

2-522 British Motorsport Marshals Club



GET CLOSER TO THE ACTION SAFELY



BMMC MAGAZINE

South Midlands Region
July 2020

GET CLOSER
TO THE ACTION
SAFELY

www.marshals.org.uk



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Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in this Newsletter are those of individual contributors and are not necessarily those of the BMMC, the Region or the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit contributions for length or clarity.

The Chairman's Chatter....

Chris Whitlock - South Midlands Chairman....



Welcome to the Newsletter for the South Midlands Region

Another two months in lockdown with no motorsport to speak of. Surprisingly, as far as I have been concerned it has been very busy. What do they say, no rest for the wicked! It all began with our esteemed Chair Nadine asking for the contact addresses of the marshals' circuit reps. As the BMMC representative at the Association of British Motor Racing Clubs (ABMRC) I am the custodian of the Circuit Reps contacts and they are the go to guys if you have any issues with your local circuit. For my sins I am also Secretary of ABMRC, never volunteer for anything! Long story short Nadine had been asked by Motorsport UK (MSUK) to approach the Circuit Reps to ask them to provide details of how they were going to man their tracks in accordance with the COVID-19 guidelines. MSUK wanted to know how many marshals were needed, where they were going to be posted, what extra points were needed to be manned and how marshals at those extra "posts" would be protected so that changes to the track licences could be agreed with the circuits. Nadine copied me in to the replies as and when they came in and I set up a spread sheet setting out the details. With the 4th July rapidly approaching Nadine then told me that BMMC had agreed to pass the details to the organising club and that fell to me as the BMMC rep at ABMRC. The COVID-19 Officers appointed by the clubs needed this information so that they could complete their risk assessments. Unfortunately, not all the Circuit Reps replied so only 50% of the data was copied to me. Now the COVID-19 guidance has changed and "normal" manning is now allowed as long as social distancing is maintained!

It never rains but it pours! At last we started to receive news about the two "British" Grand Prix. First a communique to all those on the original invitation list asked if they were still willing to participate. Then they were sent a questionnaire to complete, and that was where problems arose. After confirming who you were you were asked to state if you were not vulnerable; vulnerable; or extremely vulnerable, and to help there was a link to the NHS definitions of those terms. As my 70th birthday was on 24th March it seems I am classed as vulnerable. When I ticked that box I was thanked for my offer of help but as I had declared I was vulnerable I could not attend! This despite the Q&A attached to the email said that over 70s who were healthy were welcome!! I questioned this with the Event Team and eventually got the reply that of course I would be welcome, but it had to be my decision to attend! I am now waiting for my passes. If you don't ask, you won't get.

I have good news, we have a new Secretary in South Mids Region. No this is not a mistake; I do know I welcomed Simon Spooner last month as our new Secretary and I am not trying to confuse you. Simon is still with us, I have not sacked him! He only accepted the post as Interim Secretary, he really wanted to be Membership Secretary and that is the post he continues in. Marion Quarrington has offered her services as Secretary and has been welcomed on board by all the committee. Marion has previously been Secretary of the Matra Enthusiasts Club UK.

We have started having committee meetings once a month and we are meeting virtually via Zoom. We have decided that all our future committee meetings except for the first and last each year will be virtual. In view of the continuing social distancing requirements we have decided that this year's AGM could not take the usual format of a dinner and so will be a virtual meeting, more information to follow nearer the time. We will arrange a BMMC South Mids Dinner as and when we are able to do so.

Personally, with the uncertainty surrounding the likelihood of local lockdowns, the availability of hotels and acceptability for meetings I have decided to restrict my marshalling to Silverstone for this year. I hope to see some of you there even if only at a social distance.

Chris
Chris Whitlock
SM Chairman
British Motorsports Marshal's Club

Notice to Members

Despite the latest Covid 19 guidance (Version 2 14th July) issued by Motorsport UK stating:

“the act of trainee marshals shadowing other marshals is temporarily put on hold. However, if the trainee is fulfilling a function as a marshal for the event and “learning on the job” this can continue if the current guidance around social distancing is adhered to”

Some clubs are refusing to sign on Trainee marshals and that is their decision. If you are graded as a Trainee but have track side experience do not despair, there are clubs that will accept your volunteering. Try using the BMMC Volunteering database which will forward your application to the Chief Marshal for the event.

Chris
Chris Whitlock
SMids Chairman
British Motorsports Marshal's Club

More Nostalgia

Last time I promised you a bit more about my adventures with the Land Registry (TW) Motor Club. The Land Registry in Tunbridge Wells no longer exists, it was demolished to make way for a housing estate. Back in the 70s though it consisted of a six storey office bloc with a three storey wing and a collection of single storey spurs linked by long corridors. There was quite a strong social scene utilising some of this accommodation. There was a social club with bar, darts, pool table and two full size and two half size snooker tables. There were two table tennis rooms and the motor club had a scalextric room with space for a twelve foot main strait. They also had use of a garage on site and that housed the club mini. It had been abandoned somewhere near Crowborough and one enterprising member asked what the police intended to do with it. It was due to be scrapped, but it got diverted to the club.

The Club mini was financed by the club, and six core members who managed to get MSA competition licences and was prepared for competition by those six. They had first call on its use, but members without competition licences could also use it for off road driving tests. The six used the mini in auto cross and grass track events as well as driving tests. It was a 1250 Clubman mini and was fitted with all the safety kit required, kill switches, fire extinguisher, full harness seat belt and roll cage. At its second grass track event it looked like it was going to fail scrutineering due to the lack of side protection, but we found a stout wooden plank which was wired into place bridging the gap between the front leg and rear leg of the roll cage inside the driver's door. Don't think we would get away with that today, in fact we were surprised we got away with it then. A side protection bar was welded in after the event as a result. We had some problems with the wheels; the wheels were moving on the studs and enlarging the holes. New tougher wheels required! We had some success but were competing against Escort Mexicos with bigger engines. I remember one more successful event near Dartford Hospital. It was raining hard and the course was very muddy. We fitted taller and narrower wheels and managed to keep going in sections where the escorts got stuck. We were doing well when the event was abandoned.

The mini was more popular in autotests, in fact the father in law of one of the six owned a farm and let us use one of the fields. Its dimensions were perfect, we only needed to put one "garage" in the course to comply with the regulations that required a reverse section within so many yards. Apart from that it was a mad dash around the field which was on the side of a hill. However, all good things come to an end. The six got ambitious and decided the mini would be more competitive in the under 1000cc class. They scraped together the pennies and purchased an 850cc competition engine from a known engine preparer. They were right it was more competitive it gave Rod Chapman a local Autocross hero a run for his money on his own track. Unfortunately, it dropped onto three cylinders, a piston ring had broken. The engine needed a rebore but the wives of the six said enough; they had spent too much on this frivolous activity. The mini was sold and the money was split between the Club and the six.

Chris

Chris Whitlock

SMids Chairman

British Motorsports Marshal's Club

Marion Quarrington - Introduction

Hello to all the South Midlands members, and for those of you who don't know me here is a quick introduction.

I started marshalling in 2008 after MGCC asked for volunteers from within the club to observe in the pit lane on their 4-hour relay race at Snetterton – I volunteered and was instantly hooked. I joined BMMC, got my overalls and have never looked back!

I prefer to volunteer for classic and historic racing events, and club level rather than international, and I marshal at both circuit and speed events. I achieved Examining Specialist grade in 2019, and I am also a Trainee Kart marshal, having started with HKRC at Kimbolton in 2018.

I live near to St. Neots in Cambridgeshire, so my closest venue used to be Rockingham but is now Silverstone, with both Snetterton and Donington circuits within reach as a “day trip”. My speed marshalling tends to be at Prescott now that Rockingham no longer hosts sprints, and I also marshal at Kop Hill Climb. I have helped out at a number of recent South Mids BMMC training events so you may have seen me there as well.

I have previous experience as a club secretary for 6 years with the Matra Enthusiasts Club UK (I owned a Matra Bagheera for 10 years), and have recently taken early retirement from my job as a Project Manager for a global power management company.

Please say hello if you see me at an event – I usually have my bear Fangio helping me out from the top pocket of my overalls!

Marion
Marion Quarrington
SMids Secretary
British Motorsports Marshal's Club

BMMC Volunteering System

For this month I have compiled my usual spreadsheet listing the motorsport events in our region for the next three months, most of which have been confirmed, do log in to our volunteering web page for updates.

At present each club have their own method of selecting marshals for their events so don't be surprised if you are not chosen for any event you have volunteered for, but all being well this should change within the next few weeks, so do keep an eye open for MSUK updates.

Do please continue to use our volunteering web page to either volunteer or just tick the box 'volunteered with organising club' your use of our system helps enormously when it comes to purchasing insurance cover etc.

Whichever way you choose to volunteer for any motorsport event please ensure you volunteer with one organisation only as this will ensure the event Chief Marshal has an accurate list of marshals volunteered.

Finally, if you spot any errors in the events I have listed or you know of an event that I have missed do drop me an email and I will do my best to sort it.

Glynn

Glynn Ellis

SMids Volunteering Co-ordinator and Recruitment Organiser British
Motorsport Marshal's Club

Marshal Recruitment

The events still scheduled or rearranged for 2020 where South Midlands region propose to hold recruitment stands include,

Sywell Classic Pistons and Props 19th September

Silverstone BTCC 26th & 27th September.

Silverstone British GT 7th & 8th November.

Silverstone Motorsport Days Live 20th & 21st November.

We are looking at recruiting at other events later in the year depending on the rules for spectators

To ensure these recruitment events achieve the maximum take up we need help from you, our members, be it BMMC or SMT working together to add to the orange family. Recruitment stand members can be of any grade or experience as there will be an experienced BMMC member in attendance to help with any unusual questions. So, if you have a day or half day free at any one of the dates above just drop me an email and I will arrange your attendance.

As you are probably already aware these events are still very much in abeyance and should the event proceed the venue gates may be locked for spectators, in which case recruitment will be abandoned.

Enjoy your marshalling and stay safe.

Glynn

Glynn Ellis

SMids Volunteering Co-ordinator and Recruitment Organiser British
Motorsport Marshals' Club

2020 SM EVENTS IN THE NEXT THREE MONTHS

Date	Organiser	Type	Location	Title
22nd August	Whilton Mill Kart Club	Karting	Whilton Mill	
22nd August	Green Belt MC	Autocross	Much Hadden, Herts	
22nd August	750 MC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone Int.	
22nd August	Bentley Owners Club	Circuit Racing	Silverstone National	
23rd August	Whilton Mill Kart Club	Karting	Whilton Mill	
23rd August	Falcon MC	Autotest	Sywell	Grass Auto test
23rd August	Green Belt MC	Autocross	Much Hadden, Herts	
23rd August	750 MC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone Int.	
5th Sept.	HERO	Trials	Bicester	
12th Sept.	BRSCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone National	
13th Sept.	BRSCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone National	
19th Sept.	MSVR	Circuit Racing	Silverstone GP.	Ferrari
19th Sept.	Shenington Kart Club	Karting	Shenington	
19th Sept.	Falcon MC	Sprint	Sywell Aerodrome	Pistons & Props.
20th Sept.	MSVR	Circuit Racing	Silverstone GP	
20th Sept.	Shenington Kart Club	Karting	Shenington	
20th Sept.	Falcon MC	Sprint	Sywell Aerodrome	Ford Fest
26th Sept.	Whilton Mill Kart Club	Karting	Whilton Mill	
26th Sept.	BARC - BTCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone National	BTCC
27th Sept.	Whilton Mill Kart Club	Karting	Whilton Mill	
27th Sept.	BARC - BTCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone National	BTCC
3rd October	MSVR - AMOC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone National	
10th October	BARC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone Int.	Britcar
10th October	Fueltopia	Autotest	Santa Pod	formula G
11th October	BARC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone Int.	Britcar
11th October	Falcon MC	Trials	Ivinghoe	
17th October	HSCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone National	Finals
17th October	Shenington Kart Club	Karting	Shenington	
18th October	HSCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone National	Finals
18th October	Shenington Kart Club	Karting	Shenington	
24th October	750 MC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone GP	Birkett
24th October	Whilton Mill Kart Club	Karting	Whilton Mill	
25th October	Whilton Mill Kart Club	Karting	Whilton Mill	
29th October	Shenington Kart Club	Karting	Shenington	
31st October	HSCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone National	Walter Hayes

Glynn

Glynn Ellis

SMids Volunteering Co-ordinator and Recruitment Organiser British Motorsport Marshals' Club



Grading Gripes

Marshals Getting Back on Track

Motorsport has returned after a four-month period of enforced hibernation, able to do so with a plethora of restrictions and regulations, updated almost on a weekly basis – Oh joy to be a Competition Secretary, Chief Marshal or Senior Official!

Grading Scheme

The 'Grading Matters' message from Rob Mugurian, National Grading Officer, published in the May Newsletter, still holds good. However, this and the information below must be qualified by: "*at the time of writing*".

In the July Marshals Update bulletin, Motorsport UK has reaffirmed the current position for the Grading Scheme:-

- All Marshal registrations will be carried forward over to 2021 with no need to renew.
- Marshals will not be downgraded should they not be able to meet attendance criteria.
- Attendance / upgrade signatures will need to be obtained from the Chief marshal by email – PRCs will not be signed.
- No assessments will be carried out until further notice.

As the PRCs will not be completed at the end-of-the day; marshals will need to self-record their attendance at events. The format being a matter of personal choice, be it an adaptation of the PRC continuation sheet; computer spread sheet or old tech' – pen and paper. In addition to recording:- *date; venue & duty*, it may be helpful for future reference to add:- *name or initials of organising club; post number or location, if off-circuit role*. If you are working toward an upgrade, depending on level of grade, record any specific incident or activity, above that of routine as may serve as useful evidence at a future date.

Your Grading Records

It is recommended you check your grading records held by BMMC. These are to be found on the top right of the Volunteering webpage:-

- Click on the '*person icon*' adjacent to your name then, click on '*view my grading information*' where you will find a black and orange table detailing your gradings with dates achieved.
- Compare the entries to those on your Motorsport UK, 2020 Grading Registration Card. The Club grading record may include historical gradings – *track; experienced; flag*; Trainee will be shown where you have yet to an upgrade registration for the named marshalling discipline.
- If your registered Primary Club is not BMMC – this information is to be found on the reverse of the Grading Registration Card – or your upgrade assessment was conducted by another Club; the BMMC does not have record of your grades!
- In the case of the above or there are discrepancies or omissions for ' your grading record; please forward a photo copy of the Motorsport UK grading registration card; with explanation of what you require to the National Grading Officer:- nat.grading@marshals.co.uk .

Grading Advice & Guidance Notes

Motorsport UK has, in recent months, reviewed and updated the various guidance notes to be found on the Marshals Resources section of the website. www.motorsportuk.org/resources-centre/marshals/

Upgrade Assessments

When the current embargo on assessments is lifted, please be patient when trying to book an assessment through the Chief Marshal or Marshals Secretary. Try not to make your request at short notice. You need to check if you have met the requirements for upgrade you need to ensure you have the following:

- Completed event attendance and training module criteria before you are assessed.
- You must have attended a training day and completed all necessary modules for the upgrade within the last two years.
- You must have obtained your attendance signature within the last three years.
- Attendance signatures obtained when marshalling abroad cannot be used towards your upgrade with Motorsport UK.
- If you have attended an FIA sanctioned event abroad, your event signature can be used towards your grade maintenance requirements only.

Malcolm

Malcolm Flippance

SMids Grading Officer

British Motorsports Marshal's Club

2020 South Mids Marshal of the Year

To date we have only had a meagre response to our request for nominations for this Year's Marshal of the Year award. To remind you, because the marshalling opportunities have been halved, **we have decided to extend the scope of nominations to include members who have done something extraordinary outside the field of marshalling.**

Knowing how selfless and generous marshals generally are I cannot believe that there is only one person in South Mids region who has put themselves out to help or reassure others during the present Covid 19 crisis. However, also knowing how reticent and reluctant marshals are at blowing their own trumpet if you know any member who has stepped forward to help others please tell us about them.

If you wish to nominate a member for this award please send their name to SM.Secretary@marshals.co.uk together with a short note explaining why they should be considered. Closing date for nominations is Friday 9th October 2020. The Committee will consider the submissions when they meet on 12th October and the result will be announced at our AGM which is likely to be 25th October.

Chris
Chris Whitlock
SMids Chairman
British Motorsports Marshal's Club

Newsletter Deadlines

All members of the Region are invited to contribute articles to the Newsletter.

Newsletters are published in the following months:

January
March
May
July
September
November

If you have any articles that you would like to see published can you please email the Newsletter Editor by the 20th of each publishing month at: sm.news@marshals.co.uk

Regional Committee Meetings

Would you like to attend our Regional Committee Meeting to see how the Committee works for you? Meetings are held 6 times a year on a Monday at The George, Tiffield, NN12 8AD, 19.45 for 20.00.

Future South Midlands Committee Meetings will be virtual using Zoom

Anyone who wishes to attend to observe should notify the Secretary a week before the meeting so that they can be sent the relevant link.

Dates are:

7th September
12th October
9th November
13th December (face to face meeting – Committee Members only)

BMMC South Mids Regalia Sales Order Form

For British Rally Marshals Club regalia please contact:
Derek Murphy - Mobile: 07768 202236 - Email: regalia@bmc.org.uk

For all other Club Regalia please see our latest on-line catalogue www.marshals.co.uk

Or send an A5 size SAE to: Adrian Cashmore, 9 Church Street, Weedon, Northants, NN74PL

Item	Price		Grade	Qty	Total Cost
Grading Badge (Please provide proof of grade)	1.50				
Grading Badge (Please provide proof of grade)	1.50				
Union Badge	1.50				
Sew-on Cloth Badge	2.00				
Lapel Badge	2.00				
Interior Sticker	2.00				
Exterior Sticker	2.00				
Long Interior Sticker	2.00				
Heroes Cloth Badge	2.00				
Heroes Lapel Badge	2.00				
Heroes Sticker	2.00				
Heroes Keyring	2.00				
50 Years of Motorsport Marshalling	Free				
					Total

Name:

MembershipNos:

Address: Postcode:

Telephone Nos:

Mobile:

Email:

Cheques should be made payable to: BMMC Limited

Please send this order form with payment to: Adrian Cashmore, 9 Church Street, Weedon, Northants, NN7 4PL - Email sm.regalia@marshals.co.uk

SOUTH MIDLANDS REGION

Chair	Secretary	Treasurer
Chris Whitlock 3 Acorn Way Silverstone Northants NN12 8DQ Tel: 01327 857011 Mobile: Email: sm.chair@marshals.co.uk	Marion Quarrington 7 High Street, Southoe, St Neots PE19 5YE Mob: 07876 422675 (No calls after 9pm) Email: sm.secretary@marshals.co.uk	Adrian Cashmore 9 Church Street Weedon Northants NN7 4PL Tel: 01327 340677 Mobile: Email: sm.treasurer@marshals.co.uk
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