

BMMC South Midlands Committee – Activity Summary end March 2022

Here is a summary of the topics that the committee discussed in February and March 2022:

- discussed the initiative from Motorsport UK (MSUK) to invite various marshals to undertake DBS checks (or the equivalent in Scotland). This will become mandatory for those involved in Karting, in Drag Racing and in the paddock at a Hill Climb. The Committee noted that, unfortunately, BMMC had not received advanced notice of this announcement, and so were limited in how they could answer members' questions.
- noted that Examining Marshals had been contacted by MSUK as the first step in the plans for them to convert to Assessors through a training course.
- the Virtual Taster Day sessions have now been offered to everyone in our Region who had contacted BMMC and expressed an interest in marshalling. Now that we are close to the start of the racing season the Virtual sessions have stopped and we have started planning to hold in-person Taster Days at Silverstone, to invite people who have contacted us more recently. By the March Committee meeting Taster Day dates were still being agreed with the organising clubs, but it was hoped that the first one would be held in April. The Committee thanked all those who had created and helped deliver the Virtual Taster Day programme.
- planning improvements for the organisation of physical Taster Days so they are even more effective. For example, a different invitation process which starts earlier and allows time to find replacements for anyone who cannot attend or who drops out, so we can make sure that all places are filled;
- planning Recruitment stands for 2022. We still need volunteers to help out on the day, so please look out for the dates elsewhere in this Newsletter.
- reviewed our two training programmes delivered at the end of February which, if your feedback is anything to go by, were very successful. A full report on both events is included in this Newsletter. The Committee thanked the trainers, and particularly Nina Fountain, who had stepped in to do the bulk of the pre-event organisation when Matt Turner was stranded in temporary accommodation following the collapse of his house move.
- congratulated Keith Madderson who completed his Trainer assessment and is now a fully certified Motorsport UK Trainer. We also congratulated four members who had been honoured by the Silverstone Marshals Club, Pete Berry, Alan and Fay Crook, and Stuart Brunton.
- responded to a request from National for ideas on how to make future training more cost-effective without detracting from quality, as the British Motor Sport Training Trust has warned that they will no longer be able to cover the full cost of our training.
- discussed the announcement that Silverstone will be introducing permanent FIA signalling lights towards the start of the season, to be used for various events. We were pleased to hear that 2022 is more experimental, and there will be opportunities to offer feedback and for changes to be made to the operation and location of the lights before the planned incorporation in to Regulations for 2023.
- received feedback from the meeting with Silverstone which had been organised to discuss some points raised by our members at our "Meet the Committee" meeting regarding marshalling conditions at Silverstone. Discussions are still on-going.
- held a Virtual Noggin and Natter on March 9th with Hugh Chambers, CEO of MSUK, as our guest. A summary of the evening will be included in the next Newsletter. The "physical" meetings continue to be organised by Bob Sketchley.

The dates for the remaining 2022 Committee meetings are

April 4 th	May 9 th	June 6 th	July 4 th
June 6 th	July 4 th	October 3 rd	November 7 th
December 5 th			

If you have any comments or questions about the committee please don't hesitate to contact Marion on sm.secretary@marshals.co.uk.