

MIRA President's Letter, Sept. 2020

Labor Day is behind all of us and now snowmobile racing is directly in front of us. I want to ensure all of our members your board is working hard to get this upcoming season lined up. This year has been difficult for many and we have challenges yet to overcome but I am confident we will be racing this winter. Let me review where we are to date;

Kinross; Jan. 2 and 3, the team is ready there to build the track at the Kinross fair grounds and Beard Oil will be donating another water tanker for track construction. Dave Yovich will provide the truck to pull it so having Ken Graham Trucking providing a water rig, we will have two large tankers to do the job with. Thanks to all who are getting behind this effort. The Bay Mills Casino will not be back as a sponsor so get your rooms elsewhere. Remember this is New Year's weekend so don't wait till last minute. If we get a hotel sponsor; we will announce on face book. The backup date for this race will be Jan.9 and 10, but only if we have no other options so we can keep the vintage weekend At Eagle River open.

Eagle River and MIRA will be hosting the first ever Pro Enduro Worlds championship race! This is big news in our sport. We will run a 100 lap race the same as last year's format on Sunday Jan. 17th at about 3pm, or after the Derby WC event. The enduro will be the last race of the weekend. Qualifying will be Saturday night under the lights and the top 20 sleds will be entered into the event. Derby pit passes will need to be purchased, our MIRA passes will not be honored. Entry fee will be \$300.00 with the goal of a \$10,000.00 purse. Pit stop will be same as last year. I hope all our enduro teams will find this a big opportunity to show case our sport and the sprint teams will be open for the WC and vintage weekends. Thank you the Craig Marchbank for working this out with me.

Gaylord is set for Jan. 23 and 24 with much work yet to be done to get things set and agreed to. I am excited to announce the support of Dubie Welding, the guys that make trail groomers are going to build the track this year. Andy Dubie and his family are really stepping up to make sure Gaylord is a great event and I thank them. There will be more announcements on the Gaylord race so keep eye on our face book page in the weeks ahead. The backup date for this race will be Jan. 30 and 31 but we will all we can not to race week before the Soo.

Caro is back for the 2021 season and let's all hope we have the weather to support the folks in Caro. So many of us really like racing there. The date being pushed back to Feb. 13/14 should help.

Lincoln Race will be Feb. 20 and 21 at the best track in North America. The track has already been graded and widened and Firerite will be the title sponsor once again. Looking good In Lincoln.

Feb. 27 and 28 will be looked at for makeup date for any of the races that have weather problems this race season.

Fall meeting; we are trying to meet on Oct 18th if we can find a spot that Covid will allow. The location I am working on is Gaylord. Again; keep eye on face book for updates.

Sponsors; we need race title sponsors for Kinross and Gaylord. Any ideas or contacts please send to me and I will follow up.

Pro Enduro items to remember; Hero stands are our rule, be ready with them at Kinross. Team number signs attached to a pole on back of race trailer so our officials and tow sled can find your pit is a rule, please comply with this. Number on driver must match the number on the pro enduro sled and to be clear; you may not substitute drivers from another team once race has begun. Safety yellow numbers must be on the windshield of all pro enduro sleds.

Summary; we are doing the work to have a great season ahead, we need some help: sponsors to help us defray expenses are badly needed. Any ideas get with me. Staying positive and looking for ways to help your organization are what we need. This group has the best format in all of snowmobile racing and to keep it going we need to work harder than ever. I look forward to seeing all of you in October but if we still cannot meet, I will keep the information coming via our face Book and website.

Best of health to you all and keep those race sleds ready!!

Karl Schwartz, MIRA president