

BMMC Magazine

South Midlands Region



May 2023



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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.

Chairman's Chatter

WOW! What a busy month it has been! Only one weekend actually marshalling so far and only a couple of days working at Silverstone. I had to cry off the GT meeting because I had a stinking cold. However still got two days of HSCC to look forward to at the end of the month. So, what has kept me busy? Well, the Governance Working Group (GWG) has been busy putting the final touches together to the revised Club Articles and Rules and this has included defining all regional and national roles for The Board (the Directors), national co-ordinators (previously known as Executive Officers) and regional committees. On the 17th the Directors met and reviewed the GWG proposals and agreed that we were in a position to put the changes to the members at an Extra General Meeting. We are currently looking for a suitable date.



The Officers of the Club (National Chairman, Secretary, & Treasurer) invited all North East members to a Zoom meeting to discuss the future of the region following the resignation of the Chairman and eight committee members. Those that were present made it clear they wanted to continue as a region. Nadine said that the Officers are there to help. It was agreed more use of social media should be made and good communications with the membership are key. NW and Midland region have offered to help bring the region together.

Alex Hodgkinson (Chairman SW region) and myself were recruited to interview the candidates for the BMCC National Training Officer post vacated by Lynne Kendall. We had three applications and decided to carry out the interviews over three nights so we could provide a recommendation to the Directors meeting on the 17th. Following the interviews Alex and I compared notes and came to the same conclusion; we both felt Cath Holmstrom was the best candidate despite only being a marshal for seven years. In that time she has attended 30-40 race meetings and 5-10 Speed events per year. She was the only candidate currently marshalling at grass roots level as well as national and international races as Post Chief; after all we are British Motorsports Marshals. The other candidates experience was limited to Race/Rally Rescue or Race.

On the 16th I attended another Association of British Motor Racing Clubs committee meeting as Secretary and was able to support Mike Broadbent's arguments that marshals should be included in decisions about the location of flag points and light panels. Motorsport UK reported they had reached a decision that flags and lights should be co-located and are arranging this except at Silverstone where FIA permission is required to make changes. Mike asked when would Motorsport UK produce guidance on how the lights should be operated. Motorsport UK stated regulations would be drafted when the BTCC trial was completed. The point was made we need training and guidance now because the lights are not only used at BTCC events. As Motorsport UK said the systems GPS can be used to track competitors and identify overtaking infringements I questioned the accuracy of the GPS. I guess we have all experienced Satnav systems instructing us to turn now some 15/20 feet before a junction; how many car lengths is that?

Finally, on 13th and 14th Tessa and I attended the 750MC meeting at Trac Mon. This was our first visit to the Anglesey circuit! What a GEM! Fantastic old style circuit with virtually no armco or gravel traps, just earth banks. Tessa was working in Race Control logging and entering data into GT Apps. She loved the view across the Menai Strait to Snowdon. The weather was great on Saturday but overcast on Sunday with light rain during the two hour enduro race on Sunday. As it was my first visit to the circuit I volunteered as a Flag marshal but found I was alone flagging and observing – no change there then! We had a great weekend. Everyone was friendly and helpful. We will be back.

Chris Whitlock
SMids Chairman
British Motorsport Marshals Club

Secretary Scribblings

The South Midlands committee meets monthly, at present on the internet using Zoom, and all members are welcome to join us. Here is a summary of the topics that the committee have covered since the last Newsletter:

- discussed the negative impact on visibility and circuit access for marshals from the creation of a new spectator bank at Brooklands/Luffield, the construction fencing around the new kart circuit, and the extended debris fencing along the Assembly Area. Some areas of the track are no longer visible from some flag posts, whilst the additional fencing is restricting how Incident Marshals get to and from the track. This will be raised with the appropriate bodies.
- started applications to the respective organisers for our recruitment stand at events in 2023, both at Silverstone and at other venues. As we have been promised the loan of some competition cars at some events, we are able to ask for larger stands than in previous years. The details of where we'll be are elsewhere in this newsletter and please contact Glynn on sm.volco@marshals.co.uk if you would like to help at one of our recruitment events.
- heard from our Membership Secretary, Steve, how he is encouraging and supporting potential new marshals to register with Motorsport UK and volunteer for an event, without having a Taster Day first. He has produced a "first-time guide" for marshalling at Silverstone which helps new marshals navigate that all-important first day and get the best from their experience.
- received a report from our first Taster Day at Silverstone for potential new marshals. All four attendees opted to "shadow" Incident Marshals for the afternoon, all had a "taste of the action" on their posts, and all have since joined BMMC *and* marshalled again! If you would like to help as a guide at future Taster Days, please contact Steve on sm.members@marshals.co.uk.
- noted that Council have asked for recommendations for the charity that BMMC will support in 2024, we are supporting Race Against Dementia in 2023. If anyone has any suggestions, please send them to Chris at sm.chair@marshals.co.uk and he will forward on.
- noted that North East Region Committee has received a number of resignations, and all the South Midlands Committee members offered to help if required until the roles are filled.
- noted that there was a period in late 2022/early 2023 when Motorsport UK were not notifying a marshal's Primary Club if they were granted a new grade under the Acquired Rights Scheme, so BMMC records would be out of date. If this applies to you please read the relevant article elsewhere in this Newsletter to ensure we have all your latest grading information.

Please let me know if there is anything you would like us to discuss so I can add it to the agenda, but please let me know at least 2 weeks before the meeting. The dates for 2023 are below, all are on a Monday evening and the meeting starts at 19:45. If you want to join us at the meeting please send an e-mail no later than 2 days before the meeting to sm.secretary@marshals.co.uk, along with your membership number and the e-mail address you will be joining from, and I will send you the joining instructions.

June 5	July 10	August 7	September 11	October 9	November 6
December 11					

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

Marion Quarrington
SMids Secretary
British Motorsport Marshals Club

BMMC Volunteering System

Below I have summarised a list of events happening in June, July and August within our South Midlands region, further details of these events can be found by logging on to our volunteering web site.

Please do use our volunteering web site to register the events you are volunteering for, be it either volunteering for an event or just registering that you have volunteered direct with the organising club, these entries are used by our national committee for items such as the number of days our members have volunteered for to obtain more accurate quotations for our insurance.

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

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

2023 SMids Events in the Next Three Months

Date	Organiser	Type	Location	Title
Jun. 2nd	BARC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone GP	Ginetta Cars
Jun. 3rd	BARC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone Nat.	Ginetta Cars
Jun. 4th	BARC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone Nat.	Ginetta Cars
Jun. 5th	BMMC	Committee Meeting	via Zoom	
Jun. 10th	MGCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone GP	MG Live
Jun. 10th	HKRC	Karting	Kimbolton	Round 5
Jun. 11th	MGCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone	MG Live
Jun. 11th	HKRC	Karting	Kimbolton	Round 5
Jun. 17th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Round 6
Jun. 18th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Round 6
Jun. 24th	BARC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone GP	Britcar
Jun. 24th	WMKC	Karting	Whilton Mill	
Jun. 25th	BARC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone GP	Britcar
Jun. 25th	WMKC	Karting	Whilton Mill	
July 8th	HKRC	Karting	Kimbolton	Round 6
July 9th	HKRC	Karting	Kimbolton	Round 6
July 10th	BMMC	Committee Meeting	Via Zoom	
July 14th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	
July 15th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Round 7
July 16th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Round 7
July 20th	750MC	Sprint	Silverstone	Formula Student
July 21st	750MC	Sprint	Silverstone	Formula Student
July 22nd	WMKC	Karting	Whilton Mill	
July 22nd	750MC	Sprint	Silverstone	Formula Student
July 23rd	750MC	Sprint	Silverstone	Formula Student
July 23rd	WMKC	Karting	Whilton Mill	
July 29th	MSVR	Circuit Racing	Silverstone GP	
July 30th	MSVR	Circuit Racing	Silverstone GP	
Aug. 7th	BMMC	Committee Meeting	Via Zoom	
Aug. 12th	BDC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone Nat.	
Aug. 12th	HKRC	Karting	Kimbolton	Round 7
Aug. 13th	HKRC	Karting	Kimbolton	Round 7
Aug. 19th	750MC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone Int.	
Aug. 19th	BRSCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone Nat.	
Aug. 20th	750MC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone Int.	
Aug. 20th	BRSCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone Nat.	
Aug. 25th	HSCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone GP	Silverstone Festival
Aug. 26th	HSCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone GP	Silverstone Festival
Aug. 26th	WMKC	Karting	Whilton Mill	
Aug. 27th	WMKC	Karting	Whilton Mill	
Aug. 27th	HSCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone GP	Silverstone Festival

Marshal Recruitment

We now have a confirmed list of events that your South Midlands Recruitment Team will be attending in 2023, see below.

10 th & 11 th June	Silverstone MG Live
6 th , 7 th , 8 th & 9 th July	British GP, Silverstone.
25 th , 26 th & 27 th August	Silverstone Festival (The Classic)
16 th & 17 th September	Kop Hill Climb
23 rd & 24 th September	Silverstone BTCC
3 rd & 4 th November	Silverstone Motorsport Days Live

Our marshal recruitment team had a good weekend at Sywell Supercar Fest with a lot of fans expressing an interest in marshalling. We also saw an amazing display of supercars pass in front of our stand.



If you are available and fancy helping out at one or more of our marshal recruitment events please drop me an email at sm.volco@marshals.co.uk

Other events where there is a large footfall of motorsport enthusiasts could be considered if sufficient members are able to help man the stand.

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

Environment & Sustainability: Zero Hero



Hi, I'm Annette, and I'm the Zero Hero for the BMMC South Midlands Region. Here's my first article for our Sustainability Campaign.

So, it's a Saturday or Sunday, you're at a race meeting, and it's lunch time – what are you talking about with the other marshals on your post? I bet it's not sustainability! You're here because you love motorsport, right? I'm sure you can talk at length about the sound of Matra V12 engines, or the driving standards in your favourite race series, or the perfect three racecar garage you would buy if you won the National Lottery, but climate change – well, maybe not so much.

But climate change is real and it's happening right now – and it's having an impact on the places we live, work and marshal. The Miami F1 track is flooded as I write this, perhaps Sebastian Vettel's comments have come true sooner than he expected? Did you know that the BMMC has an environmental and sustainability policy – and part of the work towards meeting this policy has been getting volunteers like me to be "Zero Heroes" who can promote this policy. The policy says the BMMC should aim to reduce our carbon footprint, measure our performance, and help to protect the environment to make sure we can leave a better, sustainable, long-lasting legacy for future generations of marshals to enjoy.



So, what has this got to do with you and me as marshals out there on our weekends?



Firstly, I've been a marshal for 15 years and I love it. I have participated in events big and small, seen some amazing cars and racing, and made friends from all walks of life and from all over the country. If I can find a way to help reduce the impact on climate change so I can keep marshalling, then I want to do it.

Secondly, we can all do it – there are lots of simple changes that we can make to our marshalling lives that mostly have minimal cost and could be easier to do than the things we do now.

Thirdly, these changes could help make our weekends, and the planet, better – for us and for future generations.



I'm going to be writing in each newsletter in 2023 and sharing some of the things I am doing to reduce my impact on the planet, and I know these are things that you will be able to try as well.

Together we can make a difference.

Best Wishes

Annette Benson
SMids Environment & Sustainability
British Motorsport Marshals 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 12 times a year on a Monday virtually via Zoom, 19.45 for 20.00. Ten of these meetings are virtual for anyone wishing to attend with the first and last meetings being face to face with venues to be confirmed, dependant on current COVID-19 guidelines at the time.

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.

Meetings for 2023 are:

January 9	February 6	March 6	April 3	May 8	June 5
July 10	August 7	September 11	October 9	November 6	December 11

BMMC South Mids Regalia Sales Order Form

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

Membership Nos:

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone Nos:

Mobile:

Email:

Cheque should be made payable to: BMMC Limited

Please send this order form with payment to: Adrian Cashmore, 9 Church Street, Weedon, Northants, NN17 4PL - Email: sm.regalia@marshals.co.uk

SOUTH MIDLANDS REGION

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