

NON-PROFIT MEETING MINUTES FOR

RACE *for* **RESEARCH**

Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2026

Time: 7:00 pm (PT)

Location: Google Meet

CALL TO ORDER – Steve Osborne

Steve Osborne called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM

ATTENDANCE

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| ➤ Steve Osborne, President | ➤ Janet Monico |
| ➤ Raio Salmon, Vice President | ➤ Angie Osborne |
| ➤ Nicole Dozier, Treasurer | ➤ Mary Piraro |
| ➤ Denise DeMartini | ➤ Kenny Piraro |
| ➤ Tori Heimlich | ➤ Heather Snow |

ABSENT

- Heather Pacheco

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – Steve Osborne

Vote to Approve Minutes from 5/04/26

Motion to approve 5/04/26 minutes by Angie Osborne

Seconded by Janet Monico

Motion passed unanimously

TRADEMARK: Trademark update: Will be submitted by the end of June 2026

FINANCIAL UPDATE – Nicole Dozier

Treasurer's Report:

Account Balance as of last meeting: \$111,748.02

No cash or checks are included.

Tachi is not included or Caden's expenses

Winnings donated from Race not included

Ending Balance as of 5/13/26: \$238,690.07

We are working with CPA for taxes and working on the audit.

BOARD RECAPS:

Nicole Dozier:

- Ran out of Malibu rum
- We need to have a few SJ videos play during the silent auction
- Bullet needs hoodies. There is no reason why he can design the months in advanced and then just add the driver names to the tees at the end.
- Light at back bar and what bars offer what because you don't want to be at the wrong bar and not be able to get a drink you want to
- Tip jars. No rocks and have envelope in bottom of tip jar already. Name tags fell off
- Make it known you can raise money all year long.
- I think we need to start driver sign-ups now for next year. We need to the cut-off date earlier so it makes it easier on us to not have to scramble at the end to get the tables and drivers played out, programs can be done earlier, tip tickets, t-shirts, etc.

- Set up
- Clean step and repeat banner!!!
- More utility carts or dolly
- Tables must be set up the night before

Heather Pacheco:

- I would like to move Celebrity Waiter sign-ups online next year to make registration easier and more organized.
- This year, I had 5 drivers reach out after the deadline that unfortunately had to be turned away.
- I need to start promoting sign-ups earlier:
 - Pre-sign-up announcement posts
 - Reminder posts during sign-ups
 - More frequent deadline reminders Gala Audio / Sound
- Need to figure out the audio setup for next year's gala.
- We were unable to play the Jesse Love / Vito / Kevin Harvick videos because there was no sound.
- I had to hold a microphone up to my phone in order to play the music for the Mattix tribute video.
- This needs to be tested and finalized before the event begins next year. Celebrity Waiter Food & Timing
- **Food issue backstage:**
 - Celebrity Waiters ran out of chicken and tater tots.
 - Some of the drivers did not get food until I asked Tachi staff to bring more out.
- Drivers should probably arrive at least 30 minutes earlier next year.
- Between:
 - gathering everyone
 - drivers meeting
 - Tachi staff instructions
 - assigning table numbers; The drivers barely had time to eat.
- The backstage area is very small, so we may need ideas on how to better accommodate everyone next year, especially since we will likely continue to grow. Gala Program / Guest Story
- Overall feedback on the gala was extremely positive.
- **One concern mentioned:**
 - Some guests did not realize that Caden was a cancer survivor.
 - A few people felt previous years were more centered around a St. Jude patient story.
 - Some attendees could not clearly hear or fully understand Caden's story.
- Need to evaluate audio and storytelling for next year.
- Next year I think we need to introduce each of the Celebrity Waiters. I believe we did that last year. At least have their name announced, and line up across the stage. I don't believe it would take that long. Maybe do this as they come up to do the check presentation? Race Night / Opening Ceremonies
- Overall, I thought the race was very successful.
- We had 3 Celebrity Waiters donate their winnings from the Main Event back to Race for Research which totaled \$1,150.
- During opening ceremonies, several parents entered the infield during introductions.
- Many ended up standing on the front stretch, which blocked fans in the grandstands from seeing:
 - the check presentation
 - Caden performing
- **Possible solutions for next year:**
 - Block the on-ramp during introductions
 - Keep the back gate closed
 - Allow only one designated person through during intros
- **Another idea discussed:**
 - Have drivers line up at the top of the grandstands and walk down to the front stretch on the grandstand side.

- **Concern with that idea:**

- It may make the check presentation and group photos difficult. Race Committee / Help Needed
- I truly appreciated all of the help I received at the track this year.
- Would like to build a stronger race committee next year with at least 2 dedicated people to assist me with:
 - Sponsorships
 - Shirts/apparel
 - Celebrity Waiter bags
 - Track setup
 - Banners
 - Track cleanup/takedown after the race
 - 50/50 raffle
 - General race day organization Overall Thoughts
- I honestly feel the drivers enjoyed this year and appreciated everything that was done for them.
- My personal goal this year was to make the drivers feel like they were our heroes and show them how much we appreciate every single one of them. I truly feel like we accomplished that.
- This year, I honestly think we all exceeded our goals far beyond expectations.
- It has been a long few months with countless hours put into this event, but I wouldn't want to do it with anyone else besides each of you.
- Thank you all again for everything you did to make this year successful.

Raio Salmon

- 487 tickets were sold.
- The report showed that 100 people did not show up but 17 people on the no show list were present. In her estimation 415 people actually were there.
- 61 Celebrity Waiters.
- 63 driver meals/483 meals were charged.

Denise DeMartini –

Bars worked much better this year but...

- Next year there needs to be dedicated cashiers for the main bar at least...
- It took too long for the bartenders to make the drink and then they had to ring up the drinks as well. Perhaps presell drink tickets to make it go faster still???

Signage

- If we order signage, let's not put "____th annual RACE FOR RESEARCH on them so that we can reuse them from year to year... and remember to collect them throughout the casino the next day
- We should collect all UNUSED tip tickets after the event so that we can reuse them as much as possible each year.
- Door knockers...They should be laminated and the hole should be made smaller with NO cut.

Tip Jars

- We need to decide if we should switch to a slightly larger tip jar with a straight opening. Kaci would like the tip envelope to be in the bottom of the tip jar. Possibly leave the rocks out????

Packing Up After the Event

- I realize the everyone wants to help pack up after the event...but more care needs to be taken so that the items go in the appropriate tubs. All tubs need to be marked clearly as to what goes in them. That way we don't have to unpack and repack them.

No-Show Meals

- I asked my amazing waiter (Nick) to pack up my 4 "no show" meals so that I could send them home with some of my guests. He was told by staff that this was not possible. They could only be eaten at the function. I just had three celebrity waiters sit and have a great dinner on me LOL...I couldn't find a fourth who was hungry. We need to find a solution to uneaten and paid for dinners.

Tablecloths

- **THIS MUST BE DONE FOR US BEFORE WE GET TO THE ROOM TO SET UP.** I'm hoping that this was just a glitch due to the bingo hall not being ready and us not having the hall the day before. **BUT** that being said, even if we do get the hall the day before, **IT IS STILL THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO HAVE THEM SET UP FOR US BEFOREHAND.** (We lost at least 2-3 hours of set up time waiting for the tables to be moved and table cloths to be placed) And, either we need to rent our own linens or they **MUST** take care to at least match the two tablecloths to be the same length to the floor for each table. When I pointed it out the person was pretty rude. But one was midway to the floor that the other was draped past the floor...that is **RIDICULOUS.** At least make the effort to try to match them. There was one champ table that we could not put a bow on one of the corners because there wasn't even an inch to grab to tie the ribbon around.

Kaleb/Freddie/Auction Staff

- I want to compliment Kaleb...he was phenomenal...there were a couple of times that I noticed something was not being bid on...and I went to him to ask him to mention it...he was on it immediately...Especially Mattix's tip jars. After he announced about them...people started donating and over \$800 was raised...The other item was the Christmas Tree and Wreath. No one knew it was a 12' tree. After he announced it, the package went for \$3829!
- Kaleb is a huge asset. As is Freddie. We cannot run our event without them and of course our **SIX** girls. **YES**, having all six girls was the ticket!!!!
- And the "Golden Ticket" was a huge success. They were so easy to sell. I only had one person turn me down. We definitely have to do that again next year!

Tori Heimlich

- Committees were a "plus". It was a better year.
- Just because you're on one committee, you can help on another committee.
- Tori is already working on the video problem solutions for next year.
- **Linens:** We need to make a decision for next year. (Steve wants to know the cost for linens before June 3rd to see if it is feasible)
- Possibly use black fabric napkins in the goblets next year.
- The photographers need to be there earlier. We did not get pictures of the "set up". We need to give them a run down. We should have more photographers especially since Tori will not be one.
- We need have the run of show in hand. Angie will have print outs next year.

Pros:

- committees were great
- Confirming tables/ticket sales for attendees worked out so much better. We barely had any empty seats!!
- Timing on counting was so much better this year! I did notice people leaving once it hit 9 but 9:30 is not bad!

Needs work:

- photographers
- For me, now that I know the vendors we used and know how they communicate, I know how I can be better with confirming things and communicating with them
- Audio/sound definitely needs to be better
- Hopefully we'll have extra time to set up next year?
- Some committees now that we're comfortable could help out with other areas like tickets sales with Raio and track prep with Heather

Janet Monico

- The clean-up was crazy because they Tachi employees wanted to be out of there.
- The flowers were beautiful. Carnations were perfect.
- The cookies were great.
- The committees were great and we need to keep them.

Mary Piraro

- **Celebrity Waiters** location for their food – if we put them in a conference room, someone would have to be with them the entire time. We will have to make sure they stay busy. They can't be running around.
- **Registration**: people weren't registering. People were cutting through.
- **Auction Staff**: 6 auction staff is a MUST. Items were put aside by bidder number. When it was time to announce the check, they were ready.
- **Tachi Staff**: Tachi staff was more helpful and more energetic. Tachi stepped it up.
- **Sponsorship**: Possibly new levels/possibly include dinner tickets.
- **Committees**: A MUST!! 110%

Collecting tip jars at 7:45: there was a complaint that it was too early.

Angie Osborne

- **Tables**: Tables set up the night before;
- **Audio/Video**: we need to hire someone to run the audio and video. There were changes made that Angie was unaware of.
- **MC/Auctioneer**: Needs to be there earlier next year;
- **Bar**: We need to have diet coke or a diet beverage at the bars.
- Definitely have a separate committee for clean up;
- More St. Jude things.
- We need to have more help with the St. Jude video. Some of the St. Jude slides were omitted.
- We need to have the final cut earlier.

Heather Snow

- We need to have our own table linens.
- We need to instruct the Tachi employees of what items to save during clean up.

Inventory/Storage: To be determined

Proposed Event Date: May 7th 2027

Motion to approve 5/7/27 for the 2027 RFR Gala by Janet Monico
Seconded by Heather Snow
Motion passed unanimously

Proposed RFR Race Date: May 8th, 2027

Motion to approve 5/8/27 for the 2027 RFR Race by Raio Salmon
Seconded by Mary Piraro
Motion passed unanimously

Proposed Auctioneer, MC, Tachi, MaxGiving, Lighting:

Motion to approve Auctioneer (Freddie), MC (Kaleb), Tachi, MaxGiving,
Lighting (Brian) by Denise DeMartini
Seconded by Heather Snow
Motion passed unanimously

Budget Review: June 3rd

Acknowledge Board Members for 2027:

- Steve Osborne, President
- Raio Salmon, Vice President
- Nicole Dozier, Treasurer
- Denise DeMartini
- Tori Heimlich
- Janet Monico
- Angie Osborne
- Heather Pacheco
- Mary Piraro
- Kenny Piraro
- Heather Snow

EXECUTIVE BOARD FOR 2027: Steve Osborne, President, Raio Salmon, Vice President, Nicole Dozier, Treasurer

OLD BUSINESS: Steve Osborne

NASCAR West Coast Hall of Fame

Thursday – October 1st

10 Seats Available

Rooms Available

ADJOURNMENT: 8:01 PM

NEXT MEETINGS: June 3rd at 7:00 PM and August 12th at 7:00 PM