

MACC – MICHIGAN ALPINE COMPETITION COUNCIL – CALL-IN MEETING 1-20-2026

Minutes of the meeting:

Shawn Hughes called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM.

Attendance – Officers:

Shawn Hughes – P	Art LeVasseur – P	Ginnie Uhley – P	Mike Hietbrink – A	Ryan Bloodworth – P
Kurt Adams – P	Jenessa Hilger – P	Mike Sayers – P	Nick Carrico – P	Dave Carrico – P
Grace Kerbrat – A	Bill Perlmutter – A	Dennis Parrott – P	Zach Jablonski – A	Alex Carrico – A
Chuck White – P	Drew Hilger – P			

Attendance – Team Racer Representatives:

Alan Osterdale AA – P	Gary Konsza SD – A	Chip Dayton SW – P	Sue Holmes RN – A	Gary Bloodworth SN – A
Rick Van Houdt TR – P	Mike Jablonski TB – P	Denise Miller TR – A	Kathy Bauer TR – A	

General Updates – Shawn Hughes – Motion to approve the minutes from Jan 6th meeting from Alan, second from Chip. Nobody opposes, minutes are approved.

Want to do something a little different, for our meetings going forward. Feel like the race reps could participate more, will put it on the agenda for the next meeting. But maybe just a minute or two from the race reps. Hopefully this can help us focus on recruiting, and open some dialog from race reps.

Updates from Boyne – Wonderful first weekend, smoother than most and weather held out nicely. We didn't get some of the details from Boyne until pretty late. The big reveal is that we are not paying lane fees this year, which we didn't know until the contract came in on January 8th. Talked to her on the 10th and she confirmed that there were no lane fees for this year. She also mentioned that we could use the funds to buy B-netting. Sayers – Do we own any netting right now? Dave – That is a different netting, just corral netting. B-netting is a different animal, and it's not cheap. Shawn – Sounds like it's a little over \$500 for about 20 meters. Drew – Being a 501c, we might be able to get a discount. But we also don't have the labor to put it up and take it down. Shawn – In the same conversation, explained that we can't put netting up in time to run a race when we get on the chair at 9. She said that paying lane fees will help us get on the chair early. We can potentially leave the netting up overnight, but most likely not weekend to weekend. Dave – At his high school, they just leave a bundle of netting attached to the tower, and when it's needed it's already there. Shawn – It will only be a surplus for one year, and with the extra money, maybe we can do something to up our membership.

Weather Forecast – It is expected to be cold. See that as a reason to celebrate, unless there are high winds and the lifts close. We have run races in the cold before, and don't plan on cancelling the races unless just for the cold.

Updates – Art LeVasseur – Been thinking about recruiting, and in the sailing world, we have some mentor type programs. I think we could lean on some vets in the program to put together a learn-to-ski event. Racing can be intimidating for casual skiers, so a little classroom time and time on the hill could help build up confidence enough to get them to try it. Sayers – We had something like that decades ago, helping some of the C/D racers when we first moved to Superbowl. Art – Something we could promote heavily in the fall. Help teach people how to race then hopefully get them to join up. Dennis – We also had a novice class when we moved over to Superbowl, where there were several wives that raced in that class, offering competition for beginner racers. Could also have some alternatives to needed members to sign up for a whole season. Maybe have a special weekend event or something.

Finances – Mike Hietbrink – Not present.

Registration – Ginnie Uhley – We had some last-minute racers join last weekend. Around 69 total racers for the season. This weekend, another high school group is interested in racing with us. Will join us Sat/Sun in the afternoon races. Currently 22 racers, not sure how many will actually race with us. No guest racers currently signed up. Rick – What about the running order for the guest racers, last race they ran right in the middle. Should we run them at the end? Ginnie – The plan is to have the women run after the women and the men after the men. Shawn – Let's make sure the run order is clear, so everyone knows what to expect. Ginnie – Although the high school racers make the races a little more complicated, it is beneficial to have them and their coaches interested in our program.

Course Operations – Dennis Parrott – The web app for the banquet tickets took a great leap forward. It is usable as it is, but there is more work to do on it. For a course ops update, about a quarter of the course ops have said they won't be there this weekend. Which is a little high for the second weekend. Even thinner staff expected than usual. Will likely be relying on the racers to help slip.

Course Officials – Jenessa Hilger – A lot of DNFs last weekend, but no protests. Will have more worker/gate keeper cards for this weekend. Hoping to get the video from last weekend uploaded before this weekend.

Handicaps and Statistics – Chuck White – Results have been posted for almost a week. Got all the new racers put in their appropriate classes. There is one more person who signed up but wasn't there last weekend. Motion to approve the results from Mike Sayers, Chip seconds. Nobody opposed, results are approved. Since it looks like we are going to have a surplus, we may want to consider new timing laptops. They can't run Windows 11, so technically they are not supported by Microsoft any more. Kurt – Requests a decent sized screen if we do get something new.

Course Setting – Nick Carrico – Will we be using the north shack? Shawn – Don't have a for sure yet, but they were making progress on the wiring. Will reach out tomorrow to see if we can use the north shack. Nick – We are out two course setters this weekend. Will see if he can get someone else to help. Shawn – Brian Finkel also offered to help carry gates if you need more people. Nick – Brian Onnela also offered to help, could actually use help from both of them if they are able to. Shawn will reach out to them to see if they can help. Jenessa – Are we concerned about getting courses set in time. Nick – If we can't get on the chair until 9, we need to start later. 1030 at the earliest, maybe even 11. Shawn – Website says 10:30 and 1pm. Nick – We may need to start after 10:30 for the slalom. Can go for 10:30 for this weekend and see how it goes.

Equipment – Dave Carrico – Just let him know where the start is and he'll make it work. Can we talk to Boyne about turning the heaters on in the shack the night before? The computers and timers are in there in the cold. Chuck – Will likely get the computers up and running Friday and will turn the heaters on when we stop by.

Timing – Kurt Adams – Will be ready to go this weekend.

Race workers – Bill Perlmutter – Not present.

Awards – Zach Jablonski – Not present. Mike Jablonski – Started on the letter to all the sponsors, thanking them for their support. Will go out in the next few days. Gold printed awards went over pretty well last weekend. Usually need to order World Cup awards in the last month or so, during mid-February usually. If we are going to change anything about the Cantor Cup, let Mike Jab know ahead of time so he can get awards.

Publicity – Grace Kerbrat – Not present. Shawn – We talked about her setting up a TikTok account, and some wind friendly banners that we could put up at the top of the hill. Anything that gets our name out there sounds good.

Webmaster – Mike Sayers – Results are up on the site as of Wednesday. Schedule is filled in with classes and start times (10:30AM and 1PM; 4PM for awards).

Racer Representative Comments –

Alan Osterdale – Only comment is guest racers being ahead of the normal racers, but we talked about that. Other than that, everyone is doing great.

Rick Van Houdt – Usually don't have much to say but did ski at Knubs today and the wind was pretty strong. But as long as you dress for it, it will be ok. Wind should die down a bit by the weekend, so we should be good.

Mike Jablonski – Demographic has changed in MACC quite a bit over the years, racers have aged a bit. Quite a few racers have aged out and haven't had anyone replacing them. Club meetings are also filled by people older than most of our racers. Need to try to get college and high school racers, which we have never been very successful at.

Mike Sayers – Agree with Mike. Things have changed, when we started, clubs were the main aspect of racing. Now we are more of a racing organization, and a lot of the teams don't have formal ski clubs with meetings, etc. No suggestions though, unfortunately. Think the introduction to racing class is a good idea, similar ideas have been successful in the past. Chuck – This is also an Olympic year, so maybe we can piggyback on some of the excitement from that. Shawn – It's always hard to take action during the summer, so if we can kick off some ideas in the spring, maybe we can keep them going through the summer.

Secretary – Ryan Bloodworth – No updates. Tracking down some MACC History is still on the radar.

Motion to adjourn from Mike Sayers, second from Alan. Meeting adjourned at 9:11 PM.

Next meeting will be February 3rd, at 8PM.

Respectfully submitted by Ryan Bloodworth, Secretary.