

Racing Ahead - keeping Britain at the front of global motor sport

A new initiative to promote the UK's on-going position at the forefront of world motor sport was announced at Goodwood last month as an integral part of National Motorsport Week 2012, which runs from 30 June to 8 July.



Titled 'Racing Ahead – keeping Britain at the front of global motor sport', the new scheme will reward and inspire a select band of the country's most promising young drivers and engineers. The MSA will select six potential future world champions, who will be joined by six of the brightest young engineers selected by the Motorsport Industry Association (MIA) for a

full programme of activities during NMW, including visits to both the Goodwood Festival of Speed and the Santander British Grand Prix at Silverstone. They will also enjoy exclusive tours of some of the UK's premier Formula One factories and World Rally Championship teams.

"We are delighted that the Festival of Speed will kick off this year's National Motorsport Week," said Lord March, founder of the Goodwood Festival of Speed. "More so as the Racing Ahead initiative, which is being set up to highlight many of the next generation of drivers and engineers, ties in so well with our own 'Young Guns – Born to Win' theme that we are celebrating at the Festival in June."

Jump aboard the National Motorsport Week bandwagon

The MSA and MIA are encouraging the British motor sport community to maximise the full potential of this year's National Motorsport Week, which is bookended by the Goodwood Festival of Speed and the Santander Formula 1 British Grand Prix.

"National Motorsport Week gives us a great opportunity to attract new people to get involved for the first time and a number of clubs and venues organised special activities last year," said MSA Chief Executive Colin Hilton. "We want to build on that, especially working with motor clubs to set up events that encourage newcomers to take a look at the sport and realise how much fun they can have on four wheels."



To maximise the many opportunities presented by a highly visible National Motorsport Week, the MIA and MSA have prepared a comprehensive Contributors' Toolkit, which is available to download from the central www.nationalmotorsportweek.co.uk website. The relaunched site also includes tips on how to get involved, official National Motorsport Week logos and will feature a full listing of all events being organised during the period.

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Caterham School wins 2012 BSKC title

A team of talented students from Surrey won the British Schools Karting Championship (BSKC) in the most competitively fought final in the competition's history.

The BSKC is an arrive-and-drive karting championship that aims to bring competitive, cost-effective karting into UK schools. Caterham School pupils Ben Dillon, 18, Alex Jobson, 17, and Ivan May Jones, 16, beat 2011 champions Altrincham Grammar into second place by less than a tenth of a second.

Dillon said: "We knew the competition would be close this year but we did not realise quite how close. It is fantastic to have won, especially as this is my last year at the school and so my final chance to secure the trophy. The team effort was superb. I would encourage other schools to get involved in an event like this as it is a great opportunity to do something different for your school."

Over 600 teams entered the championship this year, meaning that Caterham beat more than 1850 students to secure the winning team's prize of a visit to the famous McLaren Technology Centre. They will also receive one-to-one tuition in Arden International's state-of-the-art simulator.

Will Tew, Championship Director at the BSKC said: "Almost 7000 young people have participated in the competition since it started. It is a great way to give students who are not interested in football or hockey a chance to reveal hidden talents. Many schools have also told us that taking part has built the confidence of the drivers and this has helped them both on the race track and in school too."

University of Stirling researcher studying 'co-acting' motor sports

Jennifer Milne, a PhD Sport Psychology researcher at the University of Stirling, is conducting a UK-wide study of team cohesion in 'co-acting' motor sports. The research aims to develop strategies to improve individual welfare, team performance and success.

Milne is looking for a total of 110 participants aged 18 or over to complete a 20-minute questionnaire. Respondents would ideally be members of a 'co-acting' team, i.e. competing for themselves and for a team at the same time.

Anybody interested in taking part should contact Jennifer Milne on jennifer.milne@stir.ac.uk.



Sharp rise in Club and Rescue Development Fund applications

Having branded 2012 'The Year of the Motor Club', the MSA has received twice as many Club and Rescue Development Fund applications in the first quarter of 2012 as in the same period last year.

So far this year the MSA has received 25 applications to the Fund, which grant-aids venue improvements and the purchase of safety-related equipment and certain venue improvements, as well as the replacement of licensed rescue units and upgrading of their kit. For 2012 the MSA has doubled from £2500 to £5000 the amount per application that can be awarded.

Among the applications approved so far is a £6500 contribution towards a replacement vehicle for Stoke Rescue Safety Group's nine-year-old licensed rescue unit, which serves almost 90 events per year.

"We all appreciate the assistance we have had from the Fund – the continued support really does help us to maintain the safety service we provide to the sport," said George Bailey, the unit's administrator.

MSA Director of Training and Education, Allan Dean-Lewis, added: "Since its inception in 1995, the Club Development Fund and (with the support of the British Motorsports Training Trust) the later Rescue Development Fund has to date provided grant aid in cash of approaching £1 Million, but as it is a partnership fund, this has benefited the sport hugely with overall total project values of almost five times that amount. The enhanced level of grant aid made available for 2012 has clearly had an effect on the level and quality of applications received, especially at this time when the economic climate can have a negative effect on some Club's abilities to plan ahead for the future."



Russell to represent UK in Karting Academy Trophy

The MSA has selected reigning CIK-FIA European KF3 Champion George Russell to represent the UK in this year's CIK-FIA Karting Academy Trophy, a three-round world championship for 13- to 15-year-old karters.

The CIK invited the MSA to nominate a single driver to contest the Trophy's three events: Braga, Portugal (9 July); Angerville, France (26 August); and Bahrain (2 November).

Russell, aged 14 from Cambridgeshire, won the MSA British Cadet Kart Championship in 2009 and took the 2010 Super One and Formula Kart Stars Rotax Mini Max titles, before being crowned the 2011 European Champion at Zuera in Spain. He is the first driver to win the Kartmasters Grand Prix in three different classes in consecutive years, and also won the TaG Junior crown at the SKUSA SuperNationals XV in Las Vegas last year.

"It's a massive privilege to have been chosen by the MSA because the Karting Academy Trophy is a very prestigious championship," he said. "My aim is to add another title to my CV and Britain's karting record, and hopefully the international karting experience I've had recently will help me to achieve that goal."

MSA Performance Director Robert Reid, who headed the Performance Panel that made the selection, said: "We received several strong applications from some very promising young karters, which made choosing just one very difficult indeed. However, George's national and international record speaks for itself, and consultation among some of the leading figures in UK karting confirmed that he is best placed right now to make the most of this great opportunity. We will do some preparation work with him before the events to make sure he has the best possible chance of success."

TVKC launches new site for CIK-FIA Championship

Trent Valley Kart Club has launched a new website for the CIK-FIA Championship event it will host at PFi on 19-22 July.

"TVKC are pulling out all the stops to make this event a huge success to help showcase exactly what UK Karting has to offer," said club chairman Nigel Edwards. "The latest development is the dedicated website which TVKC have just launched specifically to cover the CIK-FIA Championship event, which includes all the information about the event for both competitors and spectators alike. The site will be constantly updated with the latest news and information as we move closer to the date." To visit the site, click here: tvkc.co.uk/cik



Barbados gets the RTP treatment

The Barbados Motorsport Federation (BMF) has become the latest overseas National Sporting Authority (ASN) to benefit from the MSA's expertise in its capacity as an FIA Institute Regional Training Provider (RTP).

MSA International Trainers Allan Dean-Lewis and Nigel Drayton visited the island in March to undertake a training needs analysis for the BMF, which is preparing an application to the FIA Institute for grant aid for officials' safety training.

"We all really appreciated meeting Allan and Nigel and were very impressed with their depth of motor sport experience, their ability to quickly identify our strengths and weaknesses and their initial suggestions for assisting us with training at all levels," said John Sealy, Vice-President of the BMF.

Dean-Lewis added: "We have supported the BMF for a number of years with advice and resources particularly in the area of marshals training, and we were most appreciative of the BMF's invitation for us to formally assist their further development in our RTP role. Despite its small geographical area, the huge success of their Rally Barbados and their enthusiasm for their other motor sport activities was quite electric, much of it based around their fixed venue at Bushy Park. We look forward to developing our work with the BMF for in the future."

Any surplus funds generated by the MSA through its international training projects are used to benefit future training of volunteer officials in the UK.



MSVR reports bumper entries as season gets under way

The 2012 club circuit racing season began with a show of strength during the MSVR Indy Weekend last month at Brands Hatch, where 315 entries were received for a bumper programme of 20 races across 11 championships.

“The health of British club motor sport will of course vary from club to club and championship to championship but from our experience things are pretty healthy at the moment,” said MSVR’s David Scott. “I think every indication is that these strong grids are going to continue throughout the year and it’s a positive indication of the state of club racing at the moment.”

Rotherham-based college launches new motor sport course

MSA Technical Administrator Michael Duncan was on hand for the launch of a new motor sport programme at Dearne Valley College, which Sheffield and Hallamshire Motor Club also attended with a pair of competition cars.

Beginning in September, the course will comprise various units: Motorsport Technology, Engines, Suspension, Brakes, Steering and Chassis. Students will also undertake a practical project to prepare a road car for Sprint events.

Duncan said: “It’s great to see colleges offering education in motor sport technology, and I was really encouraged to see how Dearne Valley college are involving their local motor sport community in developing the course, which I’m sure will be of real benefit to the students.”

Dame Alice Owen’s School crowned F1 in Schools UK champions

Potters Bar, Hertfordshire’s Dame Alice Owen’s School took victory in the F1 in Schools UK National Finals, which were contested by the country’s top 32 teams at the NEC in Birmingham last month.



The initiative challenges students aged nine to 19 to deploy CAD/CAM software to collaborate, design, analyse, manufacture, test, and then race miniature gas powered balsa wood Formula 1 cars.

MSA requests applications for membership of 2013 Specialist Committees

The MSA is seeking nominations for individuals to join the Specialist Committees that represent the interests of the various disciplines of motor sport.

The Specialist Committees meet two or three times a year, normally at Motor Sports House, to discuss and debate new regulations and other issues. The following Specialist Committees may have vacancies available for next year:

- Autotest Committee
- Cross Country Committee
- Historic Committee
- Kart Sporting Sub Committee
- Kart Technical Sub Committee
- Race Committee
- Rallies Committee
- Autocross & Rallycross Sub Committee
- Dragster Sub Committee
- Sprint & Hill Climb Sub Committee
- Trials Committee

All applicants must be members of an MSA-recognised motor club or Regional Association, which must ‘sponsor’ the application. However, there are no formal qualifications required other than the benefit of experience in motor sport. The role is entirely voluntary, although expenses will be paid to cover travel to meetings at Motor Sports House, and the appointment is normally for a three-year term.

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants should submit a brief CV of their motor sport involvement and achievements, including any relevant qualifications, together with name, address and contact details to the sponsoring MSA-recognised club or Regional Association. The sponsor will forward the application to Andrea Wren at Motor Sports House, Riverside Park, Colnbrook, SL3 0HG. This must be done as soon as possible as applications must be received before the end of June 2012 at the latest.

‘Team Ignite’ won a glass trophy, tickets to the British Grand Prix, a TW STEEL watch each, and a place in the World Finals.

Jon Perrett, Team Manager, said: “It’s amazing. We can’t quite believe it. I think our car design was the main reason why we beat everyone today, as we had lots of innovative ideas and had done loads of research. In this competition it’s not just the car design though, as you need to score well in all the other elements, so we put lots of effort into our presentation, portfolio and pit display.”



Promising talent selected for new co-driver scheme

Top young rally co-drivers Joe Cruttenden, Chris Davies and Jack Morton will be mentored by former WRC navigator Nicky Grist after being selected for the new MSA Academy Junior Co-driver programme.

Cruttenden, 22 from Lancashire, has co-driven for 20 drivers in a dozen different cars and took the Michael 'Beef' Park Award with a class win on the 2010 Wydean Rally. Davies, 21 from Bridgend, began navigating in 2007, since when he has sat with over 20 drivers and competed at an international level in Europe and Africa, while 17-year-old Morton from County Durham took overall wins on the 2010 Autodrome Stages and 2011 Crail Summer Stages.

Jakob Ebrey Photography



“Joe, Chris and Jack have got a fair amount of experience and some excellent results under their belts, so they are ideal candidates for this new programme, which will act as a stepping stone to the Team UK national squad,” said Grist. “We will begin with an assessment day that will allow me to identify the areas in which I feel they can improve. I’ll then run three or four sessions throughout the year to set them off on the road to bigger and better things.”

MSA coaches assist young Scottish talent

MSA Coaches Greg Symes and James Wozencroft headed north of the border last weekend to introduce young Scottish drivers to the MSA Academy.

The pair first visited the inaugural round of the Junior 1000 Ecosse Challenge to provide on-event coaching to the 14- to 16-year-old competitors. They then joined the Colin McRae Vision programme at Stirling University, where they delivered an MSA Academy introductory session to 25 drivers who also took part in nutrition, media and psychology sessions.

Symes said: “It was great to provide support to the juniors at the first ever Junior Ecosse 1000 Challenge event and to introduce drivers on the Colin McRae Vision programme to the opportunities available through the MSA Academy. We very much look forward to working with both programmes throughout the year, as it is evident that there is a huge passion for motor sport north of the border.”



Jakob Ebrey Photography

MSA coaches give young rally stars a helping hand

National Rally Coach James Wozencroft and National Co-driver Coach Nicky Grist mentored Team UK's rally drivers and navigators in the run-up to the Bulldog International Rally of North Wales and the Rally de Portugal.

“We did a lot of work on pace notes and pre-event preparation, as well as taking a look at what they could expect from the stages on both events,” said Wozencroft. “We also joined Mark Donnelly, Elfyn Evans, and co-drivers Andrew Edwards and James Morgan on the Bulldog to provide on-event support and guidance; I think it really helps their confidence to have people like us in their corner.”

While round one winner Donnelly crashed out of the Bulldog after showing front-running pace, Evans won the R2 class by almost a minute. Evans, Edwards and national squad team-mates John MacCrone and Stuart Loudon then headed to Portugal for round one of the WRC Academy, which was won by Team UK graduate Alistair Fisher.

Evans said: “As Portugal was my debut in the WRC Academy it was particularly helpful to receive some guidance beforehand. Obviously Nicky has had a long career at world level so it was interesting to get his take on how we approach an international event. Being mentored by such successful and knowledgeable people is certainly one of the key benefits of being part of the Team UK programme.”



Widening participation and raising awareness of motor sport around the country, particularly among young people



RDO Dunn gives gold medallist a ride at Silverstone

Olympic gold medal-winning skeleton racer Amy Williams MBE swapped ice for asphalt when Anthony Dunn, Go Motorsport's Regional Development Officer (RDO) in the North East, gave her a passenger ride in a Radical SR3 belonging to Unique Trackdays at Silverstone.

"Purely by chance Amy was in the same garage as me, being looked after by Rob Huff," said Dunn, an experienced racer and instructor. "She's used to racing downhill headfirst on a tea tray at 90mph, so of course I had to try Copse and Abbey flat! I didn't succeed but that's another story..."

Silverstone is new home of Motorsport UK

Motorsport UK, the motor sport trade show supported by Go Motorsport, is moving to Silverstone after concluding a new partnership with the Northamptonshire venue.



Renamed Silverstone Motorsport UK, this year's show takes place on 3-4 November. "We are thrilled to be teaming up with Silverstone," said organiser Martin Capenhurst. "For people looking to make a start into motor sport we have a number of new LIVE elements, providing visitors with the chance to get behind the wheel of one of Silverstone's cars and learn the ropes

with a qualified instructor, while the Go Motorsport kart challenge will provide visitors with the chance to compete and win sponsorship for their 2012 season."

Silverstone Managing Director Richard Phillips added: "We are delighted to welcome Motorsport UK and Kart Mania to Silverstone. We have been extremely impressed with the two events and we look forward to working with Martin, his team and partners in making these events a success and a not to miss fixture on the UK Motorsport calendar."

More information can be found at www.motorsportshow.co.uk

Clark appointed new Scotland RDO

Alison Clark, one of the organiser's of last year's inaugural Scottish Motorsport Festival, has been appointed Scotland's new Regional Development Officer (RDO).



Alison joins a team of 10 RDOs across the UK who are responsible for developing motor sport in their areas. Their principle function is to support the

local clubs and assist their development activities, while continuing to deliver the Go Motorsport message in schools and colleges.

Clark, a lifelong motor sport enthusiast and daughter of the rally driver Ivor Clark, said: "Motor sport in Scotland is on a real high right now, which makes it an exciting time to take up this role; my challenge is to capitalise on that by helping to bolster the sport's grass roots and get more people involved in all areas and at all levels. I want to be visible and approachable so that clubs can freely contact me when they feel they could benefit from the helping hand that Go Motorsport can offer."

MSA Director of Development and Communications, Ben Taylor, added: "We are delighted that Alison has agreed to join the team. Scotland has been without an RDO for a while now and she will be able to inject some fresh impetus into the campaign up there."

TRAINING

MSA officials' training seminars conclude for 2012

The MSA recently concluded its series of annual training seminars, which this year were targeted at unlicensed club and event officials and delivered at 13 venues across the UK and its islands, with a total attendance of 471.

Although the overall attendance figure was slightly down compared to the last club and event officials seminar series in 2010, around 50 per cent of this year's attendees were first-timers who provided enthusiastic feedback on the relevance of the seminars to their varying club roles.

The seminars were led by the MSA's Director of Training and Education Allan Dean-Lewis and a presentation team comprising Ian Watson, Nigel Drayton, Dave Lucas, Peter Lawton and Alan Page, assisted at some venues by Tony Fletcher. The seminar format consisted of formal presentations, group discussions and interactive work, all of which were well received by those who attended. The next series of seminars, planned for early 2013, will be targeted at MSA licensed Officials, predominantly Clerks and Stewards.

CHAMPIONSHIPS UPDATE

Jakob Ebrey, btcc.net

**Dunlop MSA British Touring Car Championship**

Jason Plato leads the standings following victory in race three at Brands Hatch, where Rob Collard and reigning champion Matt Neal were also race winners.

Provisional championship standings

- 1 Jason Plato – 52 points
- 2 Matt Neal – 48
- 3 Andrew Jordan – 45

Jakob Ebrey Photography

**MSA British Rally Championship**

Tom Cave and co-driver Craig Parry emerged victorious from the Bulldog International Rally of North Wales to take the championship lead.

Provisional championship standings

- 1 Tom Cave – 32 points
- 2 Elfyn Evans – 30
- = Osian Pryce – 30

www.fimpr.com

**Kololi Beach Club MSA British Historic Rally Championship**

Julian Reynolds and Nick Elliott share the championship lead following category victories on round two, a dry and dusty Bulldog Historic Rally.

Provisional championship standings

- 1 Julian Reynolds – 62 points
- = Nick Elliott – 62
- 3 Rikki Proffitt – 60

Steve Wilkinson

**MSA British Sprint Championship**

Reigning champion Stewart Robb was the top scorer in the first round of the season at Castle Combe, despite his car suffering engine management issues.

Provisional championship standings

- 1 Stewart Robb – 12 points
- 2 Terry Holmes – 11
- 3 Mark Smith – 10

Paul Cherry

**Britcar MSA British Endurance Championship**

Javier Morcillo, Manuel Cintrano and Paul White took top honours in the season-opening three-hour race at Silverstone aboard their Mosler.

Provisional championship standings

- 1 Richard Adams/David Green/Martin Byford – 31 points
- = O'Neill / Huggins – 31
- 3 Jeff Mileham / Steve Guglielmi – 30
- = Morcillo / Cintrano / White – 30

Rich Danby, www.zipp.co.uk

**MSA British Sporting Trials Championship**

Roland Uglow won the Peter Blankstone Sporting Trial at the idyllic Shelsley Walsh, but Andrew Bell leads the title race from reigning champion Ian Bell.

Provisional championship standings

- 1 Andrew Bell – 29 points
- 2 Ian Bell – 27
- 3 Roland Uglow – 26

CHAMPIONSHIPS UPDATE

Nick Purdie



MSA British Long Circuit Kart Championship

Reigning champion Paul Platt made the best possible start to his title defence with two nail-biting wins at Oulton Park.

Provisional championship standings

- 1 Paul Platt – 80 points
- 2 Louis Wall – 65
- 3 Toby Davis – 64

RallycrossUK.com



Monster Energy MSA British Rallycross Championship

Former champion Ollie O'Donovan made a winning return to the championship at Lydden Hill, taking victory at the wheel of his Ford Focus Supercar.

Provisional championship standings

- 1 Ollie O'Donovan – 20 points
- 2 Pat Doran – 17
- 3 Steve Mundy – 15

Nic Ayre



MSA British Car Trial Championship

Dave Oliver took victory in the second round of the championship aboard his Imp after Steve Courts' similar machine blew a gasket.

Provisional championship standings

- 1 Nick Pollitt – 8 points
- 2 Dave Oliver – 6
- = Barrie Parker – 6
- = Chris Judge – 6

LindsayPhotoSport



Link Up Ltd MSA British Autotest Championship

Reigning champion Steven Ferguson won the first two events of the 2012 championship to open out a four-point lead over Richard Pinkney.

Provisional championship standings

- 1 Steven Ferguson – 60 points
- 2 Richard Pinkney – 56
- 3 David Thompson – 55

William Wylie Photography



MSA Scottish Rally Championship

David Bogie and Kevin Rae were in imperious form on the 40th Brick & Steel Border Counties rally, taking their second win of the 2012 championship.

Provisional championship standings

- 1 David Bogie – 60 points
- 2 Mike Faulkner – 56
- 3 Rory Young – 52

John Kendrick



Carryduff Forklift MSA Northern Ireland Rally Championship

Derek McGarrity extended his championship lead with victory on round two, the McGrady Insurance Stages, by 56 seconds from Kieron Graffin.

Provisional championship standings

- 1 Derek McGarrity – 24 points
- 2 Derek McGeehan – 19
- 3 Kieron Graffin – 14
- = John McGaffin – 14

www.jmsphotographic.com



REIS Get Connected MSA Asphalt Rally Championship

Melvyn Evans, the 2009 champion, and co-driver Aled Davies won the opening round of this year's championship, the Tour of Epynt.

Provisional championship standings

- 1 Melvyn Evans – 25 points
- 2 Damian Cole – 22
- 3 Peter Lloyd – 20



Pirelli MSA Welsh Rally Championship

Matt Edwards took the championship lead with a fine win on the Bulldog National Rally, which he won by 27 seconds from Tom Naughton

Provisional championship standings

- 1 Matt Edwards – 54 points
- 2 Paul Davy – 48
- 3 Tom Naughton – 45

TECHNICAL / REGULATIONS

Tyre Widths in Stage Rallying

The MSA Technical Department wishes to advise on (R)48.5.3, which states maximum permitted wheel widths in relation to the cubic capacity of the vehicle's engine, as follows:

Up to 1150cc: 7in

Over 1150cc and up to 1600cc: 8in

Over 1600cc: 9in.

These width measurements are of the complete wheel, including the flange, rim and tyre, and relate to the vehicle engine capacity inclusive of forced induction coefficient. Please also note regulations (R)48.5.7 and (R)48.5.8, which state that the complete wheel shall be measured with the tyre at normal running pressure and that the measurement will be taken at the widest point of the complete wheel, above the hub level.

Varley Red Top Batteries

The MSA Technical Department has received a number of enquiries recently regarding battery types, particularly the Varley Red Top battery. These do not fall within the 'wet battery' classification because they do not contain fluid or gel, and they can therefore be situated within a vehicle's driver/passenger compartment without being enclosed. For 'wet batteries' the requirements of (J)5.14.1 remain applicable.

Fuel testing

The MSA reminds competitors that it will be carrying out random fuel sample testing at MSA-permitted events of various disciplines during the course of 2012. These tests will normally be performed by an MSA nominated Technical Commissioner in accordance with the Procedure for the Testing of Fuel, as detailed in section (D) of the MSA Yearbook. The MSA kindly requests the cooperation of any competitor who is asked for a fuel sample by an MSA Official.

Birel/Freeline Cadet RPS

The MSA has approved a Rear Protection System (RPS) manufactured by Birel/Freeline for use in the Cadet and Super Cadet categories with immediate effect. The RPS must be used complete with all fittings as shown in the registration fiche, which can be found by clicking here: http://www.birel.it/en/fiche_accessori.asp

Seat homologations and regulations

The MSA Technical Department wishes to clarify the application of MSA Regulations relating to FIA seat homologations.

For national stage rallying, if a car was issued with an MSA Competition Car Log Book prior to 1 January 2009 then (R)48.10.6.1 applies as follows: "For any vehicle was issued with an MSA Competition Car Log Book prior to 1st January 2009, the requirements of R48.10.6 are satisfied until 31st December 2012. This is provided that the seat(s) have previously been FIA Homologated and in addition the seats have the appropriate seat mountings in accordance with R48.10.6."

As the wording of this regulation contains no provision for the fact that a homologation can be withdrawn by the FIA, any seat that is included on FIA Technical List 12, whether or not it is red and struck through, is acceptable in UK National motor sport under (R)48.10.6.1, provided that it carries a genuine FIA homologation label and is in a satisfactory condition.

JUDICIAL

Benjamin Cree

The National Court has considered the matter of Benjamin Cree, a competitor in the British Rallycross weekend at Croft Circuit on 5th November 2011.

There was an altercation at the circuit following an on track incident which resulted in hearings before the Stewards.

As a result both Benjamin Cree and another competitor Tomasz Wielgosz were excluded from the meeting.

It subsequently came to light that Mr Cree's mobile phone had been used to upload an entry to Mr Cree's Facebook page. This entry was seriously offensive in its nature and was clearly targeted at Mr Wielgosz.

The National Court has been informed that although the offensive entry was uploaded from Mr Cree's phone, it had in fact been done by a friend of Mr Cree, to whom Mr Cree had entrusted his mobile telephone whilst he competed at the event.

The National Court has no choice but to accept the explanation given by Mr Cree and notes that he has apologised for what had occurred.

The use of Social Media by competitors and persons for which they are responsible under General Regulation H32.1.10 is inevitable in this day and age but all MSA members are ultimately responsible for what is publicised in their name and for what is published by those covered by General Regulation H32.1.10.

The National Court further reminds MSA members that it will, in appropriate cases, take action under C1.1.4 to ensure that Social Media is not used in any way that would bring motorsport into disrepute.