



MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF NORTH-WESTERN CAR CLUBS HELD AT THE HOLIDAY INN, RUNCORN, ON TUESDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2006

WELCOME

The Chairman, Bob Milloy, welcomed delegates to the meeting together with Bruce Goddard, MSA's Business Development Director. A brief silence was held in memory of Sue Toni.

ATTENDANCE

15 member clubs were represented by 13 delegates as follows:

Accrington MSC (Eve Fisher, Steve Johnson), British Rally Marshals Club (Mike Farnworth), Caernarvon & Anglesey MC (Jim Jones), Clwyd Vale MC (Peter White), CSMA (Eve Fisher, Steve Johnson), Cumbrian Rover OC (Katy Maashiter), Glossop & DMC (John Buckley), HRCR (Stan Appleton), Ilkley & DMC (Stan Appleton), Kirkby Lonsdale MC (Katy Mashiter, Bob Milloy), Knutsford & DMC (Steve Skepper), North Wales CC (Dave Thomas), Potteries & Newcastle MC (Eric Cowcill), Stockport MC (Bob Milloy), Wallasey MC (Bill Turner),

Officials present were: Bob Milloy (President), Eric Cowcill (Treasurer), Katy Mashiter (Press Officer), Dave Thomas (Championship Coordinator), Stan Appleton (General Secretary).

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were recorded from Jim Spencer (BRCA), Nigel Bayley (Ecurie Royal Oak), Richard Murtha (Bury AC), Mark Wilkinson (Stockport MC/Motorsport NW), Sue Sanders-Peppitt (Potteries & Newcastle MC).

MINUTES

The minutes of the August 2006 meeting were agreed as a true record following a correction. The reference in 'Other Venues Liaison' to Leighton Hall *should read* Lytham Hall.

MATTERS ARISING

Toyo Tyres – Dave Thomas confirmed that Toyo Tyres would be giving awards in both the sprint and the hillclimb championships for the best user of their Tyres.

Inter-Association Stage Rally – ANWCC had won the I-A event at the Tour of Mull.

Acceptance of entries – Regional Committee had not been persuaded to endorse Jim Spencer's proposal on acceptance of entries. Bob Milloy would speak to Jim with a view to it going to Judicial Committee.

Event fees – Dave Thomas confirmed that all 2005 championship fees had now been paid.

Anniversaries – Caernarvon & Anglesey MC were also celebrating a major anniversary in 2007.

MSA REPORTS

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Bruce Goddard explained that although now Business Development Director of MSA he had been a race marshal and race competitor as well as managing banking and sponsorship arrangements for several teams. He is responsible for the non-regulatory side of MSA affairs such as commercial contracts, corporate governance and negotiations with government.

He found that government and statutory bodies didn't properly understand motorsport risks and found it easier to reject our approaches, however he is having an impact with DEFRA, HMRC and DTI by spotting opportunities for seeking funds. For example money from 'social inclusion' funds could be used to bring cruising into the motorsport fold. Volunteers in Motorsport has significant government funding.

MSA has provided some pump-priming money for the Rally Elite and Rally Academy programme (which is otherwise self-funding). This will extend into racing via David Brabham's input; MSA has no involvement in selection though.

Credit card licences will come for 2007, enabling an electronic judicial system and ultimately to streamlined signing-on. Those seeking licence upgrades will need to record signatures on a tear-off slip in the new Blue Book, which is itself being rewritten. Feedback is needed from clubs about licensing and the new Blue Book. Child Protection Act *guidelines* have been issued. Clubs should take it seriously and sensibly but not fear it. Alexander Forbes will become Lockton Insurance for 2007.

Club promotion was vital and MSA often heard of newcomers feeling unwelcome in some clubs. Links with one-make clubs were recommended as was use of free newspapers.

Autosolo was proving an effective and relatively simple way to bring newcomers into motorsport.

A proposal is going to February's Council meeting for a one-day karting licence to enable newcomers to take part in a specific race in a licensed meeting. Plans are also in hand to involve endurance karting.

An open question time included:

Q. How to access local funds for reaching 'cruising' ? No simple answer.

A. Club Development Grants – ensure you apply to the right fund. Speak to Allan Dean-Lewis first for advice. As well as the Development and Safety funds there is now a fund for bringing-in new people.

Q. Could MSA give better support to Rally Elite/Academy people, at least one of whom dropped out due to lack of funds ?

A. Other countries such as Finland have much more (government) money but we have only licence fees; many licence holders would object to their fees being used for 'stars' when the ability to get commercial funding is a necessary skill for progress in the sport.

Q. Despite MSA's perception, the BRC is *not* seen as successful and clubs have needed to run national or historic support events to cover their costs. Events used to offer better value for money and people have much more choice of how to spend their time and money.

A. There is slow growth, with more sponsorship in the championship. Trying to keep costs down, eg with control tyres and fuel-sampling.

Q. Could MSA pay bills centrally to MOD in the same way as to Forestry Commission, saving clubs from paying VAT ?

A. To find out and report back.

Q. Could MSA have regional staff to enable groups of clubs to tackle bigger lobbying issues with local authorities, safety partnerships, etc. Northern Ireland has a successful Regional Development Officer.

A. A link is being considered with the Regional Development Agencies but there are difficulties. To link with bodies like RDA's or Sport England would require motorsport to organize along standard government regional boundaries, which are quite different to MSA regional association boundaries.

COUNCIL

Eric Cowcill reported a disappointing meeting of Council, which rejected or failed to discuss many of the proposed Blue Book changes. The proposed change to race meeting red-flag procedures was rejected. He was mystified about a change to kart rules which meant that if you started a race you were deemed to have also finished it, apparently to avoid push-starting karts mid-race.

Credit card licences will be designed to work with bar-code readers in due course. Stewards will have access to an on-line database of licences.

Technical Group had reported that fuel regs had been changed to enable them to meet legislation. The MSA fuel formula was not compatible with that of the FIA but the FIA was likely to change. Meanwhile fuel-testing was toothless until the regs were stable.

In rallying, Council gave clear direction that hybrids would go after 2010 as part of the move to production-based cars.

Kart enduro was recognized as a sport, with links to 'normal' karting. The 8m sound test was to be adopted for karts.

The recent Baja event was now in the FIA series and will have priority allocation with Forestry Commission as it has international status, even though it had only 32 entries and most current UK cars won't meet the FIA regs.

TRAINING STEERING GROUP

Eric Cowcill reported that within Volunteers in Motorsport, the structure for upgrading will be clarified starting with race marshals.

The 2007 Blue Book will have guidelines for Cadet Marshals.

Marshals will be directly represented on the Training Steering Group which is currently chaired by Dave Pierre, a race clerk of course.

Clubs will need to keep track of the use of new marshals etc so that government funds could continue to be justified.

TIMING

Eric Cowcill reported that Rallies Committee would formalize the position of rally timekeepers making it clear what activities were appropriate to Licensed Timekeepers.

REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Bob Milloy reported that ACU are now employing their own Access Officer although LARA would still continue. National Motorsports Week had been successful despite the late announcement. The next one is 11-19 August 2007.

The material issued to support National Motorsports Week is free of copyright and can be used for other promotions.

Russell Brookes has pulled out of the Rally Stars initiative; MSA are considering how to pursue the offer of lower forest costs before the Forestry Commission withdraw the concession. The events would need to stand alone for that formula only, with risky finance for most clubs.

A lengthy discussion followed on risk management for Endurance Road Rallies.

Manx Motorsport Marshals Club has come second in the Alexander Forbes Club of the Year.

There is likely to be an ANWCC team in the Inter-Association Road Rally, the Powerush in Kent.

Bob reported that Gerry Blythe (Chair ANEMMC) was active on Safety Committee in considering the proposal that all sprints and hillclimbs should have a Rescue Unit. MSA were told that there aren't enough to go round, given their other commitments and would like to know of events that had struggled to get them. MSA need to be aware of availability problems particularly since they also get involved in gymkhanas, horse cross-country etc.

SECRETARY'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE

An application for membership had been received from Rally Support North West, a marshalling group. This was accepted following a proposal from Caernarvon & Anglesey MC, seconded by Wallasey MC.

An email had been received from Phil Spilstead, who works professionally on child protection matters and is available for advice. Clubs were reminded that Allan Dean-Lewis at MSA is still keen to know of issues that concern clubs on this subject.

John Davies has now been appointed as RLO for North Wales.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A payment of £2900 is outstanding from MSA for training.

Subscriptions are overdue from : Aberystwyth, BARC NW, Barcud, Bury, Chester, Cumbrian ROC, F1000 RC, Glossop, Harlech, Keighley, Kidderminster, Lancs and Ches ROC, Longton, Ludlow Castle, Mini-Cooper Register, Morecambe, Newtown, Telford, Tregaron, Triumph SOC, Wallasey, Warrington, Welsh Border, Westfield, Wigton, Wolverhampton & SS.

CHAMPIONSHIP COORDINATOR'S REPORT

396 competitors have finally registered with just two rounds remaining.

Guidance was sought on the backdating of marshals points beyond the deadline in the regulations.

Four crews had entered the Inter-Association Road Rally in Kent.

The inter-Association Autotest would be at Foxley Estate near Hereford.

Landscaping at Ty Croes was likely to limit events to just the Glyn Stages.

The provisional calendar for 2007 was complete. The forest championship would have three new opening rounds. There were a number of clashes although both events were geographically apart and the meeting was asked if it was acceptable to include both events if one was in Wales and one in England. The meeting felt that only one should be included with preference going to an event that was running on its anniversary date.

A proposal for a new championship for Endurance Road Rallies was agreed.

Website hits have now exceeded 200,000 !

Winners of the marshals' draw were:

| | |
|-----------|--------------|
| August | Alan Evans |
| September | Paul Cross |
| October | Gary Jakeman |

AINTREE LIAISON OFFICER

No report

OTHER VENUE LIAISON

No report

PRESS OFFICER'S REPORT

No report

TRAINING OFFICER'S REPORT

Dates for 2007 have been fixed, are on websites and will be linked to the ANWCC web.
A new college at Blackpool and Fylde already has 28 marshals enrolled.

CTRL0's REPORT

No report

OTHER BUSINESS

Ideas were still being sought for celebrating the 50th anniversary, possibly to tie in with National Motorsports Week and perhaps with an Aintree anniversary.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 13 February 2007, immediately following the AGM (which begins at 2000 hrs).
To be held at the Holiday Inn, Runcorn

Stan Appleton
Daleview
Pateley Bridge
North Yorks
HG3 5DN
stanappleton@aol.com
01423-712436