

BMMC Magazine

South Midlands Region

01:58



September 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

I don't know what happened to Chairman's Chatter in July, I certainly drafted a piece but cannot now find evidence that it was sent! My apologies it must have got forgotten in the rush to go on holiday and as we were on a cruise with no wi-fi I didn't discover its loss until our return.

We had a great holiday visiting Scandinavian capitol and I hope you had a pleasant break from my disconnected jottings.

Back to marshalling now; but where are the marshals? The one consistent feature of the meetings I have attended has been the lack of marshals.



My most recent meeting was the "new" Silverstone Festival which has inherited the issues associated with the Silverstone Classic, namely very long days. All three days of the Festival were scheduled to run until 7pm, even Sunday; never mind the 6pm curfew. In fact, we learnt at sign-on on Saturday that marshals were expected to remain on post at 7pm to provide safety cover for a Porsche Parade which was expected to last 50 minutes and have 75 cars. Needless to say, we were running late. It was a long day with no lunch break as demonstrations at "lunch time" had to be covered. All this despite assurances earlier in the year that the Festival would run no later than 7pm.

A strange thing happened; marshals left to take their meal break, I/Os and Post Chiefs stayed on post, Rescue Units disappeared. The Porsches were reported by a couple of posts for stopping to create gaps that they could sprint into and the Parade was red flagged.

Motorsport UK has recently updated its guidance for Parades and Demonstrations and unfortunately the safety cover for both has to be the same as for racing.

To top it all I have discovered at least three posts had Port-a-loos that were so full they were flushing urine: Club, Vale, & Farm. At all three the loos are in prohibited areas and are therefore difficult to service.

Tessa and I had not volunteered for the Sunday of the Festival with the intention of going to the circuit as spectators to see the fabulous cars in action but after Saturday we were so disgusted with the way marshals had been treated, we couldn't face returning!

Is it any wonder Silverstone is short of marshals.

Chris Whitlock
SMids Chairman
British Motorsport Marshals Club

South Mids Region AGM

28th October 2023

As has become customary we are holding our regional Annual General Meeting on the eve of the Birkett Meeting at Silverstone Circuit and all South Mids members are invited to attend. The AGM will take place at The Saracen's Head in Towcester, and the official Notice is also in the newsletter. As usual to encourage attendance we are organising a dinner, the cost of which is subsidised for members, and everyone attending will receive a small gift. This year John Edwards the National Secretary of the British Motorsport Marshals' Club will be attending to present our Annual Awards and answer members questions.

According to the new Club Rules we need a minimum of 9 BMMC South Midlands members to form a quorum at the regional AGM on 28th October, but those members cannot be existing committee members. So please come along and support us; you don't have to stay for the dinner, why not just stop by for a Noggin & Natter. The official business of the AGM takes no longer than 15 – 20 minutes.

Chris Whitlock
SMids Chairman
British Motorsport Marshals Club



Founded 1957

Motorsport UK recognised. No.120522

British Motorsports Marshals' Club

THE marshals' club

Website: www.marshals.co.uk

British Motorsport Marshals Club – South Midlands Region

Notice is hereby given that the 56th Annual General Meeting of the South Midlands Region of the British Motorsport Marshal's Club Ltd will be held on **Saturday October 28th 2023 at 19:30** in the Pickwick Room, The Saracen's Head Hotel, 219 Watling Street, Towcester NN12 6BX.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence

2. Minutes of the 2022 AGM

Draft minutes are available to view on the Regional Webpage.

3. Chair's Report

4. Secretary's Report

5. Treasurer's Report

The Annual Report will be available to view on the Regional Webpage from October 14th

6. Confirmation of Committee Members

Written nominations to join the Committee, duly proposed and seconded, shall be in the hands of the Regional Secretary as soon as possible. Nominations close on Thursday September 28th 2023 at 18:00. Please contact the Regional Secretary for the nomination form.

Signed: Marion Quarrington

Issued at Version 2: September 18th 2023.

Please advise the Regional Secretary of your intention to attend by October 25th if possible so we can arrange seating.

Contact details for the Regional Secretary are

Email: sm.secretary@marshals.co.uk

Other contact details are on the regional section of the website.

The AGM will be followed by the Annual End of Season Dinner, for which advance booking is required (closing date October 13th). Please see the website for details or contact the Secretary as above.

South Midlands Region

Annual End of Season Dinner including 56th Annual General Meeting

will take place on
Saturday October 28th 2023

At The Saracen's Head Hotel,
219 Watling Street, Towcester NN12 6BX

AGM to start at 7:30pm, dinner to start at 8:00pm

Menu Choice (overview)

Starter: Ham hock & pea terrine; King prawn and avocado bruschetta; Mushrooms with garlic sauce; Sweet potato, chickpea & red pepper koftas.

Main: Traditional roast beef; Chicken fillet with mushroom sauce; Salmon fillet & Prawns; Beetroot, sweet potato and butternut squash tart; Butternut squash and cashew Wellington.

Dessert: Afternoon tea cheesecake; Triple-Chocolate Brownie; Apple and blackberry crumble; Prosecco sorbet.

Please see the full menu on the Regional Website for full description, allergen information and calorie content.

Two courses £15 BMMC members / £20:99 members' guests
Three courses £22 BMMC members / £27:99 members' guests

Members costs sponsored by BMMC National Council. Please pay for all meals on the night (cash or card accepted), and please note that the above costs exclude any items in the "Make It Extra Special" section which will be chargeable separately.

Please advise your dinner attendance and menu choice as soon as possible and **no later than 13th October 2023** by contacting Marion Quarrington on email sm.secretary@marshals.co.uk.

Note: a charge may be made if a pre-booked dinner is cancelled after 25th October 2023.

Please also advise **by 25th October 2023** if you are attending the AGM only and will not be attending the Dinner, so we can make appropriate seating arrangements.

Marion Quarrington
SMids Secretary
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 some of the topics that the committee have covered since the last Newsletter:

- continued with planning the training that we will deliver over the winter period. Building on our successful training in 2023 we are again looking to deliver Kart training at at least one of our three regional Kart circuits and will be submitting a grant application in September to help fund this. The committee is considering the best and most cost-effective way of delivering Race training for our members as the Region is still without a dedicated Training Co-Ordinator. If you would like to find out more about this key role in supporting our members, then please contact Chris on sm.chair@marshals.co.uk.
- received a report from our successful recruitment stand at Silverstone "The Festival", where over 100 people expressed an interest in learning more about marshalling, either by giving their details at the stand or registering their interest on the website. We were pleased to be loaned two classic cars for the stand, a rally car and a circuit racer, and both attracted a lot of attention and helped draw people in. At the time of writing this report Glynn and his team have completed their recruitment campaign for 2023, but please contact him on sm.volvo@marshal.co.uk if you are able to help out on the stand in 2024.
- noted with concern some practices at recent events at Silverstone which impacted on marshals, such as lack of promised food provision, requests on the day to remain on post for longer hours than stated in the pre-event information, and unusable toilet facilities at some posts. All have been communicated either to the organising club or to Silverstone Circuits, we are following through on these and will let you know the outcome.
- Adrian has given out as many of the new grading badges as he has been asked for, and those members who have not yet received them will be sent them with their renewal information in early 2024. Please check that your BMMC grade record is up to date, so we know which ones you need.
- noted the implications to our regional committee structure and processes as a result of the Club Articles of Association and Club Rules being changed at the EGM in early September. There is an explanation of the key changes elsewhere in this newsletter.
- started planning for our Regional AGM and Annual Dinner which is to be held on Saturday October 28th. We have again booked The Saracen's Head in Towcester, the AGM starts at 7:30 and is followed by the dinner at 8:00. Please let the secretary know if you intend to attend either or both events, as bookings for the dinner close on October 13th and we need to know AGM attendance by 25th October to make the appropriate seating arrangements. The information on both events is elsewhere in this newsletter.

Please let me know if there is anything you would like the Committee 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 please send an e-mail, along with your membership number and the e-mail address you will be joining from, no later than 2 days before the meeting to sm.secretary@marshals.co.uk and I will send you the joining instructions.

October 9	November 6	December 11
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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 October, November and December within our South Midlands region, further details of these events can be found by logging on to our volunteering web site.

As we start approaching the end of the traditional circuit racing season other motorsport events are still operating including stage rallies, karting and trials, all of which need marshals of all grades to successfully operate. Details of all known events are listed on 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
Oct. 7th	BRSCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone Int.	
Oct. 7th	HKRC	Karting	Kimbolton	Round 9
Oct. 7th	MSVR	Circuit Racing	Silverstone Nat.	Equipe Racing
Oct. 8th	BRSCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone Int.	
Oct. 8th	HKRC	Karting	Kimbolton	Round 9
Oct. 14th	HSCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone Nat.	
Oct. 14th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Round 9
Oct. 15th	Falcon MC	Trials	Ivinghoe Bucks.	David Maitland Trial
Oct. 15th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Round 9
Oct. 15th	HSCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone Nat.	
Oct. 21st	MSVR	Circuit Racing	Silverstone GP	Racing Legends
Oct. 21st	WMKC	Karting	Whilton Mill	
Oct. 22nd	WMKC	Karting	Whilton Mill	
Oct. 22nd	MSVR	Circuit Racing	Silverstone GP	Racing Legends
Oct. 28th	750 MC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone GP	Birkett Relay
Oct. 29th	750 MC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone GP	
Nov. 4 th	SOCC	Targa Stage Rally	Bicester Heritage	Tours the region
Nov. 4 th	HSCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone Nat.	Walter Hayes
Nov. 5 th	HSCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone Nat.	Walter Hayes
Nov. 5 th	Falcon MC	Trials	Ivinghoe Bucks.	
Nov. 11 th	HRCC	Karting	Kimbolton	Round 10
Nov. 12 th	HRCC	Karting	Kimbolton	Round 10
Nov. 18 th	SKC	Karting	Shenington	Round 10
Nov. 19 th	SKC	Karting	Shenington	Round 10
Dec. 9 th	HKRC	Karting	Kimbolton	Round 11
Dec. 10 th	HKRC	Karting	Kimbolton	Round 11
Jan. 1 st	VSCC	Classic Stony	Stony Stratford	Vehicle display

Marshal Recruitment

With the cancellation of Motorsport Days Live usually held in the Silverstone Wing first weekend in November, we have now concluded our planned recruitment events for 2023.

The last three events at Silverstone Festival, Kop Hill and Silverstone BTCC resulted in a lot of interest from motorsport fans to join BMMC and become marshals.

As I have said before do make contact with our new marshals, welcome them and explain to them what we do and the way it should be done.

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

Grading Gripes

Greetings everyone, I hope you have all had a great fun packed season and looking forward to the winter break.

As you are probably fully aware the new pathway has now fully introduced and has so far arrived without any issues.

We have seen a significant increase in upgrade applications this year.

Having read the upgrade guidelines on MSUK, it states that scanned copied of your PRC can be accepted, and only original copies will be requested if required, thus cutting down on cost and emissions.

If you are looking to upgrade, please initially send me a scanned copy of your PRC and upgrade forms (in word Document).

Don't forget to get your upgrades in and if you need advice before submitting then please do drop me a line.

Wishing you all the very best.

Ian Whiting
SMids Grading Officer
British Motorsports Marshals Club

Recent Changes to Regional Committees

Those of you who have been following the proposed changes to the Club Articles of Association and Club Rules, and attended the Extraordinary General Meeting held on Zoom on September 5th, will know that the proposed changes were accepted without change by a large majority of those attending. Whilst many members will see no difference in their day-to-day involvement with the Club, the changes have had an impact within the Regional Committees. Although the majority of the changes have been to tidy up some anomalies that have crept in over the years between the Articles and the Rules, there are a couple of key areas where the changes have a direct impact on the Regional Committees.

The first change is in the way in which the Regional Chair is elected. Under the previous requirements the Regional Chair was elected by the Regional Committee from amongst their members, and served for a period of 3 years before standing for re-election. However, as the Regional Chair is also a Director of BMMC, the club was advised by its Consultant that this "indirect" method of appointing Directors was not in line with good practice and should be changed. The new requirements now have the Regional Chair directly elected by the regional membership and separately to the election for the Regional Committee, the new method to start when the Regional Chair completes their current 3-year term.

The second change is for how long anyone can sit on a Regional Committee before needing to stand down and be re-elected. The previous requirements were contradictory in stating that a Committee member served for 3 years, but also that one third of the Committee was to be re-elected every year. In some years, in order to meet this second requirement, a few Committee members had had to volunteer to stand down and be re-elected after only 2 years of service. The new requirements have every Committee member elected for a 3-year term, the new method to start immediately and the 3-year term to be calculated from when the member was last elected.

The third change is for how many terms anyone can serve as a Regional Chair or sit on a Regional Committee before standing aside. There was nothing in the previous requirements to limit how long anyone could be a Regional Chair or sit on a Regional Committee, and the club was advised that this was not good practice. The new requirements have brought in a maximum service of 3 cycles of 3 years, after which they must stand aside and not seek re-election for at least one year. The new limit will come into effect immediately, although anyone who has already served more than 6 years continuously will be able to serve out the remainder of their current 3-year term plus stand for one further term before standing aside, regardless of their total service time.

The impact of all these changes is that we will need more of our members to volunteer to join us on the Regional Committee in the future in order to maintain our support to the region. As Chris said in his article in the July newsletter, we have some current vacancies to fill and will be delighted if anyone wants to join us. If you have any comments or questions about the South Midlands Regional Committee please don't hesitate to contact Chris on sm.chair@marshals.co.uk or Marion on sm.secretary@marshals.co.uk.

If you have any comments about the new Articles or Club Rules please contact John Edwards, National Secretary, on nat.secretary@marshals.co.uk, or come to meet him at our AGM.

Marion Quarrington
SMids Secretary
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 October thoughts for our Sustainability Campaign.

So, tell me, is sustainability and climate change something you are really thinking about as a marshal? Do you think you have a role to play or is climate change just codswallop? Please tell me.

I've been reading today about the extreme flooding in New York City, and honestly wondering if something like this is going to happen to my home and my town, and sooner rather than later. Keeping my family safe and ensuring they have a future is important to me. And if you think climate change isn't a priority, what is the worst-case scenario if we do act – well it's a cleaner planet that's much better to live on!

The worst-case scenario for not acting could be the loss of life, and the destruction of our homes, and our livelihoods. I think everyone has a part to play – which is why I am writing this article.

What's happening this month? We are looking into being able to bring your own re-usable mug to buy your coffee and finding out if a discount is possible. Improving electric car charging facilities at circuits and investigating how we can return worn used probans for recycling. A trial for a car sharing app is also being planned.

Please do let me know if you think sustainability is something that impacts you, or not, I'd really love to hear from you. You can contact me at sm.zerohero@marshals.co.uk

Best wishes



Annette Benson
SMids Environment & Sustainability
British Motorsport Marshals Club

BRSCC's Inaugural Driven by Racing Event



Come and join the British Racing and Sports Car Club at our inaugural 'Driven By Racing' exhibition supported by MSUK, a showcase of everything the BRSCC does within the UK motorsport industry.

Whether you're looking to get involved in racing for the first time, looking to test drive a race car from within the numerous racing series we support, discuss your future racing options with some of the professional race teams that operate within our racing portfolio, or learn how you can become involved in motorsport as a marshal, a scrutineer or in race control, Driven By Racing is a not-to-be-missed event! Even if you just want to come along and get a feel for what UK Club motorsport is all about, then get signed up now.

Below you'll find a list of the key aspects being promoted at the event, so get your FREE tickets booked and put the dates in your diary.

When you book your tickets, you'll be given the opportunity to tell us what aspects of the event you're interested in, and we'll follow up with you in due course to arrange things further.

- Marshal Training Programmes
- Rescue Unit Demonstrations & Volunteer Recruitment
- Race Officials Demonstrations & Volunteer Recruitment
- Race Car Test Drives
- Meet the Race Teams and discuss your racing options
- Take or discuss booking an ARDS Test
- Race Simulator Competitions
- Scrutineering Demonstrations & Volunteer Recruitment
- BRSCC Event Staff & Race Coordinator Recruitment

Sign up using the link below:

<https://brscc.co.uk/events/driven-by-racing-weekend/>

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

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
Members Secretary (including Taster Day Matters)	Grading Officer	Training Coordinator
Steve Morris 56 Proclamation Avenue Rothwell Kettering NN14 6GY Mobile: 07970 269578 Email: sm.members@marshals.co.uk	Ian Whiting Church Rise Church Lane Emberton Buckinghamshire MK46 5DD Mob:07921 111565 Email: sm.grading@marshals.co.uk	Matt Turner 25 Limetree Close Cambridge Cams. CB1 8PF Mobile: 07809 322526 Email: sm.training@marshals.co.uk
Volunteering Coordinator	Website Administrator	Recruitment (Pro Tem)
Glynn Ellis 78 Dunstable Road Totternhoe Dunstable Beds. LU6 1QP Tel 01582 602038 Mobile 07957 607768 Email: sm.volco@marshals.co.uk (preferred)	Emile Naus Montrose Manor Road Brize Norton Oxfordshire OX18 3LZ Tel: 01993 844010 Mobile: 07710 151259 Email: sm.website@marshals.co.uk	Glynn Ellis 78 Dunstable Road Totternhoe Dunstable Beds. LU6 1QP Tel 01582 602038 Mobile 07957 607768 Email: sm.recruiting@marshals.co.uk
Regalia Officer	Newsletter Editor	Social Media
Adrian Cashmore 9 Church Street Weedon Northants NN7 4PL Tel: 01327 340677 Email: sm.regalia@marshals.co.uk	Kaz Topping 52 Musselburgh Way Bourne Lincolnshire PE10 0XY Mobile: 07498 795791 Email: sm.news@marshals.co.uk	Keith Madderson 50 Langcliffe Avenue Warwick CV34 5XT Tel: 01926 770050 Mobile: 07759 413510 Email: sm.media@marshals.co.uk
Non Committee Member Rally / Karting Contact	Sprint/Hill Climb Contact	Environment & Sustainability
Dave Joyce Tel: 01908 667025 (preferred) Mobile: 07918 105145 Email: southmids@brmc.org.uk sm.karting@marshals.co.uk	Chris Gwilliam 4 Normanton Cottages Empingham Road Normanton, Rutland LE15 8RW Mob: 07484 623122 Email: cobalt8013@gmail.com	Annette Benson Mob: Email: sm.zerohero@marshals.co.uk