

NATIONAL SKATEBOARD REVIEW

APRIL 1976

WEEKLY RACES AT LA COSTA

Skateboarders have been using the outer hills of La Costa frequently since last summer; mostly one wide, long Black Hill. It was only a matter of time before slalom courses were set up and not long after that was there a regular group of skaters every weekend. The two predominant flex boards were the Gordon and Smith Fiberflex and the Turner SummerSki. Racers using both boards were well matched: Henry Hester, Tommy Ryan, Bob Skoldberg, Bob Piercy. It didn't take long for a challenge to go up to see just which is better.

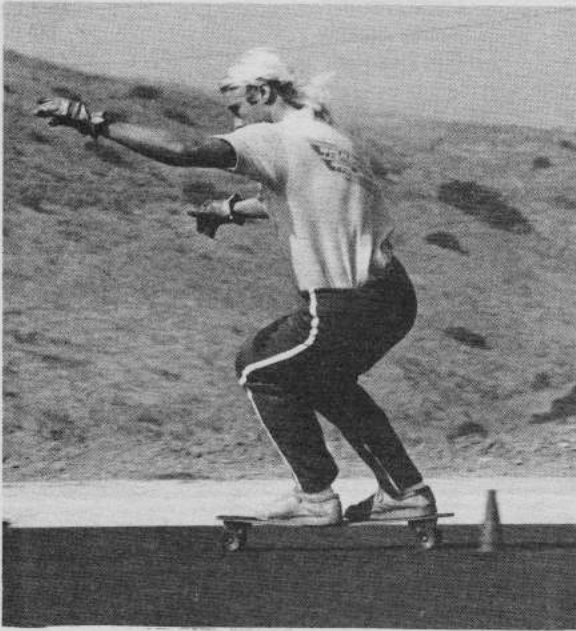
That was five months ago and the casual weekend racing at La Costa has had quite an evolution. In the beginning, the course was set up by whoever was there first, skaters practiced, and when everyone was there and ready the race started. After a few weeks some definite decisions had to be made concerning fees and other issues. It was decided the entry fee would be \$4 to try for the purse, \$2 to race for a time and the experience of racing, .2 seconds would be added to the time for each cone hit, the third cone hit would disqualify (DQ) that time, a missed gate is DQ, no practice runs are allowed after a race has started and there would be four trial runs in the finals. These rules have been accepted and used since that time.

In the middle of January construction at the top of Black Hill forced racers to seek out another hill. Several were checked and it seems racing has settled on another undeveloped hill in La Costa called Box Canyon.

The races are basically the same each week: on a Sunday, starting about noon or 1:00, timing is done with a flag start or walkie-talkies, and timed with a stop watch at the finish line. Small changes are made depending on what the racers want to do purse or no purse, head to head, how the course will be set up. The key to the enjoyment of our weekly races is that the racers can make it anyway they want - they just have to speak up.

What's the evolutionary step from here? There is some talk of electrical timing equipment, some talk of an association of these regular racers who are easily the best in the world, some talk of a racing circuit "*beating the pants off everybody in their own home town*". Who knows? The strength of whatever happens lies in the fact that it works because the racers themselves want it to.

THE LA COSTA RACE RESULTS FOR THE MONTHS OF
FEBRUARY AND MARCH ARE ON PAGE 2



Lance Smith, riding for *Tracker Trucks*, is a frequent racer at La Costa.

Photo by *Art Brewer*.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA PRO-AM CONTEST

Mike Hemp and Bob Schaible of R-M Enterprises flew to La Costa from the Bay area to ask a lot of questions of the racers themselves concerning how to put on a good race. They are organizing the Cow Palace contest May 22 & 23. The \$2.50 general and \$2 for under 12 admission fee will entitle the spectator to view a slalom, freestyle and world record events, a products exposition and a pool ride exhibition by Kenny Means. It promises to be an outstanding contest.

Dont miss it!

RACE RESULTS

February 15 - SLALOM

1st John Sigurdson	9.5
2nd Chris Smith	9.7
3rd Jeffrey Junkins	9.8

February 22 - GIANT SLALOM

Winners

1st Torger Johnson	22.6
2nd Brian Logan	22.6
3rd Glen Tucker	22.9

Other Racers

David Dominy	23.0 (F)
Pete Tholl	23.0 (F)
Steve Schisler	23.0 (F)
Brian Bracker	24.1 (F)
John Sigurdson	24.6
John O'Malley	25.2
Layne Oaks	26.2
Chris Smith	26.2
Bruce Logan	26.7
Marty Schaub	27.6
Mike Robinson	28.1
Dennis Martinez	38.0
Jeffrey Junkins	DQ
Buck Norris	DQ
Bobby Turner	DQ
Lance Smith	DQ

SLALOM

Winners

1st John Sigurdson	8.4
2nd Pete Tholl	9.3
3rd none qualified	

Other Racers

Steve Schisler	10.1 (F)
Chris Smith	DQ
Glenn Tucker	DQ
Layne Oaks	DQ
Buck Norris	DQ
David Dominy	DQ
Bobby Turner	DQ

February 29- HEAD-TO-HEAD SLALOM

Winners

1st Henry Hester
2nd Pete Tholl
3rd Lance Smith
4th John Sigurdson

Other Racers

Brian Craft
Marty Schaub
Wilbur Crane
Chris Smith
Mike Williams
Jeffrey Junkins
Steve Lis
John Slavin
Dave Smith
Dennis Martinez
Brian Logan
Steve Schisler

GIANT SLALOM

Winners

1st Tony Alva	21.0
2nd Henry Hester	21.2
3rd Bob Skoldberg	21.1

Other Racers

Jim Muir	21.6 (F)
Chris Smith	22.8 (F)
Brian Bracker	22.9 (F)
Mike Williams	21.8 (F)
Brian Logan	22.9
Lance Smith	23.0
John Sigurdson	23.9
Dennis Martinez	24.0
Steve Lis	24.5
Dodie Hackenmack	25.3
Buck Norris	25.6
Marty Schaub	25.9
Bobby Garcia	28.7
Wilbur Crane	31.6
Robin Van Essen	42.1

March 7 - GIANT SLALOM

Winners

1st Tony Alva	24.3
2nd Chris Yandall	24.7
3rd Jim Muir	24.6

Other Racers

Brian Logan	24.5 (F)
Lance S'mith	26.0 (F)
Cliff Coleman	26.2 (F)
Jim O'Mahoney	26.5
Brian Bracker	26.7
Dennis Martinez	26.9
Pete Tholl	27.1
Ted Sommer	27.3
David Fisher	27.6
Marty Schaub	27.7
Paco Prieto	27.9
Mike Robinson	27.9
Dodie Hackenmack	28.4
Tim Moir	28.5
Chris Fisher	28.7
Vince Andrade	29.1
Latoose Hartwell	30.1
Jeff Sand	30.6
Warren Bolster	DQ

March 14 - GIANT SLALOM

Winners

1st Henry Hester	25.0
2nd Bob Skoldberg	25.0
3rd Tom Sims	25.9

Other Racers

Dennis Martinez	26.6 (F)
Layne Oaks	27.1 (F)
Mike Robinson	27.7 (F)
Eddie Katz	28.2
Joe Roper	28.6
Gary Kating	29.0
Bruce Logan	29.4
Marty Schaub	29.5

Vince Andrade	29.7
Tim Moir	29.7
Brad Logan	29.7
Steven Whitehead	30.6
Rory Russell	31.3
Paul Copesky	31.9
Laura Thornhill	35.9
Jeffrey Junkins	DQ
Curt Lindgren	DQ

March 21- GIANT SLALOM

Winners

1st Henry Hester
2nd Jim Muir
3rd Chris Yandall

Other Racers

Desiree Crisp
Rebecca Williams
John O'Malley
Marty Schaub
Layne Oaks
Joe Lynch
Lance Smith
Randy Clark
Brett Reynolds
Dwight Williams
Gary North
Curtis Hesselgarve

March 28 - GIANT SLALOM

Winners

1st bob Skoldberg	21.1
2nd Henry Hester	21.7
3rd Tony Alva	22.0

Other Racers

Mike Williams	22.0 (F)
Tommy Ryan	22.3 (F)
John Krisik	22.7 (F)
Lance Smith	23.4
Bruce Logan	23.5
Jamie Hart	24.0
David Dominy	24.0
Joe Lynch	24.5
Gary Hoverg	24.6
Steve Lis	24.7
Vince Turner	25.5
Chris Smith	27.4
John Sigurdson	DQ

SLALOM

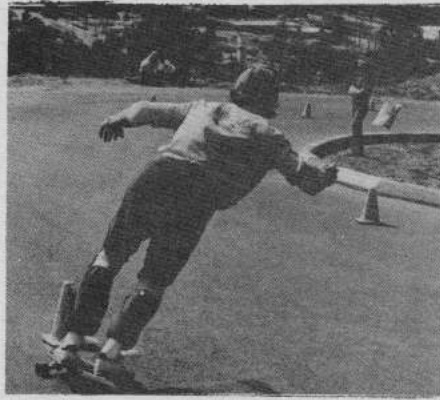
Winners

1st Lance Smith	9.4
2nd John Krisik	9.5
3rd Steve Lis	9.6

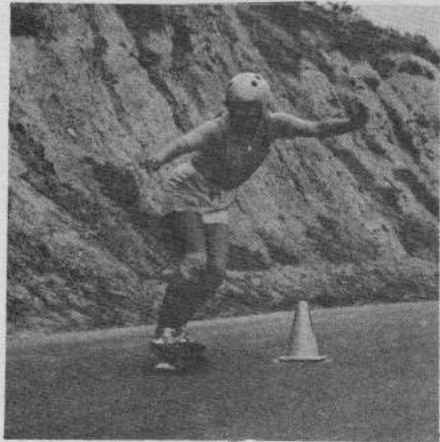
Other Racers

Pete Tholl	9.5 (F)
Steve Schisler	9.6 (F)
Buck Norris	9.9 (F)
Jamie Hart	10.1
Vince Turner	10.5
Scott Swanson	11.5
Don Becker	11.6
John Jain	DQ
Mike Williams	DQ

VENTURA HOLDS ITS SECOND SKATEBOARD CONTEST



Bob Skoldberg, riding for G&S, starts to pick up speed as the Ventura course moves around the turn.



Dodie Hackenmack - First place Junior Women's division.

The Recreation Department of Ventura, California, with direction from the USSA, held its Second Annual Skateboard Championship Competition on February 14 & 15. There were over 300 entries in the freestyle, slalom and downhill speed run events.

The slalom course was marked by the large traffic cones spanning a distance of about 80 yards. The top section consisted of four cones spaced so far apart it was a slow start. The "no-pumping-after-the-line" rule made for a frustrating opening for those racers used to a fast course - such as the one used by racers regularly at La Costa. Speed picked up as the course turned down around a corner. This portion seemed more like the familiar Giant Slalom: needing wide, calculated, pumping turns. As usual, the last, tight section took the most concentration; the cones were spaced 10-12 paces apart, enabling skaters to draw a tight line through the cones. "It could have been faster at the top and tighter cones at the bottom," commented Joe Roper, racer.

Racers had adequate time to practice during the day. The race was set as follows: two trial runs, two final runs, no pumping past the line at the top, if racers fell off their board they were permitted to get on again and, without pumping, finish their race for a recorded time, cones could be hit, riders were disqualified only for missing a gate.

The timing of the race was not ideal. The starter called, "mark, set" a gun was fired for "go". As he heard the gun, a flag man lowered his flag to signal another flag man. His lowered flag signalled three people with watches at the finish line. The average time of the three watches was then recorded. Apparently, walkie-talkies could not be used due to active CB radios in the area, and USSA declined to use timing equipment.

Henry Hester won first place on the Men's Slalom. He said he enjoyed the race and the workout involved in winning. "THE MAN OF THE DAY" was definitely Bob Skoldberg, claimed race officials at the awards ceremony. Skoldberg placed second in both the Men's Slalom and the Downhill Speed Run.

Comments on the contest were as varied as people themselves: "It turned out better than I thought it would" - Steve Cathay, racer; "Contests like this will keep skateboarding in the same class as the Duncan Yo-Yo Contest" - John O'Malley, racer; "It was a very skill demanding race" - Chris Yandall, racer. It would be impossible to guess how the majority of the racers and spectators felt about Ventura's 1976 Contest. It would be my guess their Third Contest (1977) will draw as good a response as this one. It made for a fun and challenging weekend.

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RACE RESULTS

JUNIOR BOYS

1. Zerky Myers
2. Ric (last name unknown)
3. Bobby Gianelli

BOYS

1. John (last name unknown)
2. Doug "Pineapple" Saladino
3. Bob Shea

JUNIOR MEN

1. Roy Jamison
2. David Brubaker
3. Steve Brown

MEN

1. Henry Hester
2. Bob Skoldberg
3. John Hudson
4. Tony Alva
5. Chris Yandall

GIRLS

1. Laura Thornhill
2. Susan Bahms
3. Gloria Blanchard

JUNIOR WOMEN

1. Dodie Hackenmack
2. Kim Cespedes
3. Desiree Crisp

WOMEN

1. Sue DeLora
2. Desiree VonEssen
3. Laura Monahan

DOWNHILL SPEED RUN

1. Don Andre
2. Bob Skoldberg
3. Tom Sims
4. John Hudson
5. Fred Sills

NATIONAL SKATEBOARD REVIEW published by Diana Dootson

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Carlsbad SkatePark Opens

Carlsbad SkatePark has finished its Beginners Bowl and is open to the public. They now look forward to the completion of their Canyon and FREEWAY Slalom runs. It will incorporate standard competition facilities and promote local contests.

SkatePark constructors Jack Graham and John O'Malley have planned the Park to accommodate competitive freestyle and slalom events. Spotlights in the facilities will be standardized freestyle areas as well as two fifty-meter slaloms, a banked slalom of optional lengths up to 700 feet and a Mogul slalom. As a professional facility there's high hopes for large scale contests with national coverage.

"We've tried to allow for as much diversity as we can possibly get out of 80,000 square feet of surfacing and satisfy both beginners and pros at once," says O'Malley, "and we've merged our day-to-day activity design with sound racing conditions. A rider can opt for a slow cruising speed or go for a 30+ m.p.h. run through a series of interwoven bowls and banks ranging from three feet to thirteen feet and exert up to two "g's" on himself in the process."

"Safety," Mr. O'Malley later went on to explain, "is a key point to be stressed at Carlsbad SkatePark. Protective gear will be worn by anyone skating there, to include helmet, gloves, knee and elbow pads and shoes."

Other services to be contained within the Park's facility will be skateboard school, pro shop, and a center complete with a canteen and game room. "The haul-up will be favorite attraction of all the skaters", O'Malley continued, "It'll enable riders to do some serious skating and direct their energy towards trying to tackle the Carlsbad Challenge fully." WHAT'S THAT? "Well, said John, with a smile, "I guess you could call it our unofficial slogan: If you've got the balls we've got the walls."



Scott Williams high in the bowl at Carlsbad SkatePark. In the background are two of the three banks leading into the bowl.

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WORLD CUP SKATEBOARD COMPETITION

KYA radio, in the San Francisco area, sponsored a three event pro contest paying \$300 to first place in Freestyle and Giant Slalom, a G.S. Team Relay received a percentage of its entries. Timing was by USSA. The contest was held April 15, 16 & 17.

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Eddie Katz, riding for Logan Earth Ski

Photo by Warren Bolster.