**Racers Under the Son**

**General Meeting Minutes**

**September 8th, 2014, Coco’s**

**Call to order** – Scott Burnett

* Meeting was called to order at 7:30pm

**Recording Secretary – Jyl Phillips**

* The August minutes we not on the website yet – they need to be added ASAP
* The notes were read and approved – Tom/Art

**Treasurer – Janet Harris**

* Present Balance $9407.13
  + Total Inflows $2212.40
  + Total Outflows $ 299.20
  + Net Total $1913.20
* Balance Last Year at this time $11272.01
* We have money on Pay Pal but they have changed their format and we are having difficulty pulling out the funds – Scott will assist to do this
* We have several members in the club who tithe to RUTS – similar to a church
  + This is much appreciated and is good to know we make that much of a difference in some peoples’ lives

**Communication Officer – Scott/Bible Bob**

* Nothing was received
* We have spoken with an veteran member, Tony Perry, he was in the 1st round of membership in 1987 – he has offered to call members for a check-in to see what we can do to improve membership in the club

**Vice President/Apparel – Bible Bob Nielson**

* Nothing to report

**D37 Report – Art Whitney**

* D37 has opted for insurance for Mercy Air - $50/year
* Nominations for new officers was submitted
* No work points will be given to Quad riders in non-Quad races
* D35 will join D36 & D37
* D37 is handing more control to the clubs for fees/charges
  + There is a new fee structure – we will keep more money, but we will have to pay for our own ambulances
  + We used to collect $35/race plus fees – now we will collect $45 flat fee – we will give D37 $8/per rider
  + “Free racers” – D37 Officers/stewards – now will pay $10/race
  + Clubs pay their own cost recovery and choice of ambulance
  + This affects 2 day races the most
  + D37 is working with the AMA to exclude the ambulances at a race – they cannot transport injured parties so they do not do much
  + We can consider paying for an air ambulance to be on stand by
  + Consider having only 1 ambulance at the race
  + Rescue 3 does more than the ambulances at the races
* See D37 website for full information

**Ride Report & Upcoming Rides/Races –**

* September club ride is at the Shamrock’s race – we do not have a trail boss and do not anticipate much attendance
* October club ride – Moto Olympics – October 10-12th – Soggy Dry Lake
  + The 100’s Race is not happening that weekend
  + We are not going to change the date as this is a popular event and people have already scheduled for it
  + We will contact the BLM to let the know we are there but do not expect much of a presence as there will not be a race ~ we do not expect to need a permit – Scott will verify
* **ALL CLUB EVENTS/RACE SCHEDULES ARE ON THE WEBSITE**

**Competition Report – George Green**

* Shamrocks race is in September – they are having 3 races each day for 2 days

**General Topics**

Scott

* Meltdown 2014
  + We have chosen to purchase the acrylic trophies
  + Scott will place the ordered
  + They will be shipped to George Green and he will take them to the Shamrock’s race
* There was an error by the BLM for cost recovery
  + For the estimated riders on Saturday they put 20 in instead of 200 ~ $2300 v $5000 owed to the BLM
  + We noticed the error and sent an e-mail to the BLM
  + To date we have not received a response back to our e-mail and are not pursuing it at this point
  + We do need to be aware at some time in the future we might have to pay
* We had a refund from D37 that was higher than normal
  + We check w/D37, they verified their records and they stated the refund is correct
* Liability insurance is due for the officers/trustees

**2015 Races - Scott**

* Our Meltdown takes many, many people
* Are we open to having a 1 day race at a different time – D37 had May & December dates open ~ we gave up our June date – we will not have a race in June
* We tentatively took December 12-15 for our race – it is on the calendar
  + We are looking at a Hare Scramble – same location – a 35-48 mile loop – to be completed twice
  + It is cooler
  + Last race of the season
  + Stewards concession was that we get the points to them for the final tally – with Moto Tally, the results are completed the same day
  + We need to decide tonight to keep it or not
  + D37 has advised due to the new structure it is more cost effective to have a one day race
* We need to try something fresh and different
  + The Youth Series can be on the same day or the next
    - Tim Scott will run the race for the Youth on Saturday – this is before the course is chewed up by the racers
    - It is much less work
    - It will cost less, but we also will not bring as much in
    - D37 will pay for the Youth Race
    - The series is mirroring the NHHYA in AZ – 11 years and under
    - Four clubs will be doing the races – RUTS, 4 ACES, SO CAL & HILLTOPPERS
    - Our race will be the last of the four – last chance to make up any points
    - It will be a premier desert racing for D37 - #plates have “Y” in front of D37 plates – they will look similar
    - The four clubs have agreed to make the races the same: distance, length of loops (possibly different for different ages), type of race and skill level
    - Each club will send a representative and volunteers to every youth race
  + This new format allows us to go further into to desert – to Anderson Lake Bed or Soggy Dry Lake
* Eddie – this date is close to Christmas – what about our Christmas party – daylight is shorter in December – need to make sure not to finish in the dark
* Sonny – it is a good date – people are always scrambling, regardless of the date –
* We can have the Christmas party at the campsite – it would be less money – we can invite those that are staying overnight even if they are not members
* Race start time would be 9:30 – 10am instead of 8:30
  + We could have a Sunday morning church service – starting around 7:30/8am -- a full service –start the race at 10am
* We have 14 months to prepare
* We give our members a break for the summer
* Get more people with the youth race
* Better outreach – we would have time to speak with participants instead of running around – more one on one
* Give Bibles w/a picture of a number plate to the kids w/a goodie bag
* We can have a Sunday BBQ at the finish line – have a finisher pin, tracts, Bibles, music – 2-3 hours – more of a “Finishing Party”
* Christmas could be the theme – each check point could be decorated/named…
* Permit from BLM is needed in 2 months
* We should have less to no injuries

MOTION TO MOVE FORWARD WITH December RACE – Eddie – all agreed

* John Wiltsey will be the referee for the Youth Series
  + John will attend all the Youth Series races – see how they are run
    - They will have different trophies
    - Start different
    - We will have more Sweep Riders/Roving Rhinos & fun
    - We will not need to have as many volunteers
    - We can put on a 1 day race different than the Kids’ Race
    - Make it a December/Christmas theme
    - Make it more fun for all our members
* Randy Hettema will be the referee for our 2015 race if we move forward with it in December

**OCTOBER MEETING – Scott**

* We need to decide on the vision/direction of the club
* We need to call members to get their input/ideas/suggestions
  + The membership list was divided and each officer will be calling members
  + Tony suggested we offer to pray for them – see what type of riding they are doing – ask their input regarding the direction of the club – invite them to the October meeting
* Ideas/questions about the direction of the club
  + What is our focus –races, riding, fellowship, camping
  + Do we focus on all of the above
  + We do not seem to be doing both very well
* Tony - we need to get feedback from our members – need a survey of what they want -- it is about perception – “Out of sight, out of mind”
* Eddie – we need to do both – we cannot just narrow our focus to racing, we do not have enough racers – racers live out of town, difficult for them to attend meetings
* John – we want to handle it better but we need to decide how – we also need to ask how we are lifting up Jesus and what our best ministry would be – what is the best stewardship for our time
* Tom – it is tough not having pit support, should we join Team Tru – key into fellowship and families – maybe hold 5 key events plus 1-2 more – have quarterly instead of monthly meetings – we do not need a dedicated pit person, we have never go without a pit – Team Tru only attends national races – at the kids’ races we need to make certain to have pits but it would not matter that much to our races, they would get by – do we have two separate clubs and do a better job – we need to look at our vision and ministry
* Sonny – it appears we are committed to a 2015 December race – the lack of participation has to do with a smaller group of people – people are having families, getting busy, the season of their life doesn’t involve riding as much – we need to generate more participation –we need to have people excited about the club – the new race in December seems to have gotten people more excited
* Meeting times/locations – should they change
  + Move meetings to our homes
  + Same people show up at every ‘general’ meeting
  + We can post location and address on the website if others were able to attend
* We do not have club communications
  + No newsletter
  + Few to little postings on Facebook
  + Website is not updated
  + We need to be more current
  + Newsletter is becoming less and less important due to social media
  + We need to concentrate on Facebook and the website
* We need to promote next year’s membership
  + We need to encourage sign up in December so we can have working fund
  + Should we have member cards w/years of membership
  + Do you need to be a member to participate or get a lower cost
  + Can we renew at Moto Olympics
* We would like to change “CORRESPONDENCE OFFICER” to “MEMBERSHIP OFFICER” in 2015

DIRT – Sonny

* DIRT (DUDES IN RUGGED TERRAIN) – a Men’s Christian Retreat
* The director Chuck Bosman e-mailed him today and would like RUTS to help with their event in Ocotillo Wells
* He would like to meet a few weeks before at Hume Lake to discuss the particulars – this would be a “Men’s Retreat”
* RUTS could have a pop-up/banners/our shirts to promote the club
* RUTS members can lead rides
* Have membership information and apparel available to those who want it
* It is a great opportunity to promote the club
* Scott will contact Chuck to discuss

**Upcoming meetings**

* October meeting – Monday 6th – Coco’s Cerritos

**Adjournment**

* Meeting was adjourned with prayer circle asking the Lord to bless our race