



Southern District Motorsports Association, PO Box 1484, QUEANBEYAN NSW 2620

Email: secretary@sdmahillclimb.com

August 2020

President's Report



Firstly, apologies for this edition of *Over The Hill* being later than it should be. The reason is that the sole focus of the committee has been on making sure that the arrangements for this Sunday's hillclimb (9 August) meet all the COVID-19 requirements of both Motorsport Australia and the ACT Government. As everyone would be aware, the COVID situation in Victoria is very serious and the risk of significant outbreaks in NSW can't be discounted.

The committee has been constantly monitoring the overall situation and, specifically, the requirements of the ACT Public Health Orders. Many thanks to all committee members for their contributions, but particular thanks to Kim Le Lievre, who has agreed to take on the onerous job of being the COVID-19 Checker for the event, a role which Motorsport Australia required us to fill before they would give us a permit for the day.

Because of the constantly changing situation, we have had to exclude a number of club members from the Greater Sydney region who had entered the event. We did this reluctantly, but given the circumstances we felt there was no option. The club has both an immediate public health duty to follow the rules and also a longer term responsibility to maintain and enhance the good name of motorsport. The last thing any of us want to see is references in the media to a 'hillclimb cluster'.

There is more detail on the arrangements for Sunday separately in this edition, but can I remind everyone that no spectators or pit crews are permitted to

attend. We are limited to a maximum of 100 people on-site, which will be pretty well taken up by the 60 entrants and the officials necessary to run the event.

This Sunday will be an important test of how well we can run an event on COVID times. Our success will influence whether or not we can schedule extra events later in the year to compensate for the April, May and June hillclimbs we had to cancel.

We have an important event in October, which is the SDMA round of the NSW HillClimb Championship, scheduled for Sunday 4 October. This is always a great event, with top-flight hillclimb drivers from around NSW and, in the now distant past, other states competing.

Another important date for October is the club's Annual General Meeting (AGM), which this year will be held on a Sunday afternoon (Sunday 25 October) and will be held at the track. There is more information about the AGM elsewhere in this edition of *OTH*, but could I please ask everyone to look at their diaries now and pencil in 2.00 pm on Sunday 25 October. The club is only as strong and effective as its members make it, so we need a good roll up of people to take part in setting the club's direction for the next year.

A final reminder about this Sunday: If you are feeling unwell with COVID-like symptoms, or if you have been to a designated COVID 'hot spot' in the last 14 days, please stay at home and don't put your fellow club members at risk..

John

REMINDERS FOR WHEN *We'll Meet Again* ON SUNDAY 9 AUGUST

It's been a quite a while since we had an event, so before we fire up for the 9 August one lap hillclimb, here are a few reminders

- **You must be a current financial SDMA member to compete.** If your membership has run out during the lockdown, or will expire before 9 August, please contact the Membership Secretary, Ross Samuelson, at sdmamembership20@gmail.com. Membership is \$50 for individuals and \$70 for families.
- **You must have a current Motorsport Australia (MA) Level 2S licence to compete.**
- **You will need to provide your own appropriate Personal Protective Equipment, principally *hand sanitiser, disposable gloves and face masks (if the driver wishes to wear one)*.** There will be hand sanitising stations placed around the track, particularly in the Pit Stop Café and toilets, but ***personal use PPE is your responsibility.***
- **If your car has a MA/CAMS logbook you must have and use a MA/CAMS compliant frontal head restraint (FHR),** previously known as a HANS device. This rule came into effect on 1 January this year. There is no requirement to have or use a FHR if you are driving a road registered car or an unregistered vehicle which does not have a MA/ CAMS logbook. The MA/CAMS rationale for the new rule is safety, as FHRs are now required in most other forms of motorsport.
- **Please bring cash for the Pit Stop Café.** We don't sell virtual sausages or soft drinks so we ask for real money.

WE NEED APPRENTICE TIMEKEEPERS

Our remarkable and unflappable timekeeper, Dave King, has been involved with Fairbairn Park hillclimbs since before SDMA was formed in 2000, having been a committee member of the predecessor club which ran the track in the 1980s and 1990s. He has recorded literally tens of thousands of lap times over the years and is a byword for accuracy, efficiency and reliability, not just among SDMA members but across the NSW hillclimbing fraternity. Between Dave and our course announcer, Terry Bennett, there is absolutely nothing more about hillclimbing possible to be known!

Over the rest of this year and into next year, Dave is looking to step back from doing as much as he has in the past. So the club is asking for people who would like to join a timing team to work with Dave and develop the skills, enthusiasm and patience necessary for this essential role in the club. If we don't have accurate times to boast about or complain about, hillclimbing would be pretty boring and pointless.

The advantages of working in the timekeeping tower include a great view of the whole course and the fact that all drivers treat you with great courtesy, respect and politeness. Plus it's a fascinating place from which to watch the different styles and techniques of drivers and the varying vehicle characteristics.

If you're interested in working in the timing tower, please e-mail Dave at timespan44@bigpond.com.

OFFICIALS FOR CLUB EVENTS

We need more club members to volunteer to be an officials at events which the club will run this year and in the future.

Please remember:

1. without enough officials we can't run an event; it's that simple; and
2. if we have enough people willing to work as an official the load can be shared and the amount of time each official has to contribute can be reduced.

Working as a flaggie, on the chock, as a grid marshal or as a general official helping keep the event running is an enjoyable way of being part of the hillclimb day and to keep in touch with friends and fellow club members.

It's not onerous, it's pretty enjoyable and can be fun. So if you feel you can help out for a day or half a day or a few hours, please contact Rohan Thatcher at rohantthatcher@yahoo.com.au.

And if you want to help out, can you also go to the Motorsport Australia website (www.motorsport.org.au) to get an Official's Licence. Use the "Sign up" button at Get started/Officials or use the link <https://motorsport.org.au/membership/official>.

Officials licences are free of charge!

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THIS SUNDAY'S HILLCLIMB

Because of COVID, this Sunday's hillclimb will be quite different from what we're used to.

- For a start, there will be no spectators. The spectator parking area gates will be locked.
- Second, competitors are not allowed to have pit crews or companions/friends/relations etc come with them to the event: Drivers only.

These two restrictions are to make sure we comply with the ACT Government rule that no more than 100 people can be on-site any time.

- Third, there will be no physical Motorsport Australia licence or SDMA membership checks (although **you must have both your licence and your membership card with you**). Competition numbers will be handed to competitors at the front gate when they enter.
- Fourth, there will be no physical scrutineering. All competitors will have submitted a *Motorsport Australia Self Scrutiny Check List* form and a *Motorsport Australia Statement of Compliance* when they did their on-line entry.

When you arrive at the front gate for the event, please be ready for the following

- **You will be asked for your signed SDMA Statement of Vehicle Compliance**, which says that you have, in the previous 48 hours, checked that your vehicle still meets the requirements set out in the *Motorsport Australia Self Scrutiny Check List*.
- You will also be asked whether you have any COVID-19 symptoms and whether you have been in Victoria or any designated NSW COVID hot spot in the last 14 days.

When you enter the venue **please take one of the marked pit bays**. These have been set out to ensure proper social distancing so please **use one bay only and don't straddle across two bays**.

There will be marked entry lines for the Pit Stop Café and *only ONE person at a time* will be allowed at the counter. Please use the hand sanitiser on the posts near the entry before you go into the Pit Stop Café and leave by the doors on the spectator mound side.

There will also be marked entry lines for the central area toilet. Please use the hand sanitiser before entering. There will be *a limit of four people in the central area toilet block at any time*.

The toilet block at the bottom of the pit area will be *limited to two people at any time*. Again, please use the hand sanitiser at the entrance before going in.

- There will be no presentations. Certificates will be mailed to class winners and winners of the Fastest Time of the Day, Fastest Female Driver and Fastest Junior Driver.

During the day, at all times, please follow SOCIAL DISTANCING protocols and hand hygiene procedures.

2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

This year's AGM will be different for a number of reasons.

- It will be later in the year than usual, due to COVID-19
- It will be held on a Sunday afternoon
- It will be held at the track, in the Pit Stop Café area, not at the Southern Cross Club

So this is the official notification of the 2020 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of SDMA:

The date is Sunday 25 October 2020.
The start time is 2.00 pm.
The venue is the Pit Stop Café.

The AGM is an important annual event in the club's life: it's when the committee is elected, when the club's financial statements are presented to members and it's when we have the opportunity to talk about the future direction and management of the club.

What do members want SDMA to do in the next 12 months?
What changes do members want in the way we run events?
What improvements would members like to see at the track?

It's your chance to have your say about the running of the club. It's the forum to hear members' views and opinions on what's important to them.

The AGM is also the opportunity for people to put themselves forward to join the SDMA committee to help run club. We have around 300 members and in that big group of people we have some incredibly talented and skilled people. It would be great to see more of them putting their hands up to help run the club and to help run our events.

So please come along to the AGM and play a part in the running of your club.

In the next two editions of *Over The Hill* there will be a list of the committee positions which have to be filled and the roles and responsibilities of each position. Every job is important to the smooth running of SDMA and to making sure that the club grows and improves.

I know I speak for everyone on the committee when I say that we look forward to new people joining the committee because it's important that the club's management continues to reflect the ideas and priorities of the club's members. To achieve that we need people to invest some time and energy to put something back into the club.

Being on the committee is enjoyable and isn't a huge burden (one meeting a month on the evening of the second Tuesday). And it's satisfying because you get the pleasure of being part of a team that organises good events and maintains and improves a circuit that is recognised across NSW as one of the best club motorsport facilities in the State.



NSW HILLCLIMB CHAMPIONSHIP – CANBERRA ROUND

Each year, SDMA hosts a round of the NSW HillClimb Championship. It's one of the most interesting events that we run as it brings to Canberra the best hillclimb drivers and the fastest and most interesting vehicles from not only around NSW, but also from other states, particularly Victoria and Queensland.

This year's NSW Championship has been severely truncated by COVID. There were two rounds in March at Mount Panorama, Bathurst but the next four rounds at Wollongong, Kempsey, Grafton and Tamworth were cancelled. There will be a round this weekend at Ringwood, near Newcastle, and the next scheduled event after that is the Canberra round on Sunday 4 October, with practice on Saturday 3 October (that's the October Labour Day long weekend).

But there's a chance that the SDMA Canberra event could be turned into two rounds: one on the Saturday and one on the Sunday, with the possibility of a practice afternoon on the Friday. We're talking to the Motorsport Australia NSW State Hillclimb Panel (which manages the championship) and we hope to have a decision from them sometime this month.

That will mean that the Canberra rounds will probably decide the championship victors, both class winners and the overall title. So we should get a good field of entrants, regardless of whether we have one round or two.

What it means for the club is that SDMA members may well have two chances to enter and compete against the best drivers in the state, which would be a great opportunity. It also means that even if you don't enter either of the events, there may also be two days of very exciting and very competitive racing for keen spectators to watch (COVID restrictions permitting).

As soon as we get a decision from the NSW Hill Climb Panel the committee will let everyone know the outcome. So at this stage if you don't have definite plans to travel away from Canberra for the long weekend, mark it up as a possible feast of hillclimbing.

SDMA COVID-19 EVENT PROCEDURES - INTRODUCTION

Set out below are the detailed procedures SDMA will have to follow to run the 9 August event. There are many changes to the way we normally run so please read them carefully.

The key points are:

- No more than 100 people on the site at any time
- No spectators
- No pit crews
- No physical scrutineering:
 - every competitor will have to complete a Motorsport Australia 'Self Scrutiny Check List' and submit it with their entry (this form will be available in the SDMA On Line Entry system)
 - every competitor will have to complete a Motorsport Australia 'Statement of Compliance' and submit it with their entry (this form will be available in the SDMA On Line Entry system)
 - competitor will also have to hand in a signed SDMA 'Statement of Compliance' when they arrive on 9 August. This form will say that the driver has physically checked his vehicle in the previous 48 hours and it still is fit for the event. This form will be sent to drivers electronically 72 hours before the event.
- There will be no physical driver's briefing. Competitors will be sent an electronic Drivers' Briefing 72 hours before the event (the SDMA Statement of Compliance form will be sent in this e-mail.)
- There will be no presentations
- Physical distancing must be observed by everyone throughout the day
- The Pit Stop Café will be open but signs will indicate the only entry and exit lanes:
 - There will be no tables in the covered Pit Stop Café area
 - The tables and chairs will be spread out with appropriate spacing on the lawns around the centre Pit Stop café area
- Entry and exit to the toilet blocks will be by way of signed lanes
- Access to and from the circuit will be monitored to ensure that the 100 person limit is observed at all times.
- COVID-19 checkers will be on duty

Now, read on over the page...



Southern District Motorsports Association

SDMA COVID-19 EVENT PROCEDURES V6

01 July 2020

References:

- ACT Government COVID-19 Emergency Direction 18 June 2020 (most recent available)
- Motorsport Australia (MA) policy document 'Return to Race' (V3 issued June 2020)

Key Assumptions:

- No spectators will be allowed to attend the event
- No pit crew will be allowed to attend the event (drivers only)
- A maximum of 100 people will be allowed on site (up to 65 drivers and up to 35 officials)
- Social distancing requirements must be followed
- Competitors are responsible for their own appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

ENTRIES

- (1) Entries will close at 8.00 pm on the TUESDAY prior to the event.
- (2) All entries will be on-line using the 'Club Online Entry Form' on the SDMA website.
- (3) Each entry must be accompanied by a completed and signed Motorsport Australia (MA) 'Self Scrutiny Check List' form covering the competitor's vehicle and apparel.
- (4) Each entry must be accompanied by a completed and signed MA 'Statement of Compliance'.

Notes: a. these two documents will be incorporated into the SDMA on-line entry system and must be filled out as part of the entry process.

b. The automated acceptance e-mail sent to competitors on receipt of their entry will be amended to make clear that

- i. only the driver may attend the event (i.e. no pit crew);
- ii. that no spectators will be allowed;
- iii. drivers are responsible for providing their own appropriate levels of PPE, principally hand sanitiser, disposable gloves and face masks (if the driver wishes to wear one).

(5) The Event Secretary will electronically check the validity of SDMA memberships and MA licences before preparing a final list of accepted entries.

(6) A competitor register (with contact phone numbers) will be produced by the Event Secretary.

(7) When the running order is finalised, the Event Secretary will produce laminated copies to be posted at different points around the pit area and PitStop Café area.

(8) After the running order is finalised, a drivers' briefing document will be sent electronically to all competitors with a Read/Receipt tag.

(9) The drivers' briefing document will be accompanied by a simple SDMA Statement of Compliance which the driver will be required to present (signed) when arriving at the circuit. The SDMA Statement of Compliance will state that the driver has, in the previous 48 hours, checked the vehicle and that the vehicle still meets the requirements set out in the MA 'Self Scrutiny Check List'.

(10) In conjunction with the Clerk of Course, Club Captain and other officials, the Event Secretary will prepare a register of officials (with contact phone numbers).

AT THE CIRCUIT

GENERAL

- (1) SDMA COVID compliance checkers will be on duty to ensure the event complies with the ACT Government and MA guidance and policy documents in force at the time of the event and these procedures.
- (2) The 'Hill Climb today' board will not be put outside the track entrance.
- (3) Spectators will not be admitted and the spectator parking gate will be kept closed.
- (4) COVID 19 signs (i.e. social distancing, hand hygiene etc) will be displayed throughout the pit area and central Pit Stop Café and toilet area.
- (5) Hand sanitising stations will be located throughout the pit area and central area.
- (6) The Clerk of Course will be based in a taped off area at the rear of the Pit Stop Café: no-one else will work in that area.
- (7) At this stage, based on the Supercars precedent, we hope to have 'remote' Stewards i.e. they will not be at the circuit but will be available by phone if required.
- (8) A taped off 'COVID-19 isolation facility' will be established on the inside of the track fence next to the ambulance parking area.
- (9) After all competitors have arrived, the gate to the site will be closed (BUT NOT LOCKED) and access in and out of the circuit will be monitored.
- (10) Officials will be provided with PPE necessary to carry out their role, principally disposable gloves and hand sanitiser. Levels of PPE for ambulance and fire/recovery officials will be decided with them in advance on a case-by-case basis.
- (11) Entry and exit lines for the Pit Stop Café will be clearly marked, with 1.5 metre markers on the entry line. Tables and chairs will be spread in single table groups around the outside lawn area with each table having four square metres of space and being restricted to no more than two people.
- (12) Entry and exit lines to and from the toilet blocks will be clearly marked, with the urinal in the central area toilet block being made inaccessible to restrict use of the facilities to a maximum of four people at a time.

ARRIVAL

- (1) When a competitor arrives at the gate, an official will check the competitor against the entrant list and ensure that only the registered competitor is in the vehicle.
- (2) Another official will receive the driver's SDMA Statement of Compliance, give the driver the vehicle competition numbers and brief the driver about pit bay arrangements.
- (3) As competitors arrive, regular public address announcements will be made reminding drivers and officials of social distancing guidelines, arrangements for use of the Pit Stop Café and toilets, the need to stay within designated pit bays and for drivers to read again the Drivers' Briefing document sent to them earlier in the week.

SCRUTINEERING

- (1) There will be no traditional scrutineering but the Chief Scrutineer will conduct random inspections of vehicles throughout the day.
- (2) If a vehicle activates the noise meter (i.e. it has exceeded the noise limit for the track) the vehicle will be examined, after the driver has made the changes necessary to overcome the cause of the noise problem, in the scrutineering area by the Chief Scrutineer.

IN THE PITS

- (1) Three metre wide pit bays will be marked.
 - a. Priority for pit bays in the compacted area near the start line to open- wheelers.
 - b. Drivers and officials should maintain social distancing rules while in the pit area.

AFTER THE EVENT

- (1) There will be no presentations.
- (2) The Pit Stop Café will have closed prior to the commencement of the final run.
- (3) All disposable PPE will be collected and placed in double-sealed garbage bags.
- (4) The competitors and officials registers will be kept by the Event Secretary.

OFFICIALS

At this stage, the following officials will be needed

- COVID-19 Checker X 2
- Clerk of Course
- Event Secretary (could be off-site)
- MA Stewards X 2 (could be off-site)
- Chief Scrutineer
- Entry control X 2
- Flag marshals X 3
- Chock X 2
- Time keeper
- Announcer
- Pit Stop Café X 3
- Pit parking manager

For Sale

Tilt Trailer

Tandem Axle, Tilt Bed Trailer
Custom 2 ton car/bike trailer/frame/steel, safety chain
15" Holden stud pattern rims, mechanical brakes and bearings,
LED tail lights and wiring, front and side clearance lights,
Registration to Nov 2020,
2 TON leaf suspension, 40mm 97" axles,
Tow hitch 2 TON slide mechanical, handbrake cable and adjuste

Floor size is 4850x1900

\$5800

Please email kent.donally@gmail.com



For Sale

BRAND NEW RPM Mondial driving suit

Current FIA approval (8856-2000), never been worn. It is marked

'medium' but it is too big for me (174cm/74kg) so I think it is more like a 'large' size and it probably has the wrong tag sewn on it. It cost me \$625 but prepared to cut my losses and sell it for \$500. Give me a call if we can do a deal.

Contact: **Col Merz** on 0412 316 275



For Sale

Maxxis tyre (235/55 R18 100V) on CSA Savana rim.

Purchased to use as spare on 2010 Holden Captiva, but never used. Complete with wheel nuts: \$200

Contact **Henry** 0421 677 951 or in the pits.



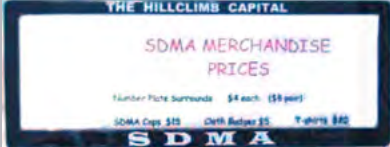


SDMA COMMITTEE

Position	Name/email	Telephone
President	John Templeton	0409 624 895
Vice President	Geoff Bassingthwaighte	0408 481 506
Secretary	David Peisley	0409 000 028
Treasurer	Alex Hitch	
Public Officer	Geoff Bassingthwaighte	0408 481 506
Club Captain	Mark Wyatt	
Point Scores	Dave King	
Pre-event Secretary (Queries regarding event entry should be directed to the Event Secretary listed in the Supplementary Regulations on the Entry Forms page)	Daniel Cummins	
Facility Management	Col Merz	
Membership Secretary (Temporary)	Ross Samuelson	0401 704 392
General members	Kimberley Le Lievre John Stewart Zac Le Lievre Harry Katsanevas Rohan Thatcher Mark Wyatt Celeste Oringo	
FPCC/CMSC Representatives	David Yates , Anthony Hyde	0419 614 144 0429 470 104
NSW CAMS Representative	Bob Wootton	

SDMA MERCHANDISE

To order any merchandise, contact a committee member or visit the Pit Stop Café on event days.

Hats (peak and bucket)	\$15.00	
SDMA cloth patches	\$5.00	
Number plate frames	\$8.00 (pair)	

SDMA SPONSORS

SDMA wishes to thank our sponsors—please support them!



1800 448 385 Office: 6249 7834
bb@tomstrashpaks.com.au



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