



HIGH PLAINS RACEWAY

March 3, 2008 – HPR What's Happening!

After all of the excitement of January with USR approval and the land purchase, I expected a calmer February but it has been quite the opposite. There are so many irons in the fire and little things requiring attention.

The marketing committee sent out another great mailer announcing the USR & land purchase. The YouTube videos on the website have created a lot of excitement. Many thanks to Andy Labout (PCA) and Paul Leonard (SCCA) for the authentic videos they have each created. Watch the website for the availability of a game version. Harry & Greg Mathews (RMVR-CECA), Rome Chelsi (CECA) along with many others conducted a very successful fundraising dinner last weekend. It is exciting to see that the energy around the track project is growing daily!

The design team has been especially busy. The horizontal design of the track is now complete and the computer calculations for the vertical design are about to be finalized. Grading and construction drawings are anticipated to be complete in three weeks and next week we anticipate having enough details to start portions of the construction bid process. The bids will give us a badly needed final budget. My best estimate today is that we need \$2.8 million to start construction and another half million for a few of the desperately desired amenities. The detailed budget will be released to the website as soon as it is approved.

Which brings me to the heart of "What NEEDS to be Happening" in March. The thermometer is currently at \$2.3 million. This represents \$900,000 in loan commitments and \$511,000 in contributions. While these numbers are commendable, they represent the efforts of only a portion of the active membership of the Clubs. I have talked to so many people considering the loan program or planning to buy a brick that state that they 'just have not got around to sending it in'! Well we are all racers who procrastinate till the week before the race to get the car ready. Well March is that window of opportunity to get ready! If we are prepared later this month to start construction but are short on money, then we could miss a lot of green flag opportunities. Now is the time to send it in!

Your clubs' boards of directors, their CAMA representatives, our many volunteers and advisors have nearly completed their task to make HPR a reality. Now it is up to the club members. The future of racing in Colorado is in your hands. As Harry Mathews stated at the fundraiser, "You have to 'Pay' if you want to 'Play' and the survival of the amateur clubs rests primarily in their ability to control their own future". Even with tracks in Pueblo, Hastings & LaJunta how will the clubs survive if they can't generate enough drivers and workers to those locations to conduct events. All clubs are reporting large drops in participation levels. The Denver area is the major populous of Colorado and the future of our sport relies on having a Denver area facility to draw new members and keep the old ones active. We at CAMA hope that some of the other proposed track projects are also successful as they will only enhance that growth. Inscribe your 'Brick' today and let's keep HPR on-track!

Charlie Thompson
CAMA Manager