

**From:** [David Rich](#)  
**To:** [Planning Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Humboldt County Fairgrounds use permits.  
**Date:** Sunday, September 13, 2020 11:08:56 AM

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Hello All, I would like to thank you in advance for your time concerning this matter. I know you received a similar letter from my brother but I would like to add these few things. These events mentioned below and others like it bring multiple generations of families together and provide much needed youth activities in our community. The largest percentage of entries is usually youth. At age 79 and 87 my mother and step father Judy Anderson and Jim Anderson still come to 90% of the events to see my brother and I compete. This kind of family involvement is not unusual.

Back in 1986, two brothers age 17 and 22 yrs moved to Ferndale California home of the Humboldt County Fairgrounds. Having spent most of their youth in the East Bay community of Pleasanton, one continuing to attend Ferndale High School here, the elder shortly after starting a business here. These young men lived and breathed motorcycles. Maintaining and improving their machines performance themselves. Enjoying dirt and street riding in the adjacent National Forests, Eel River Bar and paved Highways and Byways of the North Coast, which they still do in their 50's to this day.

Having an interest in the history of Motorcycles and related Motorsports in America the brothers enjoyed a fascination with Flat Track Racing. Flat Track Racing known as America's original Extreme Sport is or was raced on Wooden Board Tracks, Dirt Horse Racing Tracks, and purpose built Oval Dirt Tracks continuously across America since the 1900's.

Having spent their youth in Pleasanton, home of the Alameda County Fairgrounds, the brothers always looked upon the horse racing facility there with the interest in racing on it. All the while not knowing that motorcycle races had been held there in the past. Upon moving to Ferndale and walking around the dirt track facility there, they looked at one another thinking one day we will race here in our adopted hometown.

Moving forward to 2013. The brothers subsequently started racing Flat Track in the Norcal Short Track Series at the Mendocino County FairGrounds and Lake County FairGrounds, AMA sanctioned events at the Chris Beck Arena at the Sonoma County FairGrounds, and California Flat Track Association events at fairgrounds statewide. The elder later joined the CFTA as the Staff Engineer at events for multiple years while also racing two machines in multiple race classes.

For three consecutive years the brothers provided Rio Dell Volunteer Fire Department's Wildwood Days with an adult and youth motorcycle and quad exhibition flat track race day. The event was enjoyed by the Humboldt communities spectators and contestants.

In the 2017 and 2018 flat track racing seasons the brothers partnered to provide facility and track preparation and maintenance for the Lost Coast Flat Track Series held in Fortuna, at the McWhorter Arena in Rohner Park.

2018 was the year first year motorsports had returned to the unique and incredibly suited dirt surface of the Humboldt County Fairgrounds since the 1940's. The brothers are proud to have operated the water trucks, tractors and implements that created the safe and competition friendly dust free racing surface. Racing upon it ourselves with our local racers along with racers hailing from multiple states.

We ask that the Board of Supervisors approve said conditional use permit and that the residents and merchants of Ferndale and Humboldt County as a whole come out and enjoy the spectacle of these cultural events and community revenues going into the future.

Thank you for your time, David Rich  
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