

New Jersey Chapter of BMW CCA Board Meeting May 26, 2021

Board members present: Neil Gambony, Paul Ngai, Jeff White, Dave Allaway, Colin Vozeh, Jamie Kavalieros, Ross Karlin, Ron Gemeinhardt. Board members absent: Rich Altman, Bob Isbitski, Mark Hulbrock. Others present: Allison Mack, Jeff Caldwell.

President

Neil Gambony called the meeting to order at 7:18 PM via teleconference. Neil deferred to RVP Jeff Caldwell for an update from national. Jeff reported that the national Driving Events Committee (DEC) will be issuing a new in-car policy within the next few days, which is likely to modify or eliminate the Covid-19 vaccination requirement and proof of same. The RVP's have been asked to identify underserved members or areas within their regions, with an eye toward redistricting. Jeff noted the relatively smaller memberships for the Green Mountain (VT), White Mountain (NH), Pine Tree (ME) and Mountain State (WV) Chapters. New Jersey south of I-195 has been part of the Delaware Valley (DeVal) Chapter. Jeff described an idea of making all of New Jersey part of the New Jersey Chapter, with a designated person (possibly a future board member) to coordinate smaller non-track events to drive member engagement and better serve southern New Jersey. A similar arrangement has been made between the Sun Coast and Heart of Dixie Chapters to better serve the Florida Panhandle. This would be done on an opt-in/opt-out basis. Neil voiced the opinion that he would only want members who wished to switch chapters. Jeff will determine the number of potentially impacted members and get back to us. Regarding the Friend of the BMW CCA recognition being given posthumously to Blake Smith, national will reach out to Neil regarding appropriate time, place and publicity. Our 50th Anniversary event had already been suggested as a suitable venue.

Vice President

Paul Ngai reported that the May meeting at Shade Tree Garage did not have a large turnout. Phil Eng gave a very good presentation on VANOS/variable valve-timing. Nothing is lined up for June, awaiting eased Covid-19 restrictions from the State of New Jersey. Paul will check with Deutscher Club of Clark (DCC) to see if they are open to indoor meetings, possibly by late June. The Biergarten (outdoor) event at DCC remains on the schedule for July 9th.

Driving Events

Jeff White reported, on Larry Engel's behalf, that the upcoming Tire Rack Street Survival course is very short on staff. Jeff also reported that the Club M-Day at Spartanburg (September 18th) has four registrants so far and needs 32. We will soon come to a decision-point on holding or canceling the event. Autocross (Elihu Savad) had nothing to report. Eased restrictions will presumably make it easier to resume the autocross program.

Driving Schools

Jamie Kavalieros reported that the NJMP Thunderbolt event (June 7-8) has 29 students and he is looking for low 30's. We have a good turnout of racers so far (38) and we are looking for low 40's. Ross Karlin noted that if we get a few more racers we could possibly split into two race groups. Jamie anticipates a \$2K profit. Summit Point (Geoff Atkinson Memorial Race/School) has 33 students and 13 racers so far. It was noted that, unlike New Jersey, Summit Point is allowing 2010 Snell-rated helmets for one last year. Ross noted that volunteers are needed to assist with the races.

Treasurer

Ron Gemeinhardt distributed the current (year-to-date) financials. Ron reported that the trial period has ended for SpeedWaiver, and we will now be charged on a tiered-pricing basis. Any month with no signed waivers is a \$5 minimum charge for storage only. Jeff White noted that as premier members of MotorsportReg (also owned by Hagerty) we had been entitled to a discount at SpeedWaiver. Ron reported that the national office has our 2020 tax info. We are not fully filed with the IRS but have requested an extension via registered mail. We found, belatedly, that Form 990's are no longer accepted via mail and must be filed electronically through an approved

preparer or submitter. Ron has identified some suitable submitters to do so. Ron has not yet invoiced the New York and DelVal Chapters for their \$4,488 shares of the April school loss. Ron will provide them with a detailed accounting rather than a Square summary. We are awaiting \$2,100 in reimbursements from participants for track supplies/damage, for which NJMP has already been paid by the NJ Chapter.

Business Manager

Allison Mack noted that next month (June 19th 10AM-3PM) eMpower Automotive is hosting a car show (not BMW or Euro-specific) to benefit the local fire company (\$18 registration, spectators free). After discussion and clarification, no objection was raised to providing publicity. Shade Tree Garage asked for a write-up on our recent meeting there. Allison will send photos with a few sentences.

Social Events

Rich Altman reported via e-mail that he has been working through sponsorship packages for dealers and other sponsors with Allison Mack that they will present to the 50th Anniversary event planning committee. We don't know what sponsorships we'll be able to obtain, so we don't have a firm price for tickets. Rich has been playing phone tag with the General Manager at the DCC because he is only there on a limited schedule, but they are scheduled to speak tomorrow to answer some of the questions raised at the last event planning committee call. Allison noted that sponsorship package options will be kept within the committee for the time-being.

Newsletter

It was noted that with the looming BimmerLife deadline (June 15th) it is too early to run a full story on the Blake Smith recognition. It was suggested that we can recycle an article on the Westlake School support by the NJ Chapter. Ross will assist.

Webmaster

Colin Vozech reported that content is picking up, with new items and new articles received recently. Colin asked that everyone please send photos. It was noted, again, that we need an article from Vic Lucariello.

Members-at-Large

Neil noted, on Mark Hulbrook's behalf, that we have 1,126 Instagram and 1,347 Facebook followers. Mark has sent the new-member welcome e-mails.

Old Business

Neil reported that the tri-fold brochures have been reprinted and he now has the final brochures in hand.

New Business

The next board meeting was set for Wednesday June 30th, time and place to be confirmed [subsequently postponed to Wednesday July 7th]. Jeff White motioned to adjourn at 8:22 PM and Jamie seconded (approved unanimously).

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Allaway, Secretary