a driver did not receive an award. Obviously there are some glitches, not all of the notices were sent out. There was a discussion at the National Convention (this was not a NESCCA Meeting. Minutes of these meeting were compiled and sent out compliments of J Bloeser.

### Proposal

### Hoffman

- I did not go to the National Convention.
- I put together a proposal after talking to many folks. I am not wearing any sort of hat as I present this.
- This is just to come up with a starting point for the discussion.
- Beginning in 2010, have an annual convention close to the center of the Division. Have the convention in a convention hotel, so there is something there for everyone. The purpose would be that this meeting was a celebration of the season and a way for the entire Division to celebrate. This would be a place for special interest presentations. The DAs would be responsible for their specialty. They would work as part of a team to develop the program for the convention. For this convention, the responsibility would be a team of organizers and not just one Region. There could be a host Region, but most of the work would be done by the team. The funding for this to be determined, it could be at the host Region level or at the Division level. The Roundtable would not be held. Training would be held by a group and not just one individual. Our NEDiv DA Account could cover the DA's expenses. The scheduling process could be modified and held outside of this convention.

### Discussion:

Panas: I both agree and disagree with some of what Tom said. I especially agree with the comment that everyone should be encouraged to participate.

???: This should include the folks in charge of Rally and Rally-Cross.

???: Have you talked to these folks.

???: No this just happened.

McLeod: This seems to be a good and merits some thoughts.

Kaplan: Lets think outside the box. The Regions bid on the conventions. Should we table the bids until next year? We are currently committed out a few years.

Panas: We are committed out until 2011.

Kaplan: Lets keep what we currently have.

Hoffman: Would FLR be upset if their convention was not in the FLR area?

Kaplan: I think they are probably deep in the planning process.

Campbell: Can we use this as a benchmark?

Wannarka: I asked some questions of the other divisions. Here is a summary of the 5 responses I received:

- SW - Has 2 meetings, one in January and one in June
- They have about 50-60 folks who participate
- 3 Racing Regions.
- MIDiv - Has 1 meeting, which is new this year.
- Prior to that there were 2 meetings, one in the fall where about 75-100 folks participated and one in the spring where 50 folks participated.
- SE - Has 2 meetings one in January on Jekyll Island and one in June for scheduling
- About 300-350 folks participate in the Jekyll Island convention where the year-end championship awards are presented, but only about 30 participate in the scheduling meeting in June. The June meeting is held at a fixed location.
- GL - Has 1 meeting with about 60-80 folks participating
- 4 Racing Regions.
- NEDiv - we have 13 Racing Regions.

The key is to have a central location where the Division can build up experiences and traditions. This seems to be what makes the Convention in the SE work. We can then focus on training for all specialties in the spring. It is also important to be done in a central location. We can have our celebration and team building in the fall and focus on training in the spring.

Green: Do we know where the center would be?

Campbell: Poconos

Green: Spring training after the convention?

Gerstein: I think we have lost sight of what the meeting was to be, the spring was for training and getting out new information. We are failing the specialties on their interdisciplinary issues. We need to get back to the original concept: Fall to honor the year and spring for training.

Hanifan: We haven't gotten away from training. January at Jekyll Island is not much different from March in Hartford. The SARRC championship is for the whole Division, not like NEDiv with many regional championship series.

Bonnier: What we need is to try to get everyone together.

Henderson: Historically the NEDiv Council was founded by Dave Roethel, and it was Dave's private party for 5 years. As the first chairman, Dave was able to get all of the Directors and REs at the time to come to the convention. Dave's purpose was to try to get people across the Regions in the Division to come together and be involved. There was also an effort to try to get the drivers to come to the conventions. Tom's point is very good. We need the group dynamics, many times by the time we got to the convention the problem had disappeared. It is hard to stay mad at folks who are your friends.

Panas:

1. November used to be for scheduling. Now the schedule is usually set by the time we get to the fall convention.
2. NEDiv has been trying to solve problems 10 years before National was willing to admit there was even a problem.
3. There was a planning document from Bill Chambres. Included in the document on how to put together a convention.

Noel: The DC Region turned down the convention for 2009 and as RE, I apologize for that. There were two meeting solving objectives. The first is to answer the question, are these conventions achieving the objective? The second, scheduling is now done by email. Any training is done locally. We in the DC Region have a very aggressive program. If we move the convention to a central location for celebration, maybe we could motivate more people to attend. It is time to make a decision on which direction to go.

???: Tom's objective is to get us to think to come up with an opinion. Is having things split into 2 conventions the right thing to do.

Bloeser: This was sent to all NEDiv programs. We need a communication plan.

## Roundtable 2009

Barnes: This was sent to the Division, Rally Cross, Rally and Solo. There are Divisional Stewards who are not road racing. We should add the REs and Executive Steward. Thanks to Tom for his encouragement. Everything should be done for the Division. We should look at this as the more the merrier.

Golub: We need to get information from those who are here, not those who are not. Create a blog.

Roberts: We need a definition of training. There is training for the specialty chief and then there is training for everyone at the regional level.

McLeod: We need to put together a contact list and keep it up to date.

Panas: The list is updated frequently. The Region information is checked regularly and used to update the NEDiv list.

Kaplan: Steel Cities will be doing something on training the trainers. Sometimes the information gets lost. It is up to the REs to get the information out to the appropriate persons. We need to create a list of newsletter editors and webmasters. We just need to get the information out.

Hoffman: Bottom line, are we accomplishing our goals? The answer is probably no. For training there are good programs out there, the DAs for Timing and Scoring. The goal should be to get the untrained here for training and encourage them to be here. That is the real goal.

Bonnier: You need to inform folks what will be available.

Roberts: This was started by the REs. If you were a road racing RE would discuss questions. This was a place where you could discuss things of interest to the group. This was a place for doing what was necessary for any of the other programs. The question should be who is benefiting and who is not.

Bradshaw: If it ain't broke don't fix it. Maybe it just needs a little oil. What we seem to be doing is taking away the face to face contact. What should we do about this or that. You need to speak to the persons involved face to face. What do we need to do to get you to come to a convention? You need to know who will be at the meeting and if the person you want to talk to is not going to be there and you need a face to face. You might not come.

Henderson: One thing Roethel stressed at the end of each meeting, communicate. First is just as true today as it was when all of this started.

Bonnier: The website is a passive way to communicate.

Gerstein: Early on folks called other folks to come to the conventions, REs to communicate with other REs and drivers to receive awards. There was personal contact. Now you might get a list of attendees and nothing is done with it. If you have to depend on the REs doing all of the work, then the persons attending are the one who are interested in the same things as the REs.

Bloeser: We need to turn back to face to face. I am thrilled to hear this.

Hanifan: I will be chairman of the task force

Panas: Additional members: James Noel, Marc Gerstein, Terry Roberts, Darrell Anthony, Joe Russell, Matt Rowe and Cliff Golub. I don't think all of the programs are represented, but this is a good start.

### **Roll Call of Division Meetings:**

2009 Mini Convention:

Who: Steel Cities  
Barry Kaplan

Where: Radisson Green Tree  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Info: We are looking into a lot of things  
Possibly a tour of Heinz Field  
Make your room reservations early. This may be a football weekend.  
There will be programs for everyone  
Possibly cut up a car in the parking lot on Sunday morning

Roundtable 2009

Communication for and to new workers  
Inter-region communication

2010 Roundtable:

Who: Northern New Jersey  
Joe Russell  
Where: Near intersection of 80 and 287  
Info: Open to anything  
Currently have programs for Solo, Rally, Drivers and Crew

2010 Mini Convention:

Who: Finger Lakes  
Mike Toombs  
Where: In the Rochester Area  
Info: In the preliminary planning stage

2011 Roundtable:

Not planned out

**Closing:**

REs, DAs: be sure to get information on any programs on the NESCCA website.

Thanks to New England Region and Kathy Barnes for a great convention.

Zebrowski: Update on SSM

- From the SSM Adhoc Committee
  - SSM will be the same set of rules
  - There will be an addendum for the MARRS Series
  - This should leave the door open for changes

Roberts: Where are the rules located?

Zebrowski: I sent a copy to the NESCCA webmasters.

Roberts: There is not a set of Divisional rules, but sets of series rules

Motion to Adjourn

Gerstein/Roberts

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kathy McLeod