

PENNSYLVANIA ALPINE RACING ASSN.

2009/10 Season Presidents Report

Generally speaking this was an outstanding season. As usual all of our clubs, coaches and athletes did a fantastic job preparing for and participating in all of our competition events. We were even able to complain about too much snow on a couple of occasions. Our athletes represented us very well at post-season events obtaining some commendable results. We did encounter one problem of miscommunication from the organizers of Future Stars that resulted in one of our athletes being denied entry due to age. The situation was addressed by our age chair who will continue to work with the athlete to reduce the impact wherever possible.

In addition to our athletes and athletic staff, our Chairs and Directors performed their duties exceptionally across the board. This was probably the most smoothly run season in many years. Thanks to all for their dedication and commitment to our sport. My job as President was made that of a placeholder due to your excellence and outstanding work ethic.

There was however one very unfortunate situation which developed over the season. As a result of the diligence of our Treasurer and In House Audit it was discovered that our most recent past Treasurer (Rich Doubledee) had diverted funds (\$7500) from our treasury to his personal account. Obviously this is a circumstance which no organization wants to find themselves facing. Attempts to contact him produced no results, so a criminal complaint has been filed with the Police Dept. in Cranberry, Pa. where the transfer actually took place. While the amount taken may have been relatively small compared to sums taken from other organizations around the state, it still represents a significant portion of our annual budget. Even with the loss, we have remained financially sound and have instituted new procedures to reduce the possibility of a future loss.

I wish to express our thanks to Nate Lipton (Rob's son) who is professionally involved with similar situations around the state and assisted with the filing of the complaint. His involvement was invaluable and his relationship with various agencies in the state significantly increased the speed of filing. Since Rich Doubledee lives in Ohio the process of prosecution is more complicated and may be prolonged, but we will continue to pursue all means open to us to recover the missing funds.

Hopefully, the unfortunate situation with lost funds will not overshadow the outstanding season we had. We are an all-volunteer organization and our performance has been admirable for many years. I am certain that this blip in the road will not be repeated and will soon be overshadowed by our continued success.