



BRITISH MOTORSPORTS MARSHALS' CLUB

NORTH WEST REGION

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE

Date:

No: 396

20th July, 2023 at 19:30 at Blue Cap, Sandiway with a concurrent Zoom session

1. ATTENDANCE

Mike Broadbent (Chair); Paul Newns; Duncan Fitz-Gibbons; John Edwards;; Jan Williams, Ian Briggs (via Zoom), and Bill Grey (via Zoom).

Apologies

Andrew Pratt-Fryer; Rob Mugurian; Charlotte King and Mark Mitchell

2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None were declared.

3. PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 16th May, 2023 were approved as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Their acceptance was proposed by DF and seconded by JE.

3.1 Matters Arising

None

4. REPORTS

4.1 Chairman's Report

| | Discussed | Action/Responsibility |
|-------|---|-------------------------------------|
| | MB had circulated his report prior to the meeting. | |
| 4.1.1 | MB advised he has sent a report regarding the use of lights/flags at the TOCA meeting to Dan Carter. He has received an acknowledgement and awaits a more detailed reply. | |
| 4.1.2 | It was agreed that race control need further training on the use of the system. | |
| 4.1.3 | MB has met with the circuit manager, John Rush, along with the Chief Flag, Colin Barne, to discuss an action plan for implementing changes to the lights system. | PN to circulate a copy to Committee |

4.2 Correspondence

| | Discussed | Action/Responsibility |
|-------|---|-----------------------|
| 4.2.1 | A competitor from 750MC had written in praise of Maria Goode, a cadet from the Assembly Area. | |
| 4.2.2 | JE had been advised that for health reasons, a new marshal, Ryan Howe, will be unable to attend for the remainder of this season. | |

4.3 Membership and Grading

| | Discussed | Action/Responsibility |
|-------|---|-----------------------|
| | RM and JE had circulated their reports prior to the meeting. Database issues had meant JE's was less comprehensive than usual. | |
| 4.3.1 | RM had asked for opinions on the applications to upgrade to Assessor from Richard Jones and Phil Cobley. No-one had any objection to RJ upgrading. IB spoke in favour of PC upgrading. MB still has concerns. | MB to discuss with RM |

4.4 Recruitment Training; and Retention

| | Discussed | Action/Responsibility |
|-------|--|------------------------------------|
| | DF and BG had circulated their reports prior to the meeting. | |
| 4.4.1 | BG is waiting to hear from MSUK regarding running training at Anglesey. | |
| 4.4.2 | JE advised that South East Region has run training for dealing with electric vehicles. Northern Ireland have also run training on this subject. | |
| 4.4.3 | MB asked that training on oil dressing be added to next year's sessions. | BG to add to the subjects covered |
| 4.4.4 | DF advise that the recruitment tent at Silverstone during the British GP had had to be moved for a perceived fire exit hazard. | |
| 4.4.5 | JE and DF have met Rob Lee and agreed the content and format for the new recruitment and membership booklets. | |
| 4.4.6 | PN asked if more cards were available to distribute as he had given his out at Silverstone. | DF to provide to Committee members |

4.5 Volunteering Co-Ordinator and Specialist Co-Ordinator

| | Discussed | Action/Responsibility |
|-------|---|-----------------------|
| | JW advised she had nothing to report. | |
| 4.5.1 | Jill Sumner and Margaret Battersby have asked what their grade is under the Marshals' Pathway. JE confirmed they are Level 1 Off Track | |

4.6 Rally and Speed

| | Discussed | Action/Responsibility |
|-------|---|-----------------------|
| 4.6.1 | IB advised BRMC will run a stage in Grizedale with Adam Smith as the new stage commander, under the mentorship of IB. | |
| 4.6.2 | Roger Albert Clark Rally will run a 45 mile stage in North Wales, the longest stage ever run there. BRMC are not involved. | |
| 4.6.3 | BRMC will run a recruitment/taster day at the Historic Rally Festival at Weston Park in September JE reminded that insurance requires a detailed risk assessment to be carried out prior to the event. | |

4.7 Social Media and Publicity; and Newsletter

| | Discussed | Action/Responsibility |
|-------|--|-----------------------|
| 4.7.1 | It has been noted that new marshals have raised various questions via social media lately. DF advised there is a separate Facebook group for new members, although no-one has joined this recently. JE confirmed it is noted in the pack new members receive when they join. | |
| 4.7.2 | There was concern that people were conducting their own surveys on Facebook. | |

4.8 Safeguarding; Equality and Diversity

| | Discussed | Action/Responsibility |
|-------|---|-----------------------|
| 4.8.1 | IB and James Elder recently assessed the ability of a potential marshal with cerebral palsy. His limited mobility makes a role at Oulton difficult, but IB feels there | |

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|-------|---|---------------------------------|
| | may be duties in rallying he could perform, dependent on his communication abilities. | |
| 4.8.2 | MB advised, without any detail, of a safeguarding issue at a recent Oulton event. It was noted that the Club's reporting process worked well. | |
| 4.8.3 | JE advised Margaret Simpson is unable to access MSUK's Safeguarding Register. MB confirmed he can, but not necessarily in a way that will allow comparison with BMMC's database. | JE will raise with Derek Murphy |
| 4.8.4 | It was noted that some inappropriate comments had been made by individuals recently. MB has spoken to one marshal about their behaviour. | |

5. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

| | Discussed | Action/Responsibility |
|-----|---|-----------------------|
| 5.1 | MB has spoken to other clubs regarding their environmental policies. VSCC has a carbon offset calculator which is good. MSUK are very interested in our policy. | |
| 5.2 | CK to contact all regional members via e-mail to update them on our policy. | CK to organise |
| 5.3 | MB has spoken to the circuit about water refill points for marshals' using their own re-useable water bottles. He also raised the possibility of discounts for using our own bottles and mugs. The circuit was not in favour. | |

6. MARSHALS' CONCERNS

| | Discussed | Action/Responsibility |
|-----|--|---|
| 6.1 | APF had raised problems with camping at the TOCA event. Marshals were camped with spectators. There had been instances of anti-social behaviour and intimidation towards marshals. APF's e-mail has been forwarded to John Rush, circuit manager, to see if alternate arrangements can be implemented for the Gold Cup. | |
| 6.2 | There was discussion regarding the facilities at Silverstone for the GP. These included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Inadequate space to accommodate everyone, forcing some to use the "old" site, which was intended for security staff, etc. ii) The lack of checks by security of anyone entering the site, along with a totally uncontrolled entrance. iii) The lack of communication regarding problems. A questionnaire has been received by attendees asking for opinions. | |
| 6.3 | IB believes sign on and the online links needs to be simplified. MB and DF confirmed clubs had been approached regarding DF's app, who advised that their system updates (winter 2022) would negate it. This did not happen. | DF to resurrect it and implement a "soft" introduction within the region. |

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

| | Discussed | Action/Responsibility |
|-----|--|---------------------------------|
| 7.1 | JE reported there will be a National EGM to agree the new governance rules on 5 th September. Details will be sent to everyone shortly | JE to organise |
| 7.2 | In light of the new rules, the regional AGM will need to be brought forward. The new date will be 6 th November. The venue is to be decided and MB asked for suggestions | PN to announce nearer the date. |
| 7.3 | Again for the new Governance Rules, PN needs to know how long each Committee member has held their post. | PN to e-mail everyone. |
| 7.4 | MB mentioned the new Accelerator Award from MSUK. Nominations for the National Marshal of the Year need to be with MSUK | All to submit suitable |

| | | |
|-----|---|----------------------------------|
| | by mid-September MB asked for nominations | candidates. |
| 7.5 | Long-time flag marshal, Keith Kehoe is to retire at the end of the season for health reasons. Colin Barnes is also leaving his role as Chief Flag for personal reasons. It was agreed to propose lifetime membership for both. PN advised the new Chief Flag will be Sean Herbert. | MB to raise at National Council. |
| 7.6 | JE has launched a national marshals' survey asking whether people are doing more or fewer days marshalling this season and the reasons why. NW Region has returned the most responses at 180. These will need to be analysed for trends Early indications are that approximately 50% have reduced their days marshalling. Reasons include: Costs of transport and accommodation Family commitments Quality of the racing/size of grids Health Dissatisfaction with the Marshals' Pathway Lack of recognition Length of the day/lack of a lunchbreak BG advised sprints usually contribute towards costs, and some also offer breakfast or lunch. | PN/JE |
| 7.7 | MB advised Jonathon Palmer had vetoed the placing of a commemorative plaque at the site of the trees planted in remembrance of our lost marshals. | |

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 21:35.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 7th September, 2023 at 19:30 by Zoom.

Please note that this is a change from the originally proposed date.