

ILLINOIS



H.O.P.R.A.

*JOEL, THIS WAS RETURNED TO ME & APPARENTLY
HAD YOUR ZIP CODE WRONG & THE POSTAL SERVICE
CAN'T BE BOTHER WITH SUCH THINGS!*

Illinois H.O. Professional Racing Association
Tom Arthur 923 Chelsea Court New Lenox, Illinois 60451

August 1984

Kim Bartholomew, National Director
Gary Beedle, Assistant National Director
All H.O. Nationals Senate Members

Dear Sirs:

Enclosed please find the Illinois H.O.P.R.A. bid for the 1985 Nationals Races. With the cooperation of Indiana H.O.P.R.A. and the Mid-America Racing Association (M.A.R.A.), we have put together what we consider to be the most comprehensive package ever compiled for an H.O. racing promotion! By combining these three non-profit groups, we have a core of well over 100 racers from five midwestern states to draw on for ideas and support. Included in this group is the largest field of novice drivers in America from the two year old Illinois H.O.P.R.A. Novice Division. This group has involved 100 racers for a total of 300 entries in just 15 races during the last two seasons! This is just our Novice Division!! This strength, we feel, makes our area the logical choice for staging the first national race for this exciting new class of cars. In addition to our experience with the new division, we also list among our members and supporters several former National Pro Champions as well as some of the premier track builders and track "tuners" known to our sport. Our Pro racers are known as some of the most prolific travelling Pros around. The knowledge and experience these people have accrued in their travels will be incorporated in our program.

Please study the attached outline and see if you don't agree that Illinois H.O.P.R.A. will bring the Nationals alive in 1985! As the Nationals Race enters its second decade with a new division, let's choose a race site that will serve BOTH National divisions in the prestigious manner a national event should be contested. The racing will be the main attraction of what will be the First National Exposition, featuring manufacturer's reps from the leading companies in the industry.

I. LOCATION

A. The 1985 Nationals will be held in a public place with attention paid to spectators. This is extremely important if we are to continue a healthy growth rate.

1. Primary location is a medium size mall in the south suburban Chicago area that has already hosted two H.O. events and has been the site of indoor radio control car races. The mall is a "blue collar" type of operation anchored by a K-Mart and Service Merchandise (a major midwestern catalog house), with several other large chain operations and a three screen theatre. This mall is located just off the major interstate highway in Chicago which connects with all midwest states. This location is about one hour from O'Hare Airport via commuter busses, and 17 miles from low cost Midway Airport. There are no less than five nationally known motels within 1/2 of a mile from this location. Every major food franchise is represented within the same radius. In addition to fast food, some of the finest restaurants in the Midwest are within a short drive from this mall. For those interested in bringing their families for a vacation in the area, we will have a package available from the Illinois Department of Tourism with many free and low cost activities within easy driving distance.

2. a package plan is being worked on with a local travel agent to provide the best possible value for out of state guests.

II. RACE TRACKS (see attached diagrams)

A. Pro car facility

1. this track is the finest in the nation, formerly owned by Illinois Pro Racer Slode Brown and is rich in racing history. Current owner Tom Shepherd is working with master track tuner Rick DeRosa (1983 National Champion and 1982 Nationals track builder) and perennial top Indiana Pro Racer Al Thurman in preparing this excellent facility for it's first National event.

2. track features

- a. 90 foot lap length with rail heights of .014 (\pm .002)
- b. four lanes of APX track.
- c. 14' X 8' solid as a rock table.
- d. alligator clip hookups located at large driver's stations.
- e. SOFT crash barriers.
- f. Gra-Lab race timer.
- g. BSRT lap timer.
- h. TCP lap counters.
- i. 18 volts of battery power (3sets of batteries).

B. Super stocker facility

1. this is a fine track built in 1984 by Lou Cantu and Paul Stillwell and constructed of Tyco quick click track with lowered rails (.012 to .016). This track has been used several times by M.A.R.A. and is slated for use by all divisions of Illinois and Indiana H.O.P.R.A. at a mall race to be held at the end of September. This track was built to be portable and will be the perfect combination of speed and handling to showcase the new division.

2. this track may be able to draw Tyco as a potential sponsor due to it's unique construction.

3. track features
 - a. 48 foot track length.
 - b. an easily marshalled 4' X 12' table.
 - c. alligator clip hookups at large driver's stations.
 - d. SOFT crash barriers.
 - e. Gra-Lab race timer.
 - f. BSRT lap timer.
 - g. Red Lion lap counters (1,000,000 lap capacity).
 - h. 18 volts of battery power.

C. Spectator facility

1. this is a 4' X 8' four lane snake pit owned by M.A.R.A. and used in the past for organized races and for exhibitions at hobby shows. This track will be used during the Nationals as a promotional tool to entice people to bring in their cars from home to compare theirs with the top cars in the nation. Spectators will be invited to compete in "wildcat" races on this track. M.A.R.A., Illinois H.O.-P.R.A., and Indiana H.O.P.R.A. will staff this effort to boost memberships in their clubs. Although for this event the spectator track will be powered by power packs, it will be available for spot checking your cars when the two racing facilities are in use.

III. SPONSORSHIP

A. We will not promise a major sponsor for this event. We most likely have at least one major sponsor, but until we have secured the race date for the 1985 Nationals we will make none of the potential sponsors known to the public. We will let you know that we are in contact with more than one nationally known triple "A" corporations.

B. We will have a large number of associate sponsors who have never been involved with an H.O. race before.

C. We have drafted the most ambitious contingency program ever attempted in our sport. This will enable you to build your car around parts that will pay off during the awards presentation. Will this work? The first manufacturer contacted has pledged \$200.00 in cash contingent upon our group getting the 1985 Nationals!

D. We are asking state organizations and clubs to put up money for their highest finishing member with a bonus amount for winning the 1985 Nationals.

IV. PRIZES

A. Prizes will be awarded in a post race ceremony to ALL participants in BOTH races.

B. There will be door prizes for BOTH races.

C. There will be trophies for the top 10 in BOTH races.

D. There will be trophies for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd in concours for BOTH races.

E. There will be special prizes for the top qualifiers for BOTH races.

F. There will be special prizes for unusual occurrences.

G. There will be special awards for the drivers from the longest distance for BOTH races.

H. Every effort will be made to make sure this is a fun event for all.

U. ENTRY FEES

A. Although we are not prepared to give an exact entry fee at this time, we are prepared to guarantee the entry fee for the 1985 Nationals, if held in Illinois, will be SUBSTANTIALLY LOWER than the 1984 Nationals

B. We will feature a discount for preregistration.

VI. STAFFING

A. We are currently staffing the committees: track maintenance, transportation, security, prize committee, publicity committee, registration and technical committee, timing and scoring committee, swap

meet committee, and corporate liason.

VII. COMMUNICATION

- A. A series of newsletters with sponsorship and contingency program updates. These newsletters will keep interest high and inform entrants and sponsors alike as to how the 1985 Nationals are taking shape.
- B. We will work with distributors nationally and in the Chicago metropolitan area for nearly 10 million people to promote this race to as many interested people as possible.

VIII. H.O. NATIONAL EXPOSITION

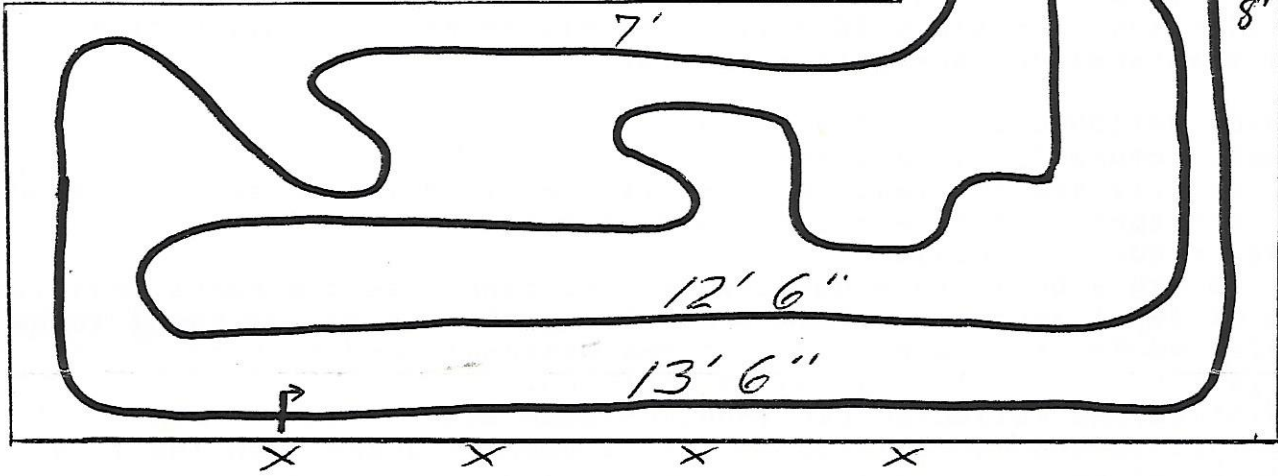
- A. Manufacturer's representatives
 - 1. we will ask the leading companies involved in our sport to send a representative to promote their products.
- B. New product showcase
 - 1. we ask even those manufacturers who cannot send a representative to at least send us any new products on the market, or about to be released to be displayed during the Nationals and perhaps donate this merchandise to the awards ceremony.
- C. Vintage and collector car show and swap meet
 - 1. this is the perfect time to stage such an event with the large number of racers expected to be there and the success of previous H.O. swap meets held in this area.
- D. Racers clinic for the public
 - 1. a table set up to help the public with any problems they may be having with their H.O. equipment from home.
 - 2. parts may be donated by local hobby shops for the repairs needed by the public's cars.
- E. A drawing for a door prize to the nonracers and spectators present at the mall.

IX. SUMMARY

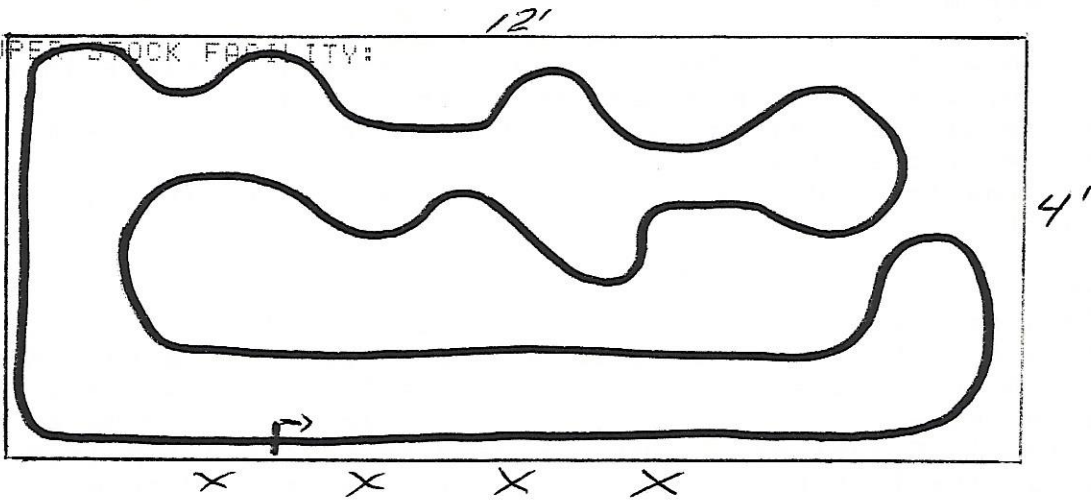
- A. As you can see, this bid has been the subject of much thought and discussion on behalf of the three groups involved. We have the manpower, we have the experience, we have the location, we have the tracks, we have the racers for both divisions, and above all we have the desire to host the 1985 Nationals. All we need is your support in accepting our bid for the 1985 Nationals. The Nationals should be more than "just" the biggest race of the year, it should be a happening, and we are prepared to put on just such an event.

PLEASE NOTE: THESE ARE NOT SCALE DRAWINGS
OF THE THREE TRACKS TO BE USED.

THE PRO CAR FACILITY:



THE SUPER STOCK FACILITY:



THE SPECTATOR FACILITY:

