



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

Email: secretary@sdmahillclimb.com

August 2021

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



To borrow a saying, it looks very much like Groundhog Day all over again. This time last year we were preparing to carefully, very carefully, re-start events after a four month suspension due to COVID-19.

A year later, and we will have to be careful, very careful again at tomorrow's event because of the Delta strain of COVID. Greater Sydney isn't all that

far away so, like the rest of Canberra, we are potentially at risk. The reality is that we will most likely have to stay vigilant at our events for the rest of the year.

So when submitting entries for the rest of 2021, please first check the ACT Government COVID website (<https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/community/travel>) to make sure you are able to enter. And when you're at the track, please follow the COVID-19 protocols of social distancing, hand sanitiser and wearing a mask if you want to (or if it's mandated).

SDMA's Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be on Sunday September 19 and this issue of Over The Hill includes nomination forms for club members wanting to stand for election to any position on the SDMA Committee. The positions all become vacant at the AGM and the Committee would be very pleased to welcome new members to any role.

The club has been extremely lucky in its 21 years to have always had a Committee which worked together well and which focussed solely on how to improve the track and the facilities to give better service to

members. The result of those efforts by many people over many years is that SDMA owns, operates and enjoys one of the best hillclimb circuits in Australia.

But the club and the Committee will always gain from having new members joining the management of the facility, bringing new perspectives and new ideas on how we can grow SDMA. If you are interested in standing for election, please step up and send your nomination to the Club Secretary, Dave Peisley.

Tomorrow's hillclimb is another full field, notwithstanding the forecast for wet weather. (Perhaps we've jinxed ourselves by commenting too much about how the weather gods have been so kind us this year.) The field limit was reached only a day after entries opened so it's great to see such enthusiasm from club members wanting to compete. After tomorrow, there will be another four events this year, one in September, two in October and the last in November.

For those events, we will rely, as we have all this year and all the years the club has functioned, on a small and dedicated band of officials and volunteers who turn out every time to make our hillclimbs happen. SDMA couldn't, and wouldn't, run without their commitment and enthusiasm. But we need to spread the load more evenly and more fairly. We need other club members to step up and take on some of the tasks that have to be done every event.

If we can build a bigger pool of officials and volunteers the workload will be less and the enjoyment for those officials and volunteers will be increased. So can I please ask more club members to seriously consider

helping out with running events. If we have more people prepared to join in, the amount of work per individual will be less.

The issue of sharing the load will soon be more critical for another reason. Elsewhere in this *Over The Hill* is news that the Committee has started looking at how we can modify the track layout to run two cars on the circuit at the same time. If we can do that safely and at reasonable cost, the advantages are obvious. We will be able to accept more entries (at the moment we are limited to 60 cars for a single lapper and 40 for a

double lapper) and we should be able to offer more runs at each event. But we won't be able to do both of those without significantly more club members volunteering to work as officials and volunteers at events. So have a think about how you could make a contribution.

In the meantime, I hope everyone stays safe and well.

John

TWO IMPORTANT REMINDERS FOR COMPETITORS



- **Drivers must wear natural fibre clothing (the most common natural fibre being cotton) which covers the driver from ankle to neck to wrist.** The requirement that clothing must come down to the driver's wrist means just that: **it must reach the wrist – not stop near the elbow or 10 or 15 centimetres above the wrist.** There are obvious safety issues, principally fire related, for this requirement so please follow the rules.

- **Once an event has started, competition cars are not permitted to leave the hillclimb without the express, prior permission of the Clerk of Course.** If permission is granted, which will only be in rare circumstances, the car must be taken to the Chief Scrutineer for re-checking immediately on return to the circuit.
 - The Supplementary Regulations have been revised to make this clear. Para 29 now says: Competition vehicles must not leave the event venue without the express prior permission of the Clerk of Course. If permission is granted, the vehicle must be presented to the Chief Scrutineer for re-scrutiny immediately upon return to the event.



- Competitors should only compete in one event a day. Entering in both a hillclimb and another nearby event means having to frequently leave the hillclimb to alternate between the two events, which raises a number of issues for both.

Extra help needed at the State Championship round 2-3 October



On the Saturday and Sunday of the October long weekend, Saturday 2 October and Sunday 3 October, SDMA will host Round 9 of the NSW HillClimb Championship, the last round in this year's title.

It will be an exciting weekend, made more so because the NSW COVID lockdown has caused two rounds of the Championship to be called off, which means the pressure in the remaining rounds has increased dramatically.

Some of the best hill climbers from NSW and Victoria will be competing with a range of quite unusual and very quick cars. It will be an opportunity to watch some of the best drivers and cars around at the moment and also an opportunity for some SDMA members to race against them.

Competition is on Sunday, with a practice session on Saturday afternoon.

Because we will be running over two consecutive days we will need significantly more officials and volunteers than for a normal, single day event. More flaggies, more chocks, more grid marshals... the list goes on.

So if you're going to be in Canberra that weekend and can make some time available to help out, please think about offering to step up for a day, or a half a day, or even a couple of hours.

To help planning for the weekend, if you think you're likely to be available, could you please let Rohan Thatcher know at rohanthatcher@yahoo.com.au.





What's better to do on a (hopefully) sunny Sunday afternoon than come to the club's Annual General Meeting (AGM)? Absolutely nothing!

The committee would love to see many, many members at this year's AGM, which will be held on SUNDAY 19 SEPTEMBER, starting at 2.00 pm, in the PIT STOP CAFÉ at the track.

Drinks and light refreshments are provided.

Every financial member of SDMA is entitled to come to the AGM ... and is very, very welcome!!!

The AGM is an important event for the club. It's where

- the committee formally reports to members on how the club performed in 2020-2021 (organisationally and financially);
- the audited financial statements, prepared by the independent External Auditor, are provided to members;
- the club committee for the year is elected, with all positions open for election; and
- general business matters raised by members can be discussed.

The AGM sets the direction for the next year and gives members an opportunity to ask questions or to make suggestions about the way the club is run.

Electing the committee for the coming year is the AGM's most important task. Our constitution says the committee consists of the executive (President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer) and as many general committee members as are necessary to run the club, but with a minimum of six.

The club needs, and benefits from, new committee members with new ideas and new approaches. The current committee wants to encourage club members to stand for committee positions to help strengthen the club and improve how we operate.

If you wish to stand for election to the committee, you need to be nominated by an SDMA financial member and your nomination seconded by an SDMA financial member.

Completed nomination forms should be sent to the Club Secretary, Dave Peisley at d-p@home.com.au .

Nomination forms for all committee positions [President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and general member] are on page 6 of this issue of *Over the Hill*.

Roles and Responsibilities of SDMA Committee Members

President—coordinates the management of the club, chairs committee meetings and is SDMA's main representative when dealing with outside bodies (e.g. Motorsport Australia, ACT Government)

Vice President—assists the President and, if the President is absent or incapacitated, acts as President.

Secretary—manages general business including receiving and sending correspondence; issues notices of meetings, writes the minutes of committee meetings and the Annual General Meeting.

Treasurer—manages the club's finances and maintains the club's financial records. At each committee meeting, the Treasurer submits a financial report on the position of the club, including payments and receipts since the previous committee meeting. The Treasurer provides the club's external Auditor with all information necessary to enable the Auditor to prepare Audited Financial Statements for the financial year ended 30 June, which are presented at the Annual General Meeting.

Membership Secretary— maintains the Membership Register and processes membership renewals and new membership requests.

Club Captain— in conjunction with the Official Timekeeper, maintains the Drivers' Championship point score and track records for Fairbairn Park Hillclimb so that accurate records are available online and in hard copy; works with the Pre-Event Secretary to arrange officials for events.

Pre-Event Secretary— in advance of scheduled events, prepares and submits applications to Motorsport Australia (MA) for MA event permits, nominating key event officials including Event Secretary, Clerk of Course, Stewards and Chief Scrutineer.

Public Officer— responsible for liaison with the ACT Government Office of the Regulatory Services including lodging SDMA's Annual Return; ensures SDMA complies with the *Incorporated Associations Act*; must be an ACT resident.

Assistant Secretary—assists the Secretary in taking and preparing Minutes of proceedings and resolutions passed at Committee meetings.

Magazine Editor—prepares Over The Hill for publication each month and works with the club's social media team to ensure information for members available in print and on-line is consistent and timely.

Publicity Officer—undertakes public relations and liaises with electronic and print media about club activities, particularly advance publicity for events.

General Committee Members—work with the executive office bearers (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer) and can chair sub-committees formed by the Committee. Can have continuing or ad hoc 'portfolio' roles e.g. Facilities Manager; SDMA representatives on the Fairbairn Park Control Council; maintaining and developing SDMA's social media presence; and raising sponsorship for key events such as SDMA's annual round of the NSW HillClimb Championship.



Southern District Motorsports Association

2021 SDMA AGM NOMINATION FORM

I hereby nominate: _____ SDMA Membership number

for the position of: _____

.....

Name of Proposer

Membership number

.....

Name of Secunder

Membership number

.....

Signature of Proposer

.....

Signature of Secunder

I accept nomination for the above position.

.....

Date/...../2021

Getting More Cars on the Track More Often

We have a great hillclimb track ... technically challenging, very good surface, excellent spectator sight lines.

So much so that sometimes the hardest part of a hillclimb is being quick enough to get an entry submitted because events are so popular the fields fill up very rapidly, often in less than a day.

At the 3 July Committee meeting the Committee set up a project group, headed by Vice President, Geoff Bassingthwaite, to look at whether the track can be reconfigured at reasonable cost to allow two cars to be safely on the track at the same time in a single lap event so that more members can compete.

Allowing two competitors to be on track in a single lap event would potentially increase (i) the number of entries able to be accepted and/or (ii) the number of runs each competitor could get.

The present track layout means that only one car can run on the track at a time. Every competitor must complete their run and enter the return road before the next car can be launched.

This is because on each competition run cars have to use one section of the track twice -between turns 2 and 3. The first time is when they enter the main loop of the circuit after leaving the start pad and the second time is when they come around turn 10 to cross the finish line.

The main project objective is to consider whether the track layout can effectively and economically be altered to allow a second car to start in a single lap event before the previous car finishes.



The key criteria are:

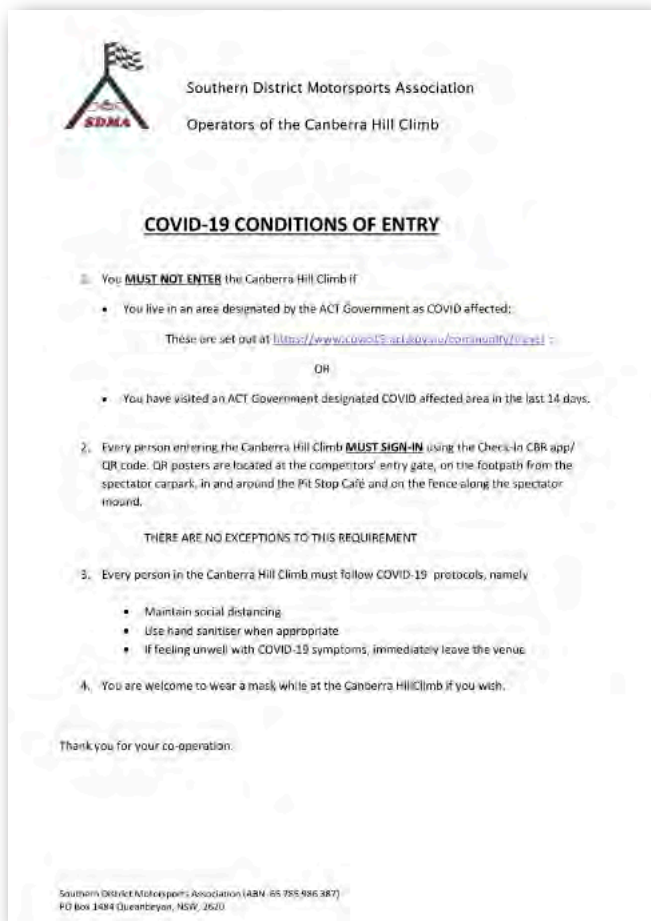
- The track to be no shorter than the present track and, preferably if possible, longer;
- The start line and the control tower not move (either would entail substantial cost and site and amenities disruption);
- A 20-metre split time is maintained (this is key data to assess performance);
- Alterations to the existing track layout be minimal (i.e. after the extension it still be possible to run on the existing layout, particularly important for two lap events);
- The extension should allow for a range of track layouts to be used during the year for Club Championship and for State/National Championships;
- Spectators should be able to view the altered track from the existing spectator mound and from the planned spectator viewing point planned for between One Tree and Flag 2. The wish is that spectators should be able to see cars crossing the finish line and the see the times displayed on a screen in the same/similar line of sight;
- The extension should be challenging and enjoyable for the competitor;
- Timing and the Clerk of Course must be able to monitor the whole track to ensure competitor safety; and
- The new track layout must be able to be licenced by Motorsport Australia.

Trying to satisfy these criteria will be challenging and complex. There are many issues to be considered, including the conservation and environmental restrictions imposed on all lessees of ACT Government land. In our case, the ACT Government's tree protection policies will be an important factor in the design and planning of any changes to the track layout.

If a workable design can be developed with a reasonable cost estimate, the benefits to the club would be substantial.



COVID CONDITIONS OF ENTRY



When you enter the track, either through the competitors' gate or the spectator footpath, there are laminated signs setting out the conditions on which the club grants entry to the circuit.

They're simple: **Everyone coming into the venue must register on arrival using the *Check-in CBR QR app*.** So there are SDMA specific QR symbols at both entrances and around the track.

Please use them and check in.

We are required by ACT Government Public Health Orders to ensure everyone at the hillclimb during an event - drivers, officials, pit crew and spectators- signs in using the app. There are no exceptions.

With what is happening now in Greater Sydney makes the reasons for compulsory signing are obvious.

So please make sure you sign in, and make sure your friends, pit crew or visitors have signed in, too.

If you see someone walking in without checking in electronically, please ask them to check in straight away.

We can only have spectators if we manage our venue properly – and that means everyone has to follow the rules.

Help us to ensure the club can keep running events. If you have any issues relating to this, or you think someone may have entered the venue without registering, please talk to the event COVID checker.

SDMA 2021 CALENDAR

EVENTS	TRACK MAINTENANCE	NOTES
August SUNDAY 1 AUGUST	Saturday 31 July	Committee Meeting: Tuesday 10 August
September SUNDAY 5 SEPTEMBER	Saturday 4 September	Committee Meeting: Tuesday 14 September
October NSW Hill Climb Championship Round 9: SATURDAY 2 OCTOBER (Practice: Noon- 4 pm) SUNDAY 3 OCTOBER (Competition) Club Hill Climb SUNDAY 17 OCTOBER	Friday 1 October Saturday 2 October Saturday 16 October	Committee Meeting: Tuesday 12 October Labour Day: Monday 4 October Bathurst 1000 : Sunday 10 October
November TWO LAP HILL CLIMB Saturday 6 November (Practice: Noon- 4pm) Sunday 7 November (Competition)	Saturday 6 November	Committee Meeting: Tuesday 9 November
December SUNDAY 12 DECEMBER Christmas Party		Committee Meeting: Tuesday 14 December

INFORMATION ABOUT THE SDMA CALENDAR FOR 2021

The 2021 calendar has 10 events, starting in February and finishing in November. It includes two lap events in June and November and a round of the NSW Hill Climb Championship in October. Most events are early in the month.

Entry fees for 2021 will be the same as for 2020: \$85 for a single lap event (\$50 for juniors) and \$105 for a two lap event (\$50 for juniors).

SDMA 2020-2021 COMMITTEE

President:.....John Templeton

president@sdmahillclimb.com

Vice-President and Public Officer:.....Geoff Bassingthwaighte

Secretary:.....Dave Peisley

secretary@sdmahillclimb.com

Treasurer:.....Alex Hitch

treasurer@sdmahillclimb.com

Pre-Event Secretary:.....Daniel Cummins

Membership Secretary:.....Ross Samuelson

sdmamembership20@gmail.com

Editor *Over The Hill:*.....Colin Chandler

sdma.newsletter@tricpics.net

General Members

- o Colin Merz,
- o Henry Hillhorst,
- o David Yates,
- o Celeste Oringo,
- o Anthony Hyde,
- o Zac Le Lievre,
- o Kim Le Lievre,
- o John Stewart,
- o Morrie Lonnie,
- o Warren Spires,
- o Rohan Thatcher,
- o Harry Katsanevas

Some general committee members have specific roles:

- o Col Merz is the Facility Manager for the track;
- o Celeste Oringo and Kim LeLievre are the social media team;
- o Anthony Hyde and David Yates are SDMA representatives on the Fairbairn Park Control Council;
- o Harry Katsanevas is the SDMA representative on the *Motorsport Australia* NSW Hill Climb Panel.

SOCIAL MEDIA HELPER(S) STILL NEEDED



In the April *Over the Hill* we called out for people to help SDMA's social media team. We were looking for a budding social media or marketing coordinator to assist with the planning and scheduling of our Facebook and Instagram posts.

We weren't overwhelmed with replies and since then need has become more urgent, because our main social media operator, Celeste Oringo, has stepped up to become one of the club's Motorsport Australia-endorsed Event Secretaries, which has added substantially to Celeste's workload.

So we're again asking for someone to volunteer to help out. The social media assistant would help schedule photos and infographics to be posted; field or pass on enquiries that come through Facebook and Instagram; and help create and curate content and marketing strategies for the club.

No previous experience required, we only ask that you are comfortable with using Facebook and Instagram and are keen to learn to use scheduling tools.

If you are interested please email sdmamedia@gmail.com

For Sale - Toyota 86 18" Enkei alloy wheels



Enkei black 7.5" PF01 lightweight rims, 5x100 +45 offset, to suit Toyota 86 GT/GTS. Wheels are in excellent condition with only very minor marks. Clear coat has been recently redone Will also fit some older Subarus. **\$980 for the set or \$1380 fitted ready to use with Dunlop Sport Max 225/40 18" tyres**

email **Iain** on ic@work.netspeed.com.au.

For Sale - Toyota 86/Subaru BRZ Performance LSD Diff Centre

4.56 ratio LSD differential, Cusco final drive. Differential built by Neal Bates Automotive and is in excellent condition. **\$1800.**

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email **Iain** at ic@work.netspeed.com.au

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 adjuster.

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.



WEAR YOUR CLUB COLOURS ON YOUR SLEEVE, OR YOUR MUG, OR YOUR LAPTOP...

Let everyone know you're a proud SDMA member!

The club has partnered with Redbubble, a print on demand website which makes clothing and other merchandise in Australia, to offer a range of items branded with SDMA logos and insignia.

There are 35 items on offer, ranging from Tee shirts, hoodies and sweaters to mugs, laptop sleeves, tote bags and aprons.

And they're all now available online at www.redbubble.com/people/SDMA-Hillclimb. Just click on the 'Shop all products' tab.

The club receives a percentage of all purchases made, so if you head over to the site the next time you're looking to update your wardrobe or thinking about gifts, you'll also be supporting SDMA.

The jumpers and long sleeve shirts are suitable for motorsport use so help yourself and the club at the same time!

