

WMRRA September 2026 E Board Meeting Minutes

Date: September 2, 2026

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Virtual (Zoom)

Attendance

E-board Members:

President: Seppi Hutter ✓

Race Director: Dion LaBlue ✓

2nd VP: Tico Sandoval ✓

3rd VP: Danielle Mulkins-Franklin

Race Referee: Louis Stevenson ✓

Novice Representative: Damon Poor – not in attendance

Rider Representative: Don Williams ✓

Secretary: Jenny Chancellor ✓

Treasurer: Neil Heineman ✓

Guests:

BOD Member: Mark DeGross ✓

BOD Member: Paul McComsey ✓

BOD Member: Chris Wilcox ✓

Craig Johnson ✓

Colt Bristow ✓

1. Pacific Round Lap Counts

- Seppi circulated an email showing the race-lap math for completing a round at the Ridge versus Pacific at the current lap counts, and Pacific at 8 laps. It indicated the schedule can accommodate 8 laps races.
- **Options discussed:** Seppi raised the argument that riders buy track time rather than laps and presented 7 and 9 laps as an alternative. Drawbacks of 7/9 laps include halfway-flag changes and new lap-count parameters for starters and pit wall staff. Louis Stevenson and Tico felt odd lap counts are too disruptive right now and could be revisited over the winter.
- Colt supported 8 laps at Pacific, noting the much shorter track and lap times mean Pacific would still run ahead of the Ridge schedule, and extra laps are a reward to riders who attend at no added cost. Louis suggested marketing the extra laps along with double points as a reason to attend.
- **Extra time at Pacific:** Not available. Pacific is under heavy noise regulation, so an extra hour will not be offered. Board members noted Pacific has had fewer and less severe red flags, and no other events are scheduled there that weekend.
- **Vintage:** Tico said vintage is fine at either 6 or 8 laps (6 makes the most sense) and will go with whatever works for the Ninja 250 class they share a grid with.
- **Formula Ultra:** Seppi asked about moving to 12 laps. Louis recommended leaving it unchanged because of lap-based expenses.

- **Agreed:** All races at Pacific will move to **8 laps, except vintage races on Sunday, which stay at 6.** Seppi will send the updated schedule so Danielle can open registration.

2. 2027 Race Schedule Planning

- Seppi asked when schedule planning typically happens. Colt noted tracks usually want commitments by the end of August. Jenny reported the Ridge sent inquiries to major clients. Colt noted Portland rarely solidifies its dates before December.
- Mark and Jenny explained that tracks usually offer the prior year's dates or similar, requests can be submitted any time after August 1 with no guarantee, and tracks generally schedule race organizations before track days. Mark advised Seppi to contact Brad at the Ridge.
- The board agreed it should discuss the number of rounds, joint rounds, and how to bookend the season. Chris suggested holding a separate schedule-only meeting rather than covering it here. Danielle asked that holidays to avoid be shared with Seppi: Mother's Day, Father's Day, Memorial Day or Labor Day, and July 4.
- **Pacific:** Seppi's view is that, until Pacific attendance improves, there is no reason to schedule more than one Pacific round. Points raised:
 - Danielle: Pacific rounds have never reached 100 entries (at best 98–99). The last mid-season Pacific round was August 16–18, 2024.
 - Louis: Numbers over the past 5–6 years show Pacific never broke even, even in warm months. Paul: A summer Pacific round means giving up a Ridge round, which reliably makes more money.
 - Dion asked whether Pacific's end-of-season slot skews the data. Louis noted the air fence must be trucked between tracks, adding cost.
 - Tico and Jenny cautioned against relying on a single track, since leaving a track makes returning very difficult. Seppi clarified he is not proposing to leave Pacific, only to not push for a second round.
- Seppi suggested a message to members explaining why there is only one Pacific round and inviting them to show up. Louis felt the decision is a winter discussion once the season's results and budget are known. **No decision was made.**

3. Pacific PA System

- The Ridge has banned the club's regular PA vendor's equipment at the Ridge. The restriction does not apply to Pacific, and the vendor's system would be an upgrade over Pacific's. The vendor's sponsorship was part of the trade-off for providing the PA.
- Pacific does not have a set decibel limit and is very sensitive to neighbor complaints. Colt recommended Seppi speak with Pacific's manager first and be prepared for him to decline.
- **Action:** Seppi will contact Pacific's manager, and Tico will confirm with the vendor.

4. President's Role at Riders' Meeting

Danielle confirmed the President has no responsibilities on race day, so the item was removed.

5. Rider Race License

- Seppi raised an item involving a recent rider's race license status, noting a concern about setting a precedent raised earlier by CJ.
- Louis, as Race Referee, stated that under his authority he has pulled the rider's medical attestation form. If the rider tries to register, this triggers a review, and she may appeal. Chris

asked that the minutes reflect that this is the Referee's action. Dion confirmed that the rider gave no indication of planning to race this year.

- The board will revisit in the off-season if needed. Jenny asked members to be respectful while the rider recovers.

6. Race Director Report (Dion LaBlue)

- Dion asked what follow-up is expected after an on-track medical incident (an ambulance responded at the chicane during Saturday practice or qualifying last round).
- Colt noted the ambulance response was a precaution. Typically an incident response form is completed (race, rider number, transport, destination), but there is no defined procedure. The process could be refined. Jenny noted the medical liaison can follow up.

7. 2nd VP Report (Tico Sandoval)

Annual banquet:

- A deposit has been paid for the LeMay space on **November 21** (6:00–10:00 PM; access at 5:00 PM; cleanup by 11:00 PM).
- Catering must be through Cafe Pacific: pasta-style buffet, about \$6,600. The space is \$1,600, about \$100 more than last year's Hazard Factory location.
- Mark DeGross has agreed to MC.
- Invitations will go out once catering is finalized and race results are final. The club will not buy museum tickets in bulk but will encourage attendees to visit the museum.
- Registration will include pre-orders for "Not Today Rick" t-shirts. Tico will add the WMRRRA logo and get Paul's approval of the design.
- Tico will send personal emails to everyone eligible for an award (including those who may not realize they are in the top three) and ask sponsors about raffles or giveaways at the awards ceremony.

Other:

- Battle of the Champions: An invite-only out-of-state event for the top 5 in each class. Tico announced it at the riders' meeting. Danielle suggested including it in standings emails as an incentive to attend Pacific.
- Radio fund donations: Tico asked for a link for non-racers to donate. Danielle noted the club's PayPal accepts donations, and Neil will provide a QR code or link.

8. Registration and Scoring (Danielle Mulkins)

Danielle will open registration for Round 8 (Pacific) tomorrow morning, once she receives the updated schedule with new lap counts.

9. Novice Representative

Damon Poor was not present. The board will coordinate with Damon to recognize graduating novices at the riders' meeting. Dion noted novice graduation requires the Race Director's sign-off.

10. Rider Representative Report (Don Williams)

Don encouraged new officers to consult outgoing officers and noted that SOPs for each position were previously discussed. Tico is working on his, and turnover folders for each role would help.

11. Secretary

Nothing to report. Chris confirmed the website's President and 1st VP email addresses were updated Monday to forward to Seppi and Dion.

12. Charitable Donations and Club Status

- Neil and Chris confirmed WMRRRA is a non-profit (fraternal, 501(c)(4)) but not a charity, so donations are not tax-deductible. This limits donor interest in the radio and air fence funds.
- Jenny asked whether the club could obtain charitable status. Paul proposed forming a separate charity (for example, a Northwest motorcycle safety foundation) to raise money for safety equipment. Louis supported the idea. Neil agreed this is the best approach, noting a separate board and formalities are required and the entity could also apply for grants. Chris noted that recategorizing the club would be difficult and a second organization is likely easier.

13. Adjournment

Seppi ended the meeting at about 8:10 PM. The next round is about four and a half weeks away. The next meeting date is October 14th, 2026.

Action Items

Owner	Action	Timing
Seppi Hutter	Send updated Round 8 schedule with new lap counts to Danielle and Tico	ASAP
Seppi Hutter	Contact Pacific manager about PA system; take over track contacts from outgoing President (Ridge contact: Brad)	Before Round 8 / ongoing
Danielle Mulkins-Franklin	Open Round 8 registration once schedule received; include Battle of the Champions in standings emails	Sept. 3
Tico Sandoval	Finalize banquet catering and invitations; design t-shirt; contact sponsors about banquet raffles; personal emails to award winners	Ongoing
Dion LaBlue and Damon Poor	Coordinate recognition and sign-off for graduating novices	Next round
Board	Schedule a separate 2027 schedule meeting; review the Pacific round count and odd lap counts in the winter	Off-season
Board	Refine incident follow-up procedure; develop position SOPs	Ongoing