

PITBOARD



March 2019

SCCA Summer Festival of Speed

Can We Save SCCA Regional Racing? You bet!

More of the same. Same as last year. Let's try that again. These three phrases have created trouble for entry level road racing that SCCA once dominated. SCCA Regional road racing is in trouble and we MUST try something different in order to survive and remain a viable option in amateur road racing in the U.S.

Back in the 80's and 90's, SCCA road racing was the only game in town. Now road racers have a variety of options in which to go wheel-to-wheel racing; NASA, ChampCar, LeMons, World Racing League, and American Endurance Racing to name a few. Our very own SCCA regional race entries at GingerMan have been stagnant at best. We need to try a different approach in order to grow.

What is the problem besides competition from other sanctioning bodies? In no particular order the issues are as follows; family time has become more valuable with the rise of travel and club sports for kids, SCCA racing is too competitive making it hard for rookies to feel welcome, our 900+ page rule book is intimidating, it takes too much time and effort to attend a SCCA Drivers School, and finally SCCA racing is just too darn expensive.

What's the answer? We believe that racers want to have fun and be part of a bigger experience while they are at the race track. We believe our SCCA Summer Festival of Speed(SFOS) on July 19-21, 2019 at GingerMan Raceway is the answer. The SFOS will include the Motor State Challenge, a Track Event for street cars, SCCA Regional Sprint Racing and a new series called Team Bracket Endurance Challenge presented by Lane Automotive.

Secondly, to alleviate the high cost of entry to SCCA road racing, we ascertain that two racers need to share and compete in one race car. Sharing a race car allows two or more drivers to share the purchase price of a race car, share the tow vehicle, share the trailer

and all the spare parts needed to maintain a race car. New racers also don't like being confined to a very specific rules when it comes time to prepare a car. They want some latitude so they can be creative.

Here's a breakdown of the SCCA Summer Festival so Speed.



A three-day event(non-SCCA) for Pro-Touring drivers. The festivities start on Thursday evening with a scenic cruise of Berrien County. Timed competition starts on Friday at GingerMan Raceway. For 2019, the group will remain at GingerMan Raceway for a timed TrackSprint event. The folks at Lane Automotive know how to treat their drivers and the event usually sells out. South Bend Region supports the event with event administration and staffing. A SCCA competition license is not required.



Track Event

Participants will get three 20-minute sessions on Saturday afternoon. The Track Event is designed for drivers that want to drive their street car on a race track. For most people, all you will need is a safe car, a helmet and a drivers license. It's all about the experience of driving on the track. It is not a competitive event and is open to everybody, not just SCCA members. Space is limited.



Regional Sprint Racing

Two full days of wheel-to-wheel racing for SCCA members with a full competition license or a Novice Permit. Drivers compete in fully-prepped race cars that meet the SCCA General Competition Rules. If you would like to participate in this form of racing you will need to have successfully completed a SCCA Drivers School. The nearest Drivers School is held at Waterford Hills Raceway in metro Detroit. Go to www.waterfordhills.com for complete information.



The Team Bracket Endurance Challenge(TBOC) is for the entry-level racer or drivers that want to compete with a buddy in the same car. **No SCCA competition license is required.** As long as you can document that you have two hours of race track experience you are eligible for this series.

Since this is a bracket concept, there are no classes. You can literally "run what your bring." All we ask is that cars have no more than 350 horsepower and cannot run a lap time quicker than 1:40 on the GingerMan long course. For SCCA folks, that means Touring 3 speeds or slower.

All cars must be production based and have a legal SCCA roll cage, race seat, drivers net and a fire extinguisher. Cars must look like a race car. Classroom sessions and coaches will be available to help ensure everybody has a good time.

SBR MONTHLY MEETINGS

Where: Beef 'O'Brady's
12479 State Rd 23
Granger, IN
Days: First Tuesday of month
Time: 6:00 pm board meeting
7:00 pm general meeting
Who: All are welcome!

SBR CONTACT INFORMATION

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Not a SCCA Member?
Go to www.scca.com
Choose South Bend as
your local region!

SBR Calendar

2019

March
5 Club Meeting

April
2 Club Meeting
13 SCCA Starting Line School
14 Solo #1 @ Tire Rack
28 GingerMan Track Night(SBR Members Only)

May
5 Solo #2 @ Tire Rack
7 Club Meeting
16 Track Night in America @ GingerMan
18-19 The BERT Sprints Majors Presented by Lane Automotive @ GingerMan

June
1-2 Solo #3-#4 @ Grissom
4 Club Meeting
13 Track Night in America @ GingerMan
15 Tire Rack Street Survival @ Tire Rack
16 Solo #5 @ Tire Rack
20 SBR at South Bend Cubs Game

July
9 Club Meeting(Tentative)
17 Track Night in America @ GingerMan
19-20 Motor State Challenge @ GingerMan
20-21 SCCA Summer Festival of Speed at GingerMan
27-28 SCCA Time Trials National Tour @ GingerMan Raceway

August
4 Solo #6 @ Grissom(Hoosier Challenge)
6 Club Meeting
8 Track Night in America @ GingerMan
18 Solo #7 @ Tire Rack

September
3 Club Meeting
12 Track Nigh in America @ GingerMan
22 Solo #8 @Tire Rack

October
1 Karting @ MRP
20 Solo Grudge Match @ Tire Rack

November
5 Club Meeting-Elections-Free Food!

December
3 Club Meeting

FREE DUES

We started it! Hold one of the following positions; National Race Worker, Pit-Board Editor, Race Chair, Street Survival Chair, RE, Solo Chair, Treasurer or Webmaster. Half off dues for: Activity Points Keeper, Division Race Worker, Secretary and various Solo Chief positions.



www.facebook.com/SBRSCCA

Buy Tires-Help SBR

When purchasing items from The Tire Rack, first go to our web site at www.sbrscca.org, click on the Tire Rack link at the bottom of the page and then make your purchases. By doing so, the South Bend Region will earn a little extra dough!

Race Workers Travel Fund

SBR members that work another region's race may be compensated for their travel expenses as listed below:

Grattan	\$75
Mid Ohio	\$150
Corvette Museum	\$225

Go to the following link, download a form and follow the directions. <http://www.sbrscca.org/new/club-racing/>

Getting SBR Activity Points

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Points</u>
Race Chair	400	Car Show Display	75
Assistant Race Chair	200	Solo Co-Chair	75
PitBoard Editor	200	Race Worker/day	50
Website Manager	200	SBR Race Driver	50
Race Chief of Specialty	200	PitBoard Article/page	40
Associate PitBoard Editor	100	Rally/Solo Worker	40
Rally Series Chair	100	SBR Meeting Attendance	20
Solo Chair	100	Car Show Booth/day	20
Solo Series Specialty Chief	100	Rally Navigator	20
Event Chair	100	Race Crew/day	20
Program Director	100	Rally/Solo Driver	20
Club Officer	100	Race/Solo Meeting	20
Event Co-Chair	75	RoundTable/Worker Seminar	20
		PitBoard Picture	10

REmarks

-Paul McBride, SBR Regional Executive

All is quiet on the Western Front. Well, sort of. There have been several loose ends and left-overs from 2018. I asked the Board to have an extra meeting. That has happened. Some of the things taken care of include:

1. Setting a direction and time table to finalize storage/new trailer issues.
2. New equipment needed at our races, but available for other programs.
3. Decision on financial partnership with GingerMan.
4. Finalize Top 20 gifts for 2018.
5. Discuss possible changes to our Annual Banquet format.
6. Discuss upcoming events, such as the **Summer Festival of Speed**. At the upcoming March 5th Board/Membership meeting I plan on initiating a 'Bylaws Review' committee. That's all for now.

SBR Solo Update-2019

-Jason Cleveland, SBR Solo Chair

Dates are set for the upcoming season, go to www.sbrscca.org/new/autocross for the dates and registrations as they become available! We held our annual Solo planning meeting on February 9th. I appreciate everyone that attended and gave their input, there were some great ideas that came out of the meeting, now we need people to take on some of the open positions to make the great ideas take flight. These are the key positions we need to fill this year:

- Assistant Solo Chair
- On-site Registrar
- Assistant Timing & Scoring
- Assistant Worker Chief

Please contact me(solo@sbrscca.org) if you are interested in finding out more about these positions or want to volunteer! We will have a few class changes for the 2019 season. We will be adding SMS as a supplemental class to all our events this season. Details for SMS will be on the

website soon. STP is no longer a supported class, if you were running STP previously consider one of the following as options for 2019: STU, CAMC, and SMS. Have friends that are interested in Autocross, but are apprehensive about trying it at an event? Encourage them to sign up for Starting Line School on April 13th at Tire Rack. We need volunteers for this event too, please contact me if you can help!

Looking forward to the start of the season!

SCCA Time Trials National Tour at GingerMan

I hope everyone is excited for the 2019 Time Trials National Tour at Gingerman! We will have two days of action on July 27th and 28th. Haggerty Insurance will host a really cool party on Saturday night, so plan now to camp at the track. There will be full tracks sessions in the mornings, and Track Sprints in the afternoons. Track Sprint is what we did at last years Time Trial event

where we use the start/finish timing lights used in autocross, and use only a section of the track. We will need volunteers on hand for registration, grid, pits, timing, flagging, safety, and general help. If you are excited and want to come help, please let me know with an email. If you can do both days, great!! If you can do one day, great!! If you can do half a day, great!! We will be

able to work it out if you want to run and volunteer. Let me know what you can do, and we will be glad you are helping.

*Brian Tack
South Bend Region
Time Trials Chair
timetrials@sbrscca.org*

SBR Region at South Bend Cubs Game

South Bend Region is attending the South Bend Cubs game this summer. Here are the details:

- June 20, 2019
- Coveleski Ball Park, South Bend
- SBR Members + One Guest
- Seating in the Budweiser Picnic Garden which includes Ball Park Buffet and a free SB Cubs hat.
- Bonus-It is also Thirsty Thursday with discount Beer.
- E-mail Denny to get on the list-gridman1@att.net by June 1st.
- Limited number of tickets.
- Absolutely free!

SBR Busy Season is Around the Corner Can You Help Out?

It is not easy racing in our section of the country because of that white-fluffy stuff that insists on falling from the sky for four months of the year. That means, once April rolls around we are gonna need your help at SBR events this Spring and Summer.

- **May 18-19. The BERT Sprints at GingerMan Raceway.** Detroit and South Bend Regions host one of the largest SCCA Road Races in the country. We could use help in every area; Registration, Timing and Scoring, Grid, Flagging, Tech, and other general duties. Contact Jeff if you can help out: race@sbrscca.org
- **June 15. Tire Rack Street Survival at The Tire Rack.** Here's your chance to help teens become safer drivers. We could use driver coaches and people for other miscellaneous duties during the event. Time commitment is from about 8:00 am to 3:00 pm or so. Contact Sam if you can help out: streetsurvival@sbrscca.org
- **July 19-21. SCCA Summer Festival of Speed at GingerMan Raceway.** SBR will run the Motor State Challenge on all day Friday and Saturday morning. Official SCCA activities start at noon on Saturday. We will be running a Track Event, SCCA Sprint Racing and SCCA Team Bracket Endurance Challenge. We will need help in all every area. We would love to have you help out one, two or three days. Contact Jeff if you can help out: race@sbrscca.org

GingerMan Track Night for SBR Members

The management at GingerMan Raceway is once again holding a Track Night for SBR members as a way of saying thank you for being great partners. The low-stress atmosphere is perfect for newcomers and track veterans alike.

- Sunday April 28th
- Drivers Meeting at 5:00 pm
- Three Run Groups
- Three 20-minute sessions
- Cars must be safe with a minimum of 3-pt belts. Convertibles must have rollover protection.
- You must have a helmet that is SA2010 or M2010 or newer.
- Drivers must be 18-years old or older.
- No preregistration. Just show up.
- **You MUST be a SBR member.**
- Only \$50
- Contact Jeff: race@sbrscca.org if you have questions.

Lane Automotive Safety Summit

Lane Automotive held their second annual Safety Summit on February 23rd from 9:00 am-1:00 pm. There over a hundred people that pre-registered. About seven SBR members were in attendance. Among them were Steve Bollinger; here are some of Steve's notes.

Don't leave helmets in the trailer

- Hot temperatures dry out and break down the elastomers and adhesives
- Cold temperatures cause extra thermal stresses on the parts
- All this results in degradation of the helmet to do it's job.

Not all helmets of the same size fit the same

- If it fits a little to tighter than the old one its probably the correct size.
- It will loosen a bit over time.
- Different models have a different shape.

Significant improvements in each SNELL increment

- Aging and new improvements make a new helmet worth the investment
- Manufacturers will inspect helmets for suspected damage and often offer a "Deal" on a replacement (probably an upgrade)
- Manufacturers like to see how the product is actually holding up in the real world.

Heat/Drivers suits

- Choose a driver suit that is breathable
- Breathable underwear is also a help, also adds significantly to fire protection safety
- Expensive suits are much lighter and breathe better (read cooler)
- Double layer suits can be laundered at home (use Molecule detergent and cold settings)