



March 1, 2021 Meeting Minutes  
Zoom Meeting

Called to Order by: Joe Amey at 6:35 pm

Roll call

MRAN Voting Members Present					
<b>Bushwackers</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Gamblers</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>SSTB</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Camp Valley Cowboys</b>		<b>Groundshakers</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Wild Bunch</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Coyotes</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Jackrabbits</b>	<b>2</b>		
<b>Darkside</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>SNDR</b>	<b>2</b>		

External Guests Present – Erek Kudla (AMA) and Joe Bromley (AMA)

Approve Minutes – February minutes approved by Kody Livreri @ 6:39 pm, seconded by Blake Monk as long as correction is made. Correction requested by Blake Monk – “We haven’t got that far into the Mesa yet to request help from the AMA.”

K. Ashley – I will make the correction and resend.

Officer Reports

- **President – Joe Amey:**
  - I’ve been looking at Facebook noticing MRAN riders, out doing other races. Makes me feel good to see them doing well and having a good time. We are a family affair deal, kids get built up, then they come up that’s how we end up with everyone coming back. It’s nice to see, I notice a lot of our racers are winning. Kody raced USRA, we had a few people racing Legacy races, would like to hear some input, had some do MRANN races, everyone is out doing stuff, but wish we could have put on our race in February. I like seeing it, I like to see us winning in other spots, proud of you guys having a good time, I feel bad, I won’t make it to the April 4 race. Thank you for being you. Thanks Blake for the insurance information that you put out. I did read it and he resent again to give out some of the other paperwork there. He forwarded it to most of us. Please take a look, it’s about an alternate insurance. Competition is healthy, if you have questions, ask Blake.
  
- **Vice President – Kody Livreri:**
  - Don’t have a ton, went up to USRA, a few MRAN members there, getting out to other racing organizations, and I see a lot of enthusiasm for racing. Some website updates. As a whole, I think that’s about it.



- **Treasurer – Michael Collins:**
  - The only thing, nothing's changed in the month. Coyotes, the check was sent, sent to the Plumber's, please ensure that it gets cashed. Joe Amey, regarding banquet trophies, have you talked to Marc? I know it was supposed to be done in January.
    - R. Ulrich – I spoke to Marc, he said he had most of them done, just looking for a couple things. Will follow up with Marc.
  
- **Desert Referee – Jarrod Wheeler:**
  - Don't have much, been out racing and having fun in other series, BITD and Legacy. Coach may see a couple sign ups online, received some calls this week, people are getting ready for the Groundshakers race, so I directed them to sign up online.
  
- **Asst. Referee – Greg Ashley:**
  - Don't have much, would like to say thanks to everyone that has reached out.
  - Kat & I also checked on another option, for additional insurance MRAN uses.
  
- **Public Relations – Gary Smith:**
  - Email received from Jason at MoTool, he is going to give us sag gauges when he can. He was happy to have his flag up at first round. Ashley rcvd the email, not sure if she has anything.
    - J. Amey – I do have sponsor flags in my trailer, need to have them picked up for the Groundshakers race.
  
- **Legislative Officer – Steve Paxton:**
  - Real quiet in the legislative arena right now. Clark County was real quiet with the response to reestablishing the meetings, even though they were going to be virtual. Still in limbo for OHV advisory committee, I will reach out again to find out why we didn't hear anything. I am anxious to have AMA here and involved.
    - B. Monk – Have you heard anything about the national monument they want to put up?
    - S. Paxton – All I heard was they want to reserve a massive amount of acreage.
    - B. Monk – I think Kenny Freeman put something out the other day, I will see if I can find it and send it.
    - S. Paxton – Most of it is already wilderness, it didn't have anything about restricting any racing.
    - B. Monk – If it's a national monument then you can't have any racing around it.
    - S. Paxton – I think that has something to do with Congress.\
  
- **Scoring – Tori Collins (not present):**
  - Not present – M. Collins on her behalf – She will jump on when people sign up for memberships and she will open Groundshakers once they request insurance for the race.



- No complaints about Gambler's final results, emails were sent, and nobody said anything. We just had to manually enter and had to update start time for one kid appropriately.
  - J. Amey – That was Race Director's fault for starting same class on 2 lines, they have to start on same line. Trophies will be at the Groundshakers race.
- **Secretary – Kat Ashley:**
  - We will provide insurance info from MRANN once we receive it.
- **Website – Patricia Swolensky:**
  - Have to update meeting minutes, sponsors have to be updated. I need to send Coach the bill for sponsorship and pay the difference. Will get it to Coach this week. Have new logos for trailblazers that Coach sent to me, not sure if I have to change it. I need picture from Kody, it's not working on our website.
    - M. Collins – TSSTB race on September 11 has the MRAN logo, instead of the Trailblazer logo, whichever one works best, that's why I sent those to you.
    - M. Collins – Sent you an email tonight, got an email from Paddle.net, they say they hit our PayPal account for \$39.95, just asking if you knew what it was.
    - P. Swolensky – No, I don't know.
    - M. Collins – That's all I needed.
    - K. Ashley – Will send the updated meeting minutes for February to Patricia by morning.

### Special Reports

- **Groundshakers Pre-Race report**
  - D. Martin – Race is April 3, Easter weekend, things are moving along, things are sneaking up quick. Got a hold of a property owner, I meet with him Wednesday. Everything is moving forward. I will get a hold of Coach about our insurance. Race is up at Barnes Canyon area, up out of town, not around the park. It will be a 30-35 mile loop, and we will start ribboning this weekend. We will know more then, but it looks like a 35-mile loop for the Big Bikes, 2 loops/1 for novices, and 19 miles for 85 cc racers. A lot of single track, flowing, ponderosa pines, washes. It will be fun. We have a check for dues and will get money for insurance to Coach after my meeting this week.
- **Guests – AMA Representatives**
  - Erek Kudla – AMA Off-Road Manager, was originally Hare & Hound Director, when I was working with NHHA, I was working with those guys and Joe was on the AMA side. I'd like to give him the floor, for the main questions.
  - Joe Bromley – Around 2012, I was in communication with Coach about bringing MRAN on board to AMA, visiting with him and I went over values of what AMA can do, then I came to your banquet that year and spoke to families and competitors and coming on with AMA and getting recognition for their series. AMA was like was where the riders would go, we talked with the clubs and all they



all came on board. We had good insurance rates we worked with, they are an A rated insurance company. It's like everything, Don Bursome is our underwriter, and got us rates as a series to drive rates down even lower. The big thing, the highest level of competition, we have our AMA racing center, your racers are able to see their results they are posted nationally, and the manufacturers that support AMA events. When they see they are seeing they are racing AMA events so they can get sponsors. We offer off-road advancements, with riders moving up the ladder, the AMA is handling the advancements for you. We have an AMA rule book, they feel they belong to a bigger group, it's important for kids moving up. We have safety events, you have AMA referee training for enforcement of tools, and AMA provides administrative and staff support to run events efficiently. We take care of the of the waivers, and are keeping them for 7 or 11 years, if there is ever a lawsuit, we are handling all that back-office stuff. AMA events attract more racers, when talking with Coach, we were monitoring that, you came on board as a non-AMA series, I don't remember the jump in rider attendance, guys were crossing over, from District 36 because they could see AMA events going on. That's helped...basically making your track more profitable, by increasing their rider ability. AMA event raises the bar, if there is other series out there. Staying in touch when things would come up, what I found out, the big thing wasn't the insurance, it seemed like it was more of a helmet camera, it blew up.

- J. Amey – We are asking our members to join both memberships. We were MRAN without AMA for 35 years, we ran things our way, we had our own bylaws. When the cost started to go up for the riders, we had to raise our entry fees. A lot of the riders started asking if these things aren't cheaper with AMA and our rates started going up, about 4 or 5 years ago. With the helmet thing, a lot of desert racers are blue collar people. We felt like we asked for help, you don't govern us we use our own bylaws, with that overreach we can tell a rider what or what not to wear, we felt it was overreach, and then with the money concerns going on for a couple years, it went into a bit of a knee jerk. What are we going to do, we use our own bylaws, that's the consensus, that's what I am getting from my clubs and riders. That's where this all came from. Please somebody else correct me if I am wrong, if there was someone with a different take.
- Joe Bromley – Not sure what rider numbers you have, usually they are racing somewhere else, they will have their AMA card for that.
- J. Amey – Maybe 30 % had AMA cards. That was the argument of our riders, because you are right they would race other events, or for roadside assistance, etc. They probably still would be, when this first came out, I remember distinctly I wanted to compete with District 37. I was ready to have more competition we never got close to their numbers. A lot of things popped up, we didn't increase our numbers, we have a lot of competition with MRAN, it is not MRAN versus District 37, it was always the expensive racing. In Nevada we are the only AMA sanctioned racing, some weekends we lose out, that came back to the question why are we paying for this. Granted I don't want 800 riders, I don't want to be responsible for that, I do have some that do. That's it, that was our take. Still right now, we are probably 50/50, wants us to keep it around, and the other don't.
- Joe Bromley – The majority will keep their AMA cards, you being the only one, you are able to take advantage of that, you raise the bar, the AMA state, etc.



- S. Paxton – Looking at it from Blue Collar perspective. That is a lot of people a lot more budget minded, but young people, they look at costs incurred, I loved AMA because it brought clout, I think that mentality is still there. In all honesty, there has been a lot of discussion about helmet camera, there will be a lot of debate in that arena, that requires helmet addition, is it truly altering the helmet. A lot will say no, and that it's okay, a lot will be fed up, I think that's a point we didn't cover quite yet.
- D. Tanguay – (From the chat) Does AMA understand the importance of helmet lights for night series?
- Erek Kudla – The medical commission helmet rule came from them. Safety is more important than whatever we might be doing. In the racing department we have to navigate those rules, when something is added, Snell/DOT rating is reduced, they made the broad decision. I do not feel safe bringing you out to race without lights in the night race series, I am not going to sanction an event at night. We are working very hard to ensure we have helmet lights for nights. For the Night Race series, we have a bunch across the country, we have to have that period. I understand the importance of that, because it's a safety issue, it comes from the Medical Commission, that was a rule that went across the whole rule book, we are working on navigating it. It was somewhat of a surprise, helmet lights was the first thing I thought of as a night racer. It has been very stressful to deal with, helmet cams, having to move angle of camera from chest or bike, some are frustrated, but we are working on some solutions, to go under the visor, they wanted to put helmet lights on the visor. We are working to ensure we can navigate these rules ourselves. We are actively working.
- M. Collins – What Joe brought up, was just the promotion, 2020 AMA district 35 Nevada State Champ, you can't win that anywhere else. Let me remind you that Finn Ruby, is the 2020 AMA District 35 state champ, I know we have not voted, we have all talked.
- R. Ulrich – We fought to get state championship with Erek, a kid can go back to school and say that he is a state champ, it does help. I went to a race this weekend, and it was \$400 to race, I don't think it's the \$50, in the desert I want my camera on, I want to fight about it, if someone is cutting course. The camera is huge to me, I think saying the \$50 is affecting us, every other series, they are spending a lot more money. My two-cents, I wasn't at the last meeting. Thank you for working with me to get that state championship, I think that's great!
- B. Monk – The chin mount, is that legal?
- Erek Kudla – Currently, no, we are actively working on it. We shared it to them.
- D. Heath – How many injuries have there been?
- Erek Kudla – Factory KTM, this is where this came from, a youth was paralyzed, personally that's where this started. When medical gets involved, the only piece that has to have safety rated equipment, the helmet is the only one, it's that way across all sports. It's the evolution of concussion testing, they are taking them more seriously, it will come down to everybody, it won't be us. They are leading it, we are still working through it.
- B. Monk – 90% of ours are not SNELL approved.



- EreK Kudla – They are actually SNELL or DOT, that’s why I say it like that. EU is an even higher rating.
- B. Monk – Safety, wouldn’t that be classified as a safety feature for the helmet lights?
- EreK Kudla – That’s how I am trying to approach it. They allowed the hydration tube, because it is rubber, the point of the rule is not having something solid that can penetrate your helmet. They’re thinking when you attach something that can protrude your helmet then it’s more likely to happen. We are working through all those things. The different clubs have different members, District 23, they participate in medical portion of racing they make the rule that you have to wear boots, wear goggles, etc., we implement that. We are just implementing on those, we are the ones that get tagged and dragged, and work through these things to make them work for all of us. The helmet lights, that is unsafe.
- J. Amey – We are AMA at this point, we did our first race, let’s say we go a couple races in and nothing changes on your end, when we get to June, as the MRAN president, I don’t want to have my clubs not wear light. Just for that series, if we just say we are MRAN night races, and not AMA. We are more worried about the safety of our riders.
- EreK Kudla – That’s what I said was going to happen, at minimum MRAN Night Series won’t be AMA, at a minimum we will lose these races. One way we could navigate that, the points are separate, we could potentially navigate that, to not affect your Desert series. We will have to go through that. It’s possible, but I would not want to do that, I am trying to work through that. I know that they have a very cheap rate. We don’t get a dime for insurance, and we could broker that, we’ve learned there is cheap insurance, it was like \$200/event. The last page was exclusions, it excluded everything. You can find cheaper insurance, but you can’t find better insurance for cheaper. I personally have had people die at my races, it’s not a good thing to be a part of, when I had an AMA event, I did my race report, they took care of it, I got a call later, and had to review a race event and was able to put another on the next week. I had it all in place, It’s like a FDA stamp of approval. We all know these different racers and sponsors, before it was AMA, my events, Caselli wouldn’t come to them. I understand, there are cheaper insurances around.
- J. Amey – I agree with you on that one. The guy that is in Gambler’s that does most of the paperwork, he works in insurance, he said it doesn’t mean it’s better, but we can find it cheaper.
- R. Holtfreter – (From the chat) When night racing you stop for a downed rider and he needs assistance. The helmet light will enable you to see the downed rider due to its directional ability. This helmet light will add to the safety of the participants. The night series begins in June, what is the probability of this being resolved prior to that first night race?
- EreK Kudla – Resolve before, we are in the NE 24 hour, that guy came on board with his entire series of races, he just chartered and then we put out the rule. It’s not just MRAN affected, we are working very diligently, this is an everyday occurrence.
- G. Darr – (From the chat) Why does this rule only affect amateur and not professional races?
- EreK Kudla – With amateur and pro racing, it’s split, Pro Supercross, Pro Flat Track, Pro Hill Climb, Supermoto, we sold all that, it’s owned by another entity and then they lease the rights to put on



those pro events. That is not even actually AMA, that's AMA Pro, we assist with the licensing for that, but we don't put on the events.

- Joe Bromley – Not only that, the Supercross rulebook was out prior to our actual rule book, they already had that in there and they already had contracts from GoPro.
- EreK Kudla – Our rulebook is governed by the AMA congress which writes its, which consists of you, the riders. I don't know if Nevada has a person in the AMA Congress right now.
- Joe Bromley – MRAN being a real important organization, the Congress/Committee, they should have a seat at the Congress.
- EreK Kudla – With the new commission process, you apply for it, we go through it, whoever you want to dictate to come to congress, and now it's on Zoom. The AMA congress writes these rulebooks, it's a completely different way. If you look at Supercross, only one person at a time wears them. That's the difference between amateur and pro. If it's on your helmet during racing and stays on there, it's an alteration to your helmet.
- C. DiPonte – If the medical team comes up with rule then we all have to follow it. What's next, handguards? It's heavy handed to have a group tell us what to do, what else is next?
- EreK Kudla – Once a modification is made it is no longer Snell/Dot rated, I've never been checked for my helmet. We require Snell rating.
- C. DiPonte – My point is that it's an example, there's some groups, that dictate what we do, why is there no say in the rule making decisions with the members?
- EreK Kudla – We all have a say.
- C. DiPonte – It was just one day handed down to us.
- EreK Kudla – Because it's a safety rule. Like when 3-wheelers were banned, that's what happened, because it affects the safety and rating of the helmet. It's a clarification of the rule. Just like people starting with their goggles off, do we stop every person? We should, but we don't, that's because we are worried, I will say this was not ideal how it went out. We have a concussion rule, if the racing safety staff decide it's unsafe, they can tell you not too continue racing.
- J. Amey – I think Chris' point is, when does the overreach stop? We had a rule brought to us, about our spark arrestors, 12-15 years ago. I still get emails about spark arrestors. My point is some people feels there is overreach, and others feel that it's easy to follow.
- EreK Kudla – I am a racer as well, I get that. The penalty is you are not supposed to start the race, I haven't had anybody tell me no. It's a non-starter, we had to DQ a rider because he put it on. We have to tell everyone. GNCC put out a press release every week leading up to the season. The penalty is a DNS (do not start). We are working on approvals on a certain spot. The radio headset is not allowed, that's never been allowed. The intent is so you don't have communication with your pits, carrying a radio is one thing. As long as you are not communicating with your pits, a lot do it in BITD, and Baja, but should not be doing that in desert racing.
- M. Collins – Today, BITD, stated, that their 400 riders that come to trail ride have to be AMA, they posted that today.
- D. Martin – They required it last year.



- Brandon – Nevada is marked as number two with federal land, 37% is private land. Who is representing us, and who is coming to our meetings? Beginning meeting, we discussed, Searchlight to Laughlin that's a huge riding area, if that gets shut down, that is just one part that we have lost or will lose, we are losing land every year. The \$50 I pay is a drop in the bucket, who from AMA represents us?
- Erek Kudla – The west coast rep that represents us is Nick Harris. Contact us, no one knows your area better than what's going on, nobody knows you need help until you say something. I have a list that our organization has done. We've helped with:
  - Issue in Moonrocks
  - Recreation trails, federal programs, lots of federal lands
  - Statewide Rec Area
  - E15 access
  - Steve should have access on SKORP
  - There's an ongoing discussion regarding lane splitting on street bikes in Reno
  - The Nellis Air Force base expansion
    - Not sure how new or old these are, this was provided by Nick Harris. Like District 37, we had a legal defense person, who worked with AMA to make these things happen. I had no idea things happened, he worked with AMA, they organized an annual meeting called Lobby Days, that was something where they organized legislators and went to Sacramento and worked with them. Helped with documentation and legal advice, they helped organize them. If you have an issue, we have the resources where to start, that's a big problem, the comments period, etc., may have been going on for 20, 30, 40 years, or access issues, etc. That's what we got from our government relations department. He is live before some congress.
- Joe Bromley – We have a government relations office in DC, Nick works west coast. We have a whole staff that does this. Our slogan is, "Rights, riding and racing." We have a whole department saving and help save.
- Erek Kudla – That doesn't mean that there will be no losses, there will always be losses, like when we lost a big portion in California. It was first time in history they took less than they asked for. We all worked together. Like you said about national monuments, that we have certain things. I do know that the biggest thing is Steve, reach out. Help you guys make it happen. We have the tools to make it happen, we have the power of 200,000 members behind us, we have a lot of people with a lot of experience that can help.
- Brandon – What I heard, you have power in numbers.
- Erek Kudla – But you are part of those numbers.
- Brandon – District 37 and Hammer you came together, that came together, we just don't have that. We are losing more than we are gaining. In the end, we can call on AMA, but we don't have the numbers everyone else does.
- Erek Kudla – I know you might not have a lot of people that don't come out every weekend.



- M. Collins – Yes, last year we had 335 paid memberships to race our race, that paid online.
- Erek Kudla – MRAN as a whole has 1,000 members. If you counted all the people that don't race. You have Vegas there, if you team up with MRANN, but they are still our racing family, I have been to their meetings and races. District 36 and 37 can be leaned on, there's a whole group of people that can be leaned on. Being more secluded being in Nevada, with AMA you have a large organization behind you. I've found before I was with AMA, they take it seriously. That's one of the big reasons to be a part of it, it does help with that. I would reach out to District 37, them and Arizona you all deal with a lot of the same BLM, land issues, sage grouse, etc., same concerns.
- Brandon – Every little thing helps. Lights and cameras are an issue, if we can come to an agreement with lights, and run AMA as both series, I think that's why we joined AMA.
- Joe Bromley – Erek is working hard working with Mike.
- Erek Kudla – I am specifically making sure we can have night races and helmet lights. For me it's not a big deal to move it, but a lot of people care. My biggest concern is the helmet lights.
- Joe Bromley – Being a former director of racing myself, I will do what I can to push for work for Erek, so we can keep the MRAN night series and AMA. We value you guys, want to keep you guys, and keep you an AMA sanctioned organization.
- C. DiPonte – Promotion, what do you guys do for us for promotion? I haven't seen our schedule, our races, I have seen nothing about MRAN in AMA. I thought that was a pretty big deal, what are you doing to help promote us?
- Joe Bromley – It depends on when our sanction gets to us. We have a 90-day lead time with our Magazine, if it's submitted early enough, we can have you on our website, our social media, even flyers and series flyers and gets them out there as well.
- Erek Kudla – We used to monthly email blast, that went out, it went to all members. I don't have a schedule of MRAN stuff. We have a spot on the website, and you can look up your event there. Like Joe said, all the upcoming events, if we get your sanction in time. I can ask that they run something on Nevada, it might be possible, it's tough because that's the way everything goes.
- Joe Bromley – In 2013/14 we did a spotlight on you in our magazine, like Erek said we may be able to give your info to the magazine guy.
- Erek Kudla – If you have a story, something great that happened, they are always looking for content. If you have anything of note, absolutely hit us up, we will forward it to Mark Lafette.
- M. Collins - Erek and Joe's email are in the Zoom meeting tonight, if something comes up they are on our Zoom link for our meeting if you need to contact them.
- Erek Kudla – Always email if you have a question or call.
- B. Monk – I've had problems in past and have not received the minor release for months.
- Erek Kudla – Did you try it now?
- B. Monk – I have not received it yet, I have a digital version.
- J. Amey – We still have business to go over, are there any other questions for AMA?
- Erek Kudla – Appreciate you having us here, hit me up if you have questions, that's what I am here for. To help us navigate rules as racers, whether it's racing or issue with rider, etc.



- Joe Bromley – Appreciate you guys, hope we can keep you on board and take care of the light for night series.
- J. Amey – We plan on being in contact.

### Unfinished Business

- MRAN Banquet –
  - M. Collins – Sam’s town won’t do anything until 3/31. I will call Bridget to pencil in an off date. I know we talked about VFW, the Governor did change some things, and hotels are opening back up.
  - J. Amey – Do we want to discuss doing it at a race or do it at Sam’s Town?
  - M. Collins – Would like to wait to go back to Sam’s.
  - R. Ulrich – My preference would be to go to Sam’s, because I feel they would get the recognition they deserve.
  - J. Amey – May is like wide open.
  - M. Collins – I will call Sam’s Town to see when to book an event.
  - J. Amey – I need a date, Coach you can talk to Sam’s Town?
  - M. Collins – I will see when they are allowing large gatherings, let’s push it and I will still look at dates and we will try our best.
  - J. Amey – Roy you will get the trophies rolling?

### Open Discussion

- S. Paxton – Would like to see our MRAN stickers and t-shirts return.
  - M. Collins – Don’t like to compete with clubs at races, I will do whatever, I can look at price, etc.
  - P. Swolensky – We can sell them on the website.
  - J. Amey – Maybe we can have a certain amount ordered, then maybe Marc Lewis can do that.
- D Vasquez – Are we going to vote on AMA, so I can get my race permit and stuff going?
  - J. Amey – Some of us feel we don’t want to vote on it yet regarding AMA.
  - Brandon – I would like to get with Steve to help with land use, if we can get more influence in that area it might help us.
  - D. Vasquez – Should I hold off on our AMA sanction?
  - J. Amey – Go ahead and do it right now. Does anyone feel like they need to vote tonight on AMA?
  - R. Holtfretter – Seems a lack of prudence to leave an organization, for rider safety and are we setting ourselves up for something we shouldn’t be?
  - J. Amey – good point I couldn’t have said it better.

### Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Roy Ulrich @ 8:44 pm, seconded by Dave Martin.



Next MRAN meeting will be held on Monday, April 5, 2021 @ 6:30 pm via Zoom Meeting. Subject to change.