

Motorsport UK Update Sue Sanders

As Sue was under significant time pressure with a long journey to undertake after the meeting it was agreed to move her report forward in the agenda.

Sue provided a detailed insight into her experience, current role and the initiatives undertaken this year and currently being progressed within the training and education area of Motorsport UK.

The main points being.

Utilising her many years of experience of motorsport Sue had been involved through 2018 in reviewing and then creating a 5 year plan for training within the sport. This evolved at the start of 2019 in taking on the role of leading the department on an interim basis in 2019.

She indicated that the process had been / is challenging.

First imperative was to define clear pathways for development in order to define how training supported these. An Academy and Competitor pathway was defined which spans all competitor levels from the higher levels where the Academy has created a very good process to club levels where a series of on line modules and "How to" guides are being created to support anyone seeking to start and progress competing in motorsport. The importance of increasing support at club level is recognised.

Greg Symes has moved on from the Competitors pathway role but a new incumbent is picking up the task of managing the pathway very shortly. (11/11/2019)

The Officials pathway is being managed by James Betchley. This area covers all officials including licensed, non-licensed and marshals. It was highlighted that recruitment of a marshals development officer is in progress. Concentration in this area has been on simplifying the progression process and on providing support tools and further developing techniques and resources to enable this.

On line learning has been a key focus area with a significant number of modules planned to be available by the end of 2019. A further development of the on line based learning management process is planned for 2020 to provide further clarity and support individual progression. Sue stressed that the focus of on-line techniques is seen as providing additional methods to the direct training approach of training days etc. and not substitutional. Work on further evolving coaching, mentoring and trainer development capabilities is also ongoing to provide increasingly effective resources.

Sue outlined that safeguarding and the other compliance areas of alcohol and drugs usage is also in her remit. The amount of time spent on managing safeguarding cases continues to increase with a growing need to manage the aspects of alcohol and drugs use within the sport resulting in this being an area of increasing significance.

Sue also commented on a number of more general areas.

The atmosphere within Motorsport UK is very positive with teams concentrating on initiatives to improve club support generally and enhance commercial awareness and results.

While not confirmed at this time it is likely that Motorsport UK will relocate to a site in the South West Midlands where eventually a purpose built headquarters will be developed that will not only provide administrative capability but also provide practical resources to support training, conference facilities and other requirements.

In answer to a specific question Sue responded that she saw that the regional context is very important in the developing picture with regions being ideally increasingly involved with guiding, and managing activities in their area. To best fulfil this it is important that regional activities are aligned with the needs of the clubs and their members.

Treasurers Report

The treasurer reported that currently the association's accounts are £10,820.

Since the last meeting a number of clubs have been contacted and annual fees received.

It leaves 3 clubs that subscriptions haven't been received from, who can't be contacted and who aren't responding.

Secretary's Report

Correspondence

Copies of Motorsport UK messages and minutes and notices from other associations have been received.

Membership

A request for membership has been received from Equipe Classic Racing a club based in the region who specialise in running races for Classic cars.
It was unanimously agreed that the request be accepted.
The club to be notified accordingly.

Reports

Stage Rally Championship

In his absence the coordinator had provided a brief update indicating that the championship is progressing well with the most recent round being held by Dukeries MC at Donnington the previous weekend..
Plan for the 2020 championship are progressing and the permit will be applied for in due course.
It was requested that the event being provisionally planned for the 5th July at Honnington be considered for inclusion.

Sprint Championship

It was reported that the championship is progressing well with 31 competitors and the last round due to be run on the 2nd Nov.
It was reported that "key.guru" the new sponsor for 2019 is willing to support the championship again in 2020. They had also suggested that a collective approach with ASEMC could be considered for next year with a possibility of changing to a speed championship if a suitable hill climb could be found that would be interested in being part.
These options to be followed up
Attention was drawn to the fact that the Sprint planned for 26th April 2020 at Hethel will be part of a bigger activity called Lotus Fest and is therefore a good opportunity for publicity. It was noted that although this unfortunately clashes with another significant event in the region i.e the closed road rally at Clacton the opportunity should be made the most of by including a promotional activity.

Regional Committee

The most recent meeting was held in August which was disrupted by travel issues and resulted in a significant number of members participating by various conferencing arrangements.
The main message from the meeting was that as generally anticipated there are a significant number of changes progressing as a result of the changes in the governing body. Some of these are already launched with others following.

Matt Endean provided a specific update from the Speed committee indicating that while a significant number of proposed changes had been put forward in the area of sprints many have been refereed back for further consideration.

Other Matters

Meeting venues

It was agreed that the experiment in using a Village Hall for the meeting had been very successful and this approach should be adopted for the future. It was agreed that the Barnston Hall would be booked for the January meeting with the option of alternating future meetings with a different location potentially a little further north to ease travel for the more northerly clubs.

Training

It was confirmed that plans are progressing for two rally marshals training days in 2020. The first will be on 1 Feb and will focus on a theory based approach while the second on 21st March will have more a practical content.

It was indicated that Anglia Motor Sport are planning to run a follow up session to the 2018 event on Training for Club Officials / Events in November 2020.

Regional Representation

The chairman informed the meeting that he had been selected to represent the East / South of England on the newly forming Council. While it is understood that the role will be to represent all aspects of motorsport in the region it doesn't seem to be clear yet on the details of the terms of reference and how it is anticipated that this will work. The first meeting is due shortly when it is anticipated things will become clearer.

Discussion Topic

As the time was getting late it was agreed to hold over the discussion topic until the next meeting.

Therefore at the next meeting a continuation of the topic Ways to promote Motor Sport in the region, will be planned.

Any Other Business

It was commented that events in Belgium were running initiatives to plant trees locally on behalf of competitors in events. Competitors being invited to attend the "ceremony". It was observed that this is an excellent way of working with the local communities and similar initiatives could be considered in the region.

A proposition was put forward that operating standards at some Sprint events may be deteriorating. Following a discussion it was suggested that establishing a set of operating standards for events would be useful. To progress this it was agreed that an initiative to bring representatives of each club running a championship round together pre season to discuss, establish and agree on the operating standards for 2020 would be progressed. The availability of common documentation would support this. This will be followed up.

Next Meeting

The next association delegates meeting will be the 14th Jan 2020 at Barnston Village Hall

The meeting closed at 22.30