

BMMC Magazine

South Midlands Region



January 2024



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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

Happy New Year to Everyone!

I hope you have all enjoyed the Festive break and are looking forward to another wonderful year enjoying your favourite marshalling pastime, whether on a rally stage, a muddy hill, or on a race circuit, Kart or Cars. I know that some of you have not stopped marshalling over the winter. Spare a thought for us circuit marshals who have had the luxury of long lie-ins in nice warm beds. This is a terrible time of year, struggling to get up very early in the dark, scraping ice off the car just to attend a training day! No wonder some marshals never do go to training! Shame on you, we all need a refresher now and again. Every two years according to Motorsport UK!



Talking of training, I am not totally convinced of the training requirements needed for upgrades in the new Marshals Pathway. Why is there no requirement for racetrack marshals to demonstrate their flagging skills when upgrading to level 2; they are only required to undergo a verbal assessment despite having undertaken five days flagging. Why is there no requirement to do fire training after upgrading to Grade 1. Incidents in the past have shown that it is essential that firefighting skills are maintained. The new Fire Attack Systems (FAS) at Silverstone can be temperamental and really do need two people to operate.

How many of you visited Autosport International (AKA A24) this year? Did you find the club stand? This year we had a combined BMMC/BRMC stand, and I wonder if this was an improvement on previous years.

As I predicted there are fewer meetings at Silverstone this year, all dates should be on the volunteering database by the time you get to read this. It's sad that there is no MG Live this year, but you will see that Equipe are holding a MG race day so you will see the traditional championship races, but the infield displays, and touring rallies are moving to the Malvern showground for 2024. As someone said, "It's sad, after 60 years, that MGCC are no longer involved centrally in racing, but financial pressures driven by too many race events in the calendar competing for circuit access and competitors has raised costs so much that they have been forced to stop." Sadly, we might see this being repeated for other clubs in the near future.

Last year Glynn raised some concerns with SMT about marshals access to the track. Cutting a long story short Glynn had learnt that a number of marshals had been injured jumping off the banks. This matter got raised with Motorsport UK and Nadine asked me to take the lead on this. At a Silverstone Safety Team training day on 10th January, I discovered that changes to the construction of the tyre walls at some locations has resulted in them being nearly a foot lower which might go some way to resolving this issue. However, if any of you have concerns about safety at Silverstone, please address them to me and I will ensure they are notified to the correct people.

It's that time of year again, get your bags out of the loft and boxes out of the garage and clean them out of last year's food wrappers, cans etc. Try on the overalls and start a fitness programme or order new overalls as required and start volunteering. At the moment I have cut back on my attendance at Silverstone, but I will review things as the year progresses.

Finally, I am going to be absent from 20th February until 29th March. Marion Quarrington will be watching the shop in my absence and will attend the next BMMC Board meeting on 13th March. If you have any matters you wish to raise, please get in touch with her sm.secretary@marshals.co.uk

Chris Whitlock
SMids Chairman
British Motorsport Marshals Club

Secretary Scribblings

The South Midlands committee has now changed the meeting schedule to be bi-monthly, at present on the internet using Zoom, and all members are welcome to join us. Please see the meeting calendar below. Here is a summary of some of the topics that the committee have covered since the last Newsletter:

- continued with planning Kart training to be delivered at Kimbolton in early February. Applications to attend are going well, all the places on the Saturday are now filled and most on the Sunday. In addition, there are 4 applications from non-Kart marshals to attend the fire training. Any members who want to attend Race training are being accepted on the Silverstone Marshals Team training days. 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 favourable report on the BRSCC training held at Silverstone in October. The members who attended thought the earlier date, being so close the end of the season, was very beneficial to learning.
- the previously-reported practices at recent events at Silverstone which impacted on marshals had been included in the agenda of an upcoming feedback session between Motorsport UK and Silverstone Circuits, however we do not know if this meeting has yet been held. Also, it had been hoped that Chris would be able to attend the Motorsport UK Circuit Inspection at Silverstone to raise marshalling concerns including the difficult access to track-side from some posts, however this was not possible. Motorsport UK have acknowledged receipt of the comments, and have promised a response once they hear from Silverstone.
- continued the process of reviewing and bringing up to date the information on the website “Your first day at Silverstone” and also to provide similar guidance on starting both Speed and Kart marshalling. Look out for updates on this in future months.
- discussed the results of the two marshals’ surveys held in 2023, and how best to take the key issues forward. Most of the problems can only be addressed by changes at either venues or organising clubs, so our role as a regional committee is to communicate and influence.
- noted that the new on-line shop is now open, with a much-extended range of merchandise. Please go to the website and check out all the goodies available.
- noted that the regional website has been updated to include an archive for all the AGM minutes and regional reports for the previous 10 years. Our Regional Web Administrator is also helping restructure and improve the national website – more news about that soon!

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 2024 are below, all are on a Monday evening (Except * which is a Tuesday) 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.

March 4th	May 7 th *	July 8th	September 9th	November 4th
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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

Our volunteering web site is now up and running but there are still a few events that need confirming and therefore will need to be added to the system over the next few weeks as soon as details are confirmed. South Midlands events are almost complete with only a few to add, if there are any I have missed or have the wrong details for please drop me an email and I will do my best to sort it.

Below I have compiled a list of events happening in February, March and April 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 directly with the organising club, these entries are used by our National Committee with 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.

Details of changes and upgrades to our volunteering system were circulated to all members on the 21st January. If you did not receive this email, there is an error in the information BMMC have for you on file and therefore needs updating.

Enjoy your marshalling and stay safe.

Glynn Ellis

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

2024 SMids Events in the Next Three Months

Date	Organiser	Type	Location	Title
Feb. 2 nd	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Club 100
Feb. 3 rd	BMMC	Kart Training	Kimbolton	Kart Training
Feb. 3 rd	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Club 100
Feb. 4 th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Club 100
Feb. 4 th	BMMC	Kart Training	Kimbolton	Kart training

2024 SMids Events in the Next Three Months (Cont'd)

Date	Organiser	Type	Location	Title
Feb. 10 th	HKRC	Karting	Kimbolton	Practice Day
Feb. 10 th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Global Karting
Feb. 10 th	BMMC	Rallying	Wellingborough	Blackbird Auto
Feb. 11 th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Global Karting
Feb. 11 th	HKRC	Karting	Kimbolton	Round 2
Feb. 16 th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Feb. Friday Practice
Feb. 17 th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Round 2
Feb. 17 th	VSCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone	Pomeroy Trophy
Feb. 18 th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Round 2
Feb. 24 th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Global Karting
Feb. 25 th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Global Karting
Mar. 2 nd	BMMC	Training	Silverstone	Grade 1 Off track
Mar. 4 th	BMMC	Meeting	Via Zoom	Committee Meeting
Mar. 9 th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Global Karting
Mar. 9 th	BMMC	Training	Silverstone	Grade 2 Off track
Mar. 10 th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Global Karting
Mar. 10 th	BMMC	Training	Silverstone	Grade 3 Off track
Mar. 15 th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Mar. Friday Practice
Mar. 16 th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Round 3
Mar. 16 th	BRSCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone	Season Opener
Mar. 17 th	BRSCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone	Season Opener
Mar. 17 th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Round 3
Mar. 17 th	Camb. CC	Trial	Harlton	Roger Holmes Trial
Mar. 23 rd	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Ricciardo Series
Mar. 24 th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Ricciardo Series
Apr. 4 th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	April Thurs. Practice
Apr. 6 th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Global Karting
Apr. 7 th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Global Karting
Apr. 12 th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	BPEC
Apr. 13 th	MSVR	Circuit Racing	Silverstone	Club Champs.
Apr. 13 th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	BPEC
Apr. 14 th	MSVR	Circuit Racing	Silverstone	Club Champs.
Apr. 14 th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	BPEC
Apr. 19 th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Apr. Friday Practice
Apr. 20 th	VSCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone	Spring Start
Apr. 20 th	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Round 4
Apr. 21 st	VSCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone	Spring Start
Apr. 21 st	Falcon MC	Car Trial	Ivinghoe	Spring Trial
Apr. 21 st	SKRC	Karting	Shenington	Round 4
Apr. 27 th	BRSCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone	British GT
Apr. 27 th	BRSCC	Circuit Racing	Silverstone	British GT

Marshal Recruitment

We now have a provisional list of events that your South Midlands Recruitment Team will be attending in 2024, please see below.

21 st April	Bicester Heritage Scramble (provisional)
4 th , 5 th , 6 th & 7 th July	Silverstone BGP
23 rd , 24 th & 25 th August	Silverstone Festival (The Classic)
14 th & 16 th September	Kop Hill Climb
21 st & 22 nd September	Silverstone BTCC
November	Silverstone Motorsport Days Live (event to be confirmed)

If you are available and fancy helping out at one of our Marshal Recruitment events please drop me an email.

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

Grading Gripes

Greetings everyone, I hope you are all looking forward to the season ahead and planning your calendars.

For those of you that are planning upgrades can I please ask that when submitting your application please also include a **copy** of your Motorsport UK (MSUK) registration card, along with a completed MSUK 2024 Registration Form see link - ([2024 Application for a Marshal Registration](#)) see below;

The image shows a screenshot of the '2024 Application for a Motorsport UK Marshal Registration' form. The form is divided into several sections:

- SECTION 1A - Your Personal Details:** Includes fields for name, address, date of birth, and contact information.
- SECTION 1B - Emergency Contact (Please complete ALL fields):** Includes fields for emergency contact name, address, and phone number.
- SECTION 2 - The Registration Grid(s) you are applying for:** A table with columns for 'Registration Category', 'Type', 'MSUK', 'Grade', 'Age', and 'Sex'. It lists various categories like 'Competitor', 'Spectator', 'Official', etc.
- SECTION 3 - Club Endorsement (Applicable only):** Includes fields for club name and endorsement details.
- SECTION 4 - Declaration:** A section for the applicant to declare their understanding of the rules and regulations.

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 Coordinator
British Motorsports Marshals Club

Circuit Reps

Who or what are Circuit Reps?

Marshals Circuit Representatives, giving them their full title, are people who are designated to receive marshals' communications about a race circuit whether a complaint, safety concern or suggestion for improvement. Following complaints from race circuit managers that they receive numerous suggestions on how to do their jobs from various sources a proposal was put to the Association of British Motor Racing Clubs (ABMRC) that there should be one person designated for each race circuit who would be responsible for sorting out all the correspondence about the circuit and determining what was a safety issue, what was generic and what was unrealistic. It was realised that many complaints were similar and generic; but different, sometimes conflicting, solutions were proposed.

Circuit managers are employed to maintain their circuit to strict standards determined by the circuit licence, ensuring the safety of competitors, officials, marshals and the general public. Motorsport UK might request changes when undertaking licence inspections; similarly the FIA and FIM can impose new conditions. Organising clubs might raise requests for changes on behalf of competitors. Circuit Reps are advocates for changes that marshals might request to improve their safety or working conditions. Circuit managers cannot meet every request, they have a budget to meet. In some cases, organising clubs are also the circuit owners and therefore have a keen interest in budget controls.

The Circuit Rep proposal was not welcomed by everyone, some organisers wanted marshals concerns to be addressed to the Chief Marshal. It was argued that there was no continuity in such arrangements, different organising clubs have different Chief Marshals. It was agreed that the BMMC representative at ABMRC would be responsible for the Circuit Reps but that ABMRC collectively would agree their appointment. The Circuit Rep would liaise with the Circuit Manager on what works and improvements could be accommodated within their budget's constraints. This has been endorsed by Motorsport UK and the Association of Motor Racing Circuit Owners.

This arrangement is purely voluntary, there is no obligation on a circuit or club to appoint a Circuit Rep; however, when it works it works well. When I was the BMMC rep at ABMRC I requested an annual report on circuit changes from the Circuit Reps some, complied some didn't. The most difficult task was keeping the list of Circuit Reps up to date.

The Circuit Rep at Silverstone is nominally the head of the Silverstone Marshals Team.

The BMMC ABMRC representative is Mike Broadbent, Chair North West Region nw.chair@marshals.co.uk

Chris Whitlock
SMids Chairman
British Motorsport Marshals Club

British Women Racing Drivers' Club



British Women Racing Drivers' Club

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★ BWRDC GoldStars - Volunteer Nominees ★

We couldn't do it without them, meet our wonderful Volunteer nominees!

Marion Quarrington :

Marion marshalled for over 70 days in 2023, including Race, Rally, Speed and Kart events, as well as sitting on the Motorsport UK Marshals Advisory Group as the Kart representative, and being a Regional Secretary for BMMC! She added three new "firsts" to her marshalling career; her first Rally including a night stage, her first International Kart event and her first Kart Grand Prix.

Ellie Rose Lockey :

Alongside her 'normal' circuit and rallycross events flag waving, pushing cars, post-chief-ing and rescue-crewing, 2023 brought some stand-outs.

She acted as Safety Car observer for the HSCC, and weeks of rescue training was put in to prepare for the World RallyCross. Another new event was a competitive safari – the most mud her rescue unit has seen, but they managed not to get stuck!

Sue Connikie :

Sue started marshalling at Prescott Hillclimb in 2020, following her retirement. Earlier this year she achieved her Grade 2 Experienced Marshall, and has marshalled at both Prescott and Shelsley Walsh Hillclimb, and in November was appointed as Chief Marshall at Prescott. Sue is also Secretary of the BWRDC and Treasurer of the Prescott Marshals Club.

The awards will be presented at MSUK on Sunday 7th January at 12 noon 🏆





Comments



BWRDC Members Group

Admin British Women Racing Drivers' Club · 2 h · 📷

★ BWRDC GoldStars - The Winners! ★

We are pleased to announce our GoldStars for 2023 are

- Volunteer - Marion Quarington
- Junior - Alisha Palmowski
- Senior - Claire Norman

Congratulations to all our nominees, and we wish everyone the best of luck for their 2024 seasons!



Write a comment...



Home



Friends



Video



Marketplace



Notifications



Menu

Awards Presentations



Jon Smart & the Vernon Clarke Award



Matt Harris & Marshal of the Year 2023 Award

At the recent Hunts Kart Racing Club Awards Presentation both Jon Smart and Matt Harris were presented with Awards.

Jon received the Vernon Clarke Award. Jon is also the husband of Catherine who received the SMids Lesley Harris Trophy in 2023.

Matt Harris was presented with the Marshal of the Year 2023 Award. Matt was a SMids Member but unfortunately his membership is currently lapsed.

Chris Whitlock
SMids Chairman
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 6 times a year on a Monday virtually via Zoom, 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.

Meetings for 2024 are:

January 8th	March 4th	May 6th	July 8th	September 9th	November 4th
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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 Coordinator	Training Coordinator
Kaz Topping 52 Musselburgh Way Bourne Lincolnshire PE10 0XY Mobile: 07498 795791 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	Vacant Mobile: Email: sm.training@marshals.co.uk
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Non Committee Member Rally / Karting Contact	Sprint/Hill Climb Contact	Environment & Sustainability
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