

Draft SOVREN April 2025

BOD Meeting Minutes

April 9th, 2025

5:30 pm Social time

6:00 pm Meeting start

1. Approval of March BOD meeting minutes. Motion to approve made by Mike Lawler, seconded by Sherri Masterson.

2. Board review of a letter, circulated by Deb Haley, Doug Kirk and Eric Schlichte, to various car clubs which was provided to all attendees of this meeting.

Board members were invited to comment by BOD President Craig Larsen. Board members expressed disappointment that they are having to respond to conduct so harmful to SOVREN. Board members noted that neither the Bylaws nor the Handbook detail procedures to address unacceptable conduct not occurring on the racetrack or in the paddock. The Handbook does contain rules governing members conduct in those areas, so the consensus was to add language to the Handbook to provide this and future Boards a way to protect the Club. Board members continued in a thoughtful discussion as to the motivations and aims of the signatories of this letter.

Past President Brad Shinn pointed that one of the signatories, Eric Schlichte is a current member of the board, and that the Bylaws do allow for removal of a Board member, with or without

Cause, under Article 5, Section 13, by two thirds majority. Reason stated was a conflict of interest between his actions as President of Pacific Northwest Historics Vintage Racing Charities, and his duties as a Vice President of SOVREN. A roll call vote was then conducted by the Secretary, resulting in a unanimous vote in favor of removal by the 10 Board members present.

The discussion then focused on how respond to the actions of the three Charity members as SOVREN members, and noting the absence of specific tools in either of the governing documents for addressing actions detrimental to the Club occurring off track, Past President Shinn then offered a motion to insert language into the Handbook on page 55, in Section 11, concerning Member Code of Conduct. He read the proposed addition into the record, and it is inserted here:

SOVREN Member Code of Conduct

As a SOVREN member (racer, non-racer, family, life and honorary) or a SOVREN Licensed Driver, you are bound by the following Code of Conduct and you understand and agree to abide by the following:

1. Commitment to Our Mission:

- I will support the mission and goals of SOVREN and act in a way that furthers its objectives to sponsor and promote Vintage Racing.

2. Respect and Inclusivity:

- I will treat all members, volunteers, staff partners, and the public with respect, courtesy, and consideration, regardless of their background, identity, or beliefs.
- I will refrain from any form of harassment, discrimination, bullying, or offensive language, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, disability, or socioeconomic status.

3. Integrity and Ethical Conduct:

- I will act with honesty, integrity, and transparency in all my interactions related to SOVREN.
- I will avoid conflicts of interest and disclose any potential conflicts promptly.
- I will use the club's resources responsibly and only for authorized purposes.
- I will respect the confidentiality of sensitive information shared within the club.

4. Responsible Communication:

- I will communicate in a clear, respectful, and timely manner.
- I will use club communication channels, including club-owned social or electronic media, appropriately and avoid spreading misinformation or engaging in personal attacks.
- I will act to safeguard and protect the physical, intellectual, and digital assets of the club.
- I will represent SOVREN accurately and positively in all communications, both within and outside the club.

6. Safety and Well-being:

- I will prioritize the safety and well-being of myself and others during club activities.
- I will adhere to any safety guidelines or procedures established by the club.
- I will report any safety concerns or incidents promptly to the appropriate club leader.

7. Adherence to Club Policies and Procedures:

- I will familiarize myself with and abide by the bylaws, policies, and procedures of SOVREN.
- I understand that these guidelines are in place to ensure the smooth and effective operation of the club.

Consequences of Violations:

Failure to adhere to this Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action, up to and including suspension or termination of membership. SOVREN Licensed Drivers who are not members, may have their license revoked and racing privileges rescinded.

Penalties

The SOVREN Board of Directors, in its discretion, will determine what consequences to impose and of what duration. If loss of membership is decided, for any time longer than one race season, a member may petition the board for readmittance; a board may reject or accept their petition.

Acknowledgement:

By becoming or continuing as a SOVREN member or as a SOVREN Licensed driver you acknowledge that you have read, understand, and agree to abide by this Member Code of Conduct.

Vice President Bill Simer seconded Brad Shinn's motion, and some discussion followed. At least one Board member was of the opinion that a final decision should be delayed, allowing more time to consider the proposal, and could be taken up in an Executive session in a few days time. Most wanted to proceed with a vote, arguing that the Handbook can be amended again if need be, and that taking immediate and decisive action was the way to deliver the message. Brad clarified that the change is not retroactive, but is effective upon adoption. Bill Simer seconded Brad's motion, and President Craig Larsen directed the Secretary to conduct a roll call vote. The result was again unanimous, 10-0 in favor of adoption.

3. Major Race Planning

The Spokane Festival of Speed report was delivered by President Larson, who has been attending each biweekly SFOS planning session. He described it as largely administrative, and that the dirt work is largely complete. There is footage of the heavy equipment on site, for posting to social media, and efforts are

underway to get aerial images and video by drone to illustrate the changes made. SOVREN is holding the entry fee at \$450, the same as 2022, and offering a discount from that for our Canadian racers in an effort to overcome geopolitics and a punishing exchange rate. We need our SOVREN racers to saddle up and make the trip to Spokane to help make this event a success. The team in Spokane has been working hard and with the full commitment of the track owners!

A PNW Historics planning update was delivered by Jamie Buskirk. He noted yeoman efforts by our Registrar and Race Chairs, as well as our graphics team of Brin Hamilton, Martin Rudow and Loren Campbell. The marketing and promotional efforts of Martin, Jake Angel, Steve Poole, and Jacque Riehl are also invaluable. The budget is being updated, poster art and program specifics nailed down, and car corral preparations made. There are plans for social opportunities Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings, and the paddock parking layout being finalized by Tom Nuxoll with showcase the race cars, and tow rigs and trailers placed in the background. He noted a need for a group of volunteers to be available for the actual event days to provide some necessary functions at the entrance and around the paddock. He is hoping to make contact with service clubs and civic groups as potential providers.

A Columbia River Classic/ABFM report was delivered by Craig Larsen and Race Chair Tom Masterson. There wasn't much of note, but another planning session is scheduled for April 15th.

4. Loren Campbell delivered a report on the activities of the Public Face of SOVREN, a committee recently formed to coordinate and facilitate the Clubs promotional, marketing, and informational efforts. The biweekly meeting are held at 6 pm on Thursdays, and have been useful for our principal messaging people to detail their activity and progress. Get in touch with Loren if you'd like to be involved.
5. Financial report from Treasurer Rich Newman. Rich delivered a current group of statements to the attendees for review, but focused on our 2024 AGM finances. Despite incurring no expense for the event location, which was generously provided by the LeMay Museum, costs exceeded income by approximately \$6000. He recommends looking hard at that during planning for the 2025 event. He noted that advertising expenditures for 2025 are \$1800 so far, vs \$600 in total

for 2024. This is largely for Board approved advertising in Victory Lane, but just wanted to point it out.

6. Administrative report from Registrar Sherri Masterson. She noted 233 members currently, with the rate of renewals slowing as the year progresses. She detailed a number of administrative duties performed recently, and in good humor called out Board members who have not yet signed up for the first two races of the year. She also delivered volunteer and course marshal sign up numbers for these events. She complimented Jake Angel's work with the Club's social media platforms and mentioned the Spring Sprints celebration of Elva's 70th Anniversary, and the efforts made to bring in Elva's from all over.
7. There wasn't much to report from the Race Chairmen, but Wil Painter did remind the group that someone will need to bring about 200 lbs of powdered lime for striping the Historics paddock, and that Ward Bettes has the cart used for dispensing the lime.
8. Competition Committee report. Jeff Kerney reported that he's getting comfortable in the position and has been fielding inquiries from a few folk who are preparing cars to race with us. He noted that they are often unsure of what class they will be competing in and what standards they should apply. Sherri recommended consulting the car logbook, when available. Jamie recommended downloading the information from the SVRA website, who in turn had used the period car preparation rules from the SCCA. Sherri also pointed out a valuable resource on the SOVREN website, the orientation guide for new drivers.
9. President's remarks. Craig reported that PIR decided to continue to allow the use of leaded fuel at the track. Good news!

He also reported that Evergreen Chevrolet has agreed to sponsor the Historics at the \$1000 level, and to provide a new Corvette to serve as a pace car. They will be featured in the program, on the poster, and will display the Corvette in the paddock when it's not in use. He is also working with Jacque Riehl to develop a sponsorship prospectus, and to that end a questionnaire has been distributed the Board, and that so far about half have been completed and returned. So get 'em done!

The meeting concluded at 7:36 pm