



Guyson Scottish Sprint & Hillclimb Championship

Chairman's Message #20 August 2015

It's difficult to believe it's August and we're already 2/3rds of the way through our season. Registrations to our championships are only slightly down on last year (2 less), but we have a healthy number of newcomers and entry levels at all the events this year. A very healthy sign that our sport is alive and well.

Championship Committee; We have three committee positions up for re-election at the AGM in October this year;

- Vice Chairman
- Secretary
- Sprint Co-ordinator

The six executive committee positions are each held for a two year period, with three of them being up for re-election one year and the remainder the following year; the intention being to keep some stability in the committee by only changing out a maximum of 3 positions each year. All the clubs participating in the three championships also have representation on the committee, so if you fancy getting involved, speak to your club.

2015 Awards Dinner Dance; By now you'll have seen the email circular from David with details of this year's event and booking information. Get your rooms booked soon to avoid disappointment.

The Committee wishes to thank Lesley Sheridan for all her hard work in organising the event this last five years but as Lesley is standing down from the role, it's time now to find a new Dance Coordinator. David Baker has kindly stepped in to organise this year's dinner on a one-time only basis – so we now need to find someone to take over the reigns for next year and beyond. Are you up for it? There's no requirement to attend the Committee meetings if that helps tempt anyone! We also have a great bunch of volunteers who help on the night. If you are up for this challenge, do please get in touch with any of the committee members.

During last year's dinner, there was substantial damage incurred to the hotel's Christmas display in the venue's reception area – various display items were stolen and others damaged. All attributed to attendees from our dinner dance. This sort of behaviour is not acceptable and won't be tolerated. We were very close to being banned from the venue and it was only down to the fantastic job Lesley did in smoothing the waters that prevented this. In addition to this, Scott Sheridan spent a considerable amount of time repairing damage to some of the display items.

The Removal of printed road fund license “Tax Discs” With the recent change by the DVLA that mean we’re no longer issued with tax discs, the onus is on the competitor in the road car classes to prove that his or her vehicle is taxed; This can be in the form of a receipt from the Post office, or if paid on-line, a print-out of the receipt page confirming payment has been made.

Frontal Head Restraints: The MSA’s safety council has recently mandated the use of a suitable approved Frontal Head Restraint system from 2016. This will apply to drivers in all B and C division classes (The only exceptions are for cars in the road legal “A” division classes and for “D” division classics and thoroughbreds). If you plan on competing in the modified or competition divisions next year, in Sprints or Hillclimbs, you will need to use an FHR. It is worth noting that there is a lot of conflicting information out there on which type of harnesses are needed, how to mount them etc., so do please ensure you follow the manufacturer’s advice when purchasing and fitting the equipment. There are quite a lot of competitors already wearing such devices – either the HANS type or the Simpson type and I’m sure they would be more than happy to show you how they use them – and may even be prepared to lend you theirs for a trial fit.

On the Saturday of the June Doune meeting, after practice had finished, Vernon Williamson held an “Open forum” for all competitors. The aim was; to introduce Vernon and Simon Durling, explain the setup within the MSA of the Speed Committee and discuss various current issues relating to the safety of our events. For the few folk that did attend I think it was a valuable meeting, but I was disappointed that so few competitors stayed to listen to Vernon and to contribute to the discussions. It is worth noting that online forums are not a direct conduit into the MSA or indeed the organising clubs. If you have concerns or grievances over how events are run, please make contact directly with the organising club via email, letter or phone.

Our next committee meeting will be held on Saturday 3rd October 2015.

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