



## **Del Monte Trophy Race Group**

### **2020 Bulletin 1**

Rev 200221b

**Hello All,**

With a lot of changes in “our vintage racing world” we are all primarily concerned with two things:

- What is the Del Monte Trophy Race Group up to for us all?
- What is different this year vs. last year for the Venues and Events that we participate in?

We have three events that we’re targeting for our DMTRG for 2020 and our Bulletins will be focused on developments related to those: RMMR, Sonoma Speed Festival and SVRA Laguna Seca.

More on specifics re the events below ... but first an overview statement on Laguna Seca Raceway.

#### **Update on Laguna Seca Recreational Park**

Monterey County Supervisors met in November to award the contract for the management of the Laguna Seca Recreation Area. Rob and Doug attended to try to get insight to what was going on with the racetrack property and SCRAMP,

the facility's long time manager. The Supervisors decided to move on from the County's 60+ year relationship with SCRAMP. The new contract was awarded to A&D Narigi, for the next three years, beginning January 2020. A&D Narigi is headed by John Narigi an experienced Monterey Peninsula hotel executive. He has strong support from the Monterey County Hospitality sector. With this bit of recent history update, we'll refer to the management initiative A & D Narigi is to provide as "Laguna Seca Management".

A new administrative and operational team is being assembled. Many of the members are former SCRAMP employees, and some new hires have also been made. This new Laguna Seca Management team is, by all accounts, enthusiastic and a mix of experienced operators and fresh faces that should be capable of successfully producing the set of race weekends that bookend what we all think of as "Monterey Car Week".

Rob and I met with Barry Toepke on 2/19/2020 who has returned to join the new management team. He has assumed responsibility for all aspects of the RMMR Event. Barry brings more than 30 years of experience with the Historics and the Reunion programs and has been involved with all the key aspects of the events. Historically, he has been our principal contact since we started the Del Monte Trophy Race Group project.

Planning for this year's Pre and Reunion has started late and they are racing to catch up. We don't yet know if we are a Saturday or Sunday fixture or the race group number. The schedule will be announced in a week or so. We do know that our 1947-1955 DMTRG has been included for both the Pre and the Reunion. We have also been given assurances that we will be assigned a paddock row as in the past several years.

We have emphasized that DMTRG is a resource Laguna Seca Management can rely on for anything related to car recruitment, car selection, paddock planning, car configuration / specification and awards.

**As usual contact Doug or Rob with any issues or inputs.**

**All the best, Rob / Doug**

Doug: [doug\\_sallen@msn.com](mailto:doug_sallen@msn.com)

Rob: [r3teknon@sbcglobal.net](mailto:r3teknon@sbcglobal.net)

## **2020 Bulletin 1**

Very quick short statements on each point below just so everyone knows what we're working on and what we're seeing. More details in subsequent Bulletins.

- **What's different for RMMR 2019 vs 2020**

This is all "feel good stuff" ... but it feels good! Humor! For those of us who've run the Historics / RMMR event for 20+ years you can read a lot into the statements below. Best not to speculate more than the intents Rob and I recently collected ... but it feels good! More humor!

We can't emphasize enough that in our meeting with Barry Toepke, his focus was on the overall quality of the RMMR Event. We may see better paddock layout, focus on higher quality track experience and quality vs quantity of participating cars.

- **DMTRG: 1947 – 1955 Race Group re RMMR**

Our priorities are: A dedicated paddock row, we control the layout and related theme. Continued commitment to improving the experience in the paddock, in the community and on the track for our entrants, drivers, and spectators. Regarding involvement in the decisions the organizers make that affect our Race Group, we made it clear that we want to be consulted, always, regarding acceptance of cars to our race group, regulations (tires, period configurations, etc) and awards.

- **HMSA Rules re RMMR**

We've had what I'll refer to as "last minute" rules statements or interpretations. We know our group when it comes to period representation, tires, etc. The time for ANY rules updates is NOW not in August. Not that some issue can't come up that we'll need

to respond to, but most all configuration issues are Jan / Feb timeframes. We are committed to work with our sanctioning body (HMSA) on anything and we speak with one voice.

- **70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of first Pebble Beach Road Races and the first Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance**

Rob has met with the Pebble Beach Concours leadership about elements of their 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration planning that we might be involved with. We have now had the opportunity to bring this opportunity to the new Laguna Seca Management. More to come on this front and we'll be calling for several of us to participate, as the plans come together.

- **DMTRG is targeting THREE EVENTS for 2020!**

- **SVRA Laguna Seca: April 30 - May 3**

Last year was the first year for SVRA to be back to Laguna Seca as SCRAMP backed away from producing a Spring event. Great for all of us. This event for many is the first or second event of our West Coast race year OR at minimum our opportunity to bring out our DMTRG car to stretch it's legs.

Act fast and register ASAP

- **Sonoma Speed Festival: 29 May – 31 June**

By all accounts, last years inaugural Sonoma Speed Festival was the highest quality event we've seen in a decade. As we recruited cars for the event last February we knew it was going to be a special international Event .... much more than a "west coast event". This is what DMTRG is meant to be: great, period correct cars and the best experience in the paddock and on the track for all our entrants, drivers, and spectators.

Notifications of acceptance are going out now ... well at least billings ... funny. We'll publish the entry list for '47 – '55 asap!

- **RMMR @ Laguna Seca: 8 – 9 August & 13 – 16 August**

This is our home! Under new management and with a refreshing new focus on quality, quality, quality.

If any of you have been considering applying, the deadline is this month. Give us a shout if we can help sort out a problem with your entry request.

- **Car “bios” and DMTRG recruiting initiatives**

Just a “heads up” at this point but we need to update our records on several fronts including the story lines on each car we provide for track organizers and announcers. We'll be sending out a form so we can catalog our cars and put their stories in the best light. We'll use your text on the Registry web site [dmtrg.com](http://dmtrg.com) if you've done that already.

Also, our DMTRG Registry needs continuous expansion and updating. Who should be on our mailing list? Who among us hasn't yet put up his car on the [dmtrg.com](http://dmtrg.com) web site?

- More cars, more drivers, more owners
- More prep shops ... fab shops to paint shops
- More media sources
- Simply more “Friends of DMTRG”