



BRITISH MOTORSPORTS MARSHALS' CLUB LTD.

South Midlands Region

Annual Report to AGM 2022/2023

This is the Annual Report for South Midlands Region of BMMC for period 2022/2023 prepared for review at the AGM October 28th 2023.

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1. CHAIR REPORT

Committee Matters Last year rather foolishly I made the statement that "For the first time in three years we started 2022 with a full committee." I should have known better! Shortly into the New Year Matt Turner announced with regret that he would have to give up the post of Training Officer due to the pressure of work, moving house and getting married. He promised to deliver the training in February but after that he could only provide ad hoc advice. His resignation is effective from the AGM in October and to date we have not received any applications for the post. Then more recently Steve Morris announced that he would be resigning as Members Secretary/Taster Day Manager at the AGM. Happily Kaz Topping has shown an interest in taking on Steve's duties as well as continuing in her Newsletter role. Good news though, we were asked at the end of Last Year to nominate a "Zero Hero" as part of the Club's campaign towards environmental sustainability and happily Annette Benson put her head above the parapet and volunteered to take on the role, Annette's inclusion in the committee will be ratified at this year's AGM.

Members I am pleased to report that membership of South Mids has increased from 220 in February to 265 in September. Overall the membership of the club has increased from 2625 to 2691 according to figures provided by Steve. There is some question over the accuracy of the figures due to the problems with the database but overall I think we can accept that our recruitment efforts have not been in vain, and South Mids leads in the number of recruitment days. Unfortunately, I have not had the time this year to ring around all the South Mids members.

Council Matters I mentioned last year that John Edwards (National Secretary) had commenced a review of the Club Rules and Articles of Association (our Governance documents). He identified some inconsistencies in them and so established a Governance Working Group that Marion and I were invited to

join along with representatives from other regions and BRMC. Work started in January and continued through the year and culminated with revised Governance documents being presented to the members via an Extraordinary General Meeting on 5th September. The revised documents were approved by the members and are posted on the Club's website.

During the year Sean Clarke the Club's IT Officer informed the Board that the Membership Database and the Volunteering Database were virtually in a state of collapse and drastic action was needed to keep them operational. IT Consultants were contracted to bring both systems up to date. However, more work is needed before we can introduce improvements to the systems and consideration is being given to moving away from bespoke software.

I am happy to report that South Midlands region continues to play a key role in the management of the Club.

Chris Whitlock
Chair BMMC South Midlands Region

2. TREASURER REPORT

As the region does not have any specific income of its own, all income and expenditure is dealt with via central accounts. The treasurers' function for the South Midlands region is really one of paying in income from sales of regalia and sundry items as detailed below.

The figures for October 2022 to October 2023 are as detailed below –

	Income
2022 – 2023 Regalia Sales	£ 18.50
2022 AGM Dinner	£ 289.82
Total Income (Oct'22 –Oct'23)	£ 308.32
	Expenditure
To club funds	£ 308.32
Total expenses (Oct'22 –Oct'23)	£ 308.32

Committee Expenses

Over the 12-month period we incurred expenses relating to the running of our recruitment stand at Sywell Supercar Fest, the British GP, MG Live, BTCC (Silverstone), Silverstone Classic, Motorsport Live and Kop Hill. Additional recruitment expenses incurred included the purchase of circuit & rally leaflets, with over 1000 circuit leaflets given out at recruitment events within the year.

All of these expenses were processed and our members promptly reimbursed.

Adrian Cashmore
Regional Treasurer BMMC South Midlands Region

3. SECRETARY REPORT

The South Midlands Regional Committee has continued to meet monthly by Zoom, with the exception of December 2022 where we did not have a meeting.

- Reporting Committee business to the Members. I have continued my contributions to the Newsletter so that Members are aware of what the Committee does on their behalf. I have also contributed other newsletter articles on Committee business, such as that on the changes to the

Committee structure following the adoption of the revised Articles of Association and Club Rules at the EGM in September.

- Regional Secretary role. John Edwards, National Secretary, holds periodic Zoom meetings with the Regional Secretary team, where we share knowledge on our role and the various tasks involved, and propose improvements. Through this forum I have proposed some changes as well as helped to on-board one new Regional Secretary.
- Governance Working Group. I contributed to the Governance Working Group, which prepared the revised Articles and Club Rules, and I have implemented the changes resulting from that within the region's administration, most notably around the terms of service for the Chair and the Committee members and the way in which the AGM is planned and conducted.
- General admin and support. General Regional admin is up to date, and, as a license holder for the BMMC Zoom account, I have facilitated various regional activities including hosting some virtual training sessions. I have organised this 2023 AGM and End of Season Dinner, and completed the admin for both the Regional Marshal of the Year awards and the regional nominations to the equivalent National awards.
- Training preparations. As we currently have no Regional Training Co-ordinator I have worked with Matt Turner to prepare a budget for Kart training in 2024, and submitted to Motorsport UK to apply for a training grant from BMT to cover the expenses.

Committee attendance chart for 2022/2023:

Name	Attendance	Apologies	Name	Attendance	Apologies
Chris Whitlock	91%	9%	Ian Whiting	100%	0%
Adrian Cashmore	73%	27%	Matt Turner #	75%	25%
Marion Quarrington	100%	0%	Keith Madderson	63%	37%
Glynn Ellis	91%	9%	Annette Benson ^	100%	0%
Emile Naus	63%	37%	Kaz Topping \$	100%	0%
Steve Morris	73%	27%			

Matt Turner stood down after April Committee meeting

^ Annette Benson was co-opted to the Committee from April Committee meeting

\$ Kaz Topping joined the main committee from the September meeting

Regional Chair Terms of Service. Under the new Articles of Association each Regional Chair is no longer elected to the position by the Committee but is elected directly to the role by the Regional Members to serve for a three-year term. The holder can serve a maximum of three terms before being required to stand aside for at least a year. This chart shows the service dates for the South Midlands Chair role. Note that as Chris has had continuing service for less than 6 years any transition rules do not apply.

Name	First elected	Last elected	Next election due	Max service date
Chris Whitlock	October 2019	October 2022	October 2025	October 2028

Regional Committee Terms of Service. Under the new Club Rules each Regional Committee member is elected for a three-year term and can serve a maximum of three terms before being required to stand aside for at least a year. As a transition measure any Committee member who had already served more than six years when the new rules were introduced is permitted to serve out the remainder of the current three year term and then stand for one further term before being required to stand aside for at least a year. This chart shows the service dates for the members of the South Midlands Committee, who are continuing to serve on the Committee.

Name	First elected	Last elected	Next election due	Max service date
Adrian Cashmore	October 2012	October 2022	October 2025	October 2028

Marion Quarrington	October 2020	October 2022	October 2025	October 2028
Glynn Ellis	October 2014	October 2022	October 2025	October 2028
Ian Whiting	October 2022	October 2022	October 2025	October 2031
Kaz Topping	October 2013	October 2021	October 2024	October 2027
Emile Naus	October 2021	October 2021	October 2024	October 2030
Keith Madderson	October 2021	October 2021	October 2024	October 2030
Annette Benson	October 2023	October 2023	October 2026	October 2032

If you have any comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Marion Quarrington
Regional Secretary BMMC South Midlands Region

4. RECRUITMENT REPORT

Overall 2023 was another good year for marshal recruitment in our South Midlands Region with a lot of interest from motorsport fans who visited our recruitment stands at Sywell Supercar Fest, MG Live, British GP, Silverstone Festival (formally Silverstone Classic), Kop Hill and Silverstone BTCC. Sadly the new owners of Motorsport Days Live, which is usually held in Silverstone Wing and on the International Circuit, have cancelled it for 2023. Let's hope it is back for 2024.

The smaller size circuit leaflets handed out to potential new members was a big success, making it far easier to fit into people's pocket, wallet or hand bag. Also of course saving on printing and paper usage. There were lots of potential marshals who logged on to our web site looking to either become a member straight away or have a taster day at Silverstone.

This year I have received several new recruitment stand helpers and working with the regular helpers I am extremely grateful for all their help. Again in 2024 I will be organising recruitment events once all the clubs have confirmed their event dates, do keep an eye out in our early 2024 newsletter for recruitment event dates. As usual I will be looking for additional help at our recruitment events so if you fancy doing something a little different either all weekend or just one day do please drop me an email and I will be in touch. Recruitment stand helpers can be of any grade from first day trainees right through to experienced post chiefs, there will always be a knowledgeable marshal on the stand should you need help with any difficult questions.

Also this year we have displayed a Race Against Dementia charity bucket on our recruitment stand, collecting for a very good cause, sadly the proceeds are well below that expected, but every little helps.

Glynn Ellis
Recruitment Co-Ordinator BMMC South Midlands region

5. MEMBERSHIP REPORT

At the start of 2023 the South Midlands region took the decision, endorsed by both the committee and by our National Chair to move away from responding to 'Taster Day Request' with an invite to track.

The advent of the Virtual Taster day during 'the covid years' showed we do not need to offer the physical Taster day as a 'first' option. Instead we took the decision to guide the 'Taster day requestor' to register with MSUK, and obtain a registration, and to complete the MSUK training, and then, should they still be undecided, we would consider a Physical Taster day. This demonstrated an initial commitment from the requestor, rather than a 'free day at Silverstone' approach.

Statistics demonstrated that we still grew the South Midlands BMMC membership from 220 in Feb, to 265 in Oct, so almost a 21% increase in membership numbers, so the belief in this approach did not have a negative impact on new membership for the region, and that it still increased the number of Marshals in the Region.

As I move out of this post, and hand things over, I have reflected on my 3 years in post, with a large portion of this tenure during Covid, I look back on what we delivered. An entire Virtual Taster Day process, a revised approach to Taster Days requests in 2023 being 2 of the most notable.

Steve Morris
Members Secretary BMMC South Midlands Region.

6. VOLUNTEERING REPORT

2023 was by far a more normal year when it comes to events and marshalling than 2020, 21 or 22, although the number of members using our volunteering web site to volunteer for events in our South Midlands Region is still below pre covid times.

Five times each year I compile a spread sheet listing out the number of BMMC marshals who have volunteered for an event at Silverstone, this includes both members who have used our volunteering system to volunteer directly for an event at Silverstone or who have volunteered with the organisers. These results give the regional committee an idea as to how popular our volunteering system is with members, unfortunately it is not 100% accurate as Silverstone and the organisers do change some of their meetings year on year.

This year has again seen the continuing trend where events are running with fewer marshals than is ideal, some of the reasons for this have been identified in a national survey.

Enjoy your marshalling and stay safe.

Glynn Ellis
Volunteering Co-Ordinator BMMC South Midlands Region

7. TRAINING REPORT

We trained about 50 marshals across our circuit, kart and virtual training days. We had BRSCC support us at Bedford with covering our food bill, providing their Safety car and some radios to allowing us to run our practical sessions as real as possible. Thanks also to Castle Combe for lending us some flags and boards. We had several drivers come along and join in with our practical sessions.

We covered various modules throughout the day and spent several hours outside practicing some real-life scenarios. After we ran our day over at Bedford we ran a few more virtual sessions over zoom, allowing us to assist marshals from across the UK.

After the virtual days we moved on to Kimbolton where we ran our second Kart training day and had a variety of marshals, from non-Kart marshals to Kimbolton marshals to other Kart marshals.

Unfortunately due to personal circumstances I have had to stand down from the Training role and the Committee, although I will be available to help with the training.

Matt Turner
Training Co-Ordinator BMMC South Midlands (retired)

8. GRADING REPORT

With 2023, being a busy year for motorsport and changes please see below the report covering the period of 1st October 2022 to 30th September 2023.

- Following the announcement of the new grading pathway, originally planned for August 2022, this was extended to existing members in order to submit upgrades through the previous system until June 2023.
- The new Pathway has arrived with what appears to be a seamless transition, along with new Personal Record Cards, being provided upon upgrades.
- BMMC South midlands have processed thirteen upgrade applications.

Ian Whiting

Regional Grading Co-Ordinator, BMMC South Midlands Region.

9. WEB ADMIN REPORT

The website has continued to be updated, with key elements this year:

- new photo galleries with pictures from the training days
- a new structure for the Committee section to make it easier to use
- a "How-to-" description for our volunteering site
- a full archive of our newsletters going back to September 2015.

We also have a page for events looking for marshals, and we continue to publish details of the Noggin & Natter events as they are planned.

Separately, urgent messages will continue to be delivered via MailChimp, with 355 members currently receiving our membership information.

Emile Naus

Website Administrator, BMMC South Midlands Region

10. NEWSLETTER REPORT

There have been 6 copies of the Newsletter published on a bi-monthly basis. They were published in Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep & Nov with the majority of them being sent digitally using the Club database and e-mail system Mailchimp. At the time of writing this there is only one person that receives a hard copy of the Newsletter.

The list has been checked against the Club database and copies are now only being posted to those personnel who are current members of the South Midlands Region.

A new template was introduced for articles which has been accepted now by all committee members and gives the Newsletter a better feel as the same format is being used by all that send in articles allowing less time to be used formatting articles that do not conform.

I always put an appeal out for new photos for the front cover to allow for this to change more frequently than it originally was. If however, anyone has any photos they would like to see used in future editions of the Newsletter please by all means forward them to me and I will try and incorporate them.

Kaz Topping

Regional Newsletter Editor, BMMC South Midlands Region.

11. SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT

Since joining the South Midlands BMMC Committee the Facebook membership has grown from 66 to 121. This has been a combined effort by other committee members in particular Steve Morris. We are continuing to receive Facebook requests, and the policy continues to be "BMMC Members only". The posts on the page are mainly promotional adverts for marshalling events in the region. We are continuing to collaborate with other committee roles, such as website and zero hero, to promote the values of the region.

Keith Madderson
Social Media Co-Ordinator, BMMC South Midlands Region

12. REGALIA REPORT

The total sales of regalia totalled a disappointing £18.50. Although there was a full racing calendar it appears that our members are disinclined to purchase club merchandise. This year saw the introduction of the new marshals' 'Pathway' grading scheme by MSUK. The club made available to all members a badge which indicated the grade, as prescribed in the new scheme, which was free of charge.

Despite a number of articles advertising the availability of these badges, via the newsletter and our social media platform, the take up was disappointing. For members who did not take up this offer they will be receiving their relevant badges in their renewals for 2024. The region is able to supply items such as hats, cloth badges, stickers and pin badges etc. Plus, larger items such as umbrellas. Please contact me with any queries you may have with regards to availability of items listed on our website.

Adrian Cashmore
Regalia Co-Ordinator, BMMC South Midlands Region

13. Environmental and Sustainability Report

The role of Zero Hero is to promote the Motorsport UK and BMMC sustainability agenda. It's something I am passionate about but it's unclear if this is something truly supported by the BMMC membership, in the South Mids or any other region, although I am not aware of any negative feedback.

I have been co-opted onto the South Mids Committee where I have been finding out how the region is run how hard the committee is working to ensure we are supported as marshals.

I receive ad hoc updates from Michael Broadbent at national level, and I have been writing a bi-monthly newsletter article and/or Facebook article for the South Mids area.

I hope to continue to do my best to engage with South Mids members in 2024.

Annette Benson
Zero Hero, BMMC South Midlands Region

Compiled October 2023