



OVER the HILL



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

Email: secretary@sdmahillclimb.com

May 2021

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



A short report this month, even though a lot is happening. But that's covered in detail elsewhere in this *Over The Hill*.

Suffice to say a third of the year has gone and three hillclimbs have been run successfully. We have another fully subscribed event this Sunday, with reserves waiting to see whether they will get a start.

As well as scheduled events, there is a lot happening around the track as well. Work is speeding up on the new Event Administration Centre, the Fire and Recovery water tanker is being upgraded and there have been improvements around the facility such as the new planter boxes near the dummy grid (many thanks to David Yates for planning and building those).

As we go through the rest of 2021 we will keep working to improve the track and its facilities and the way we run events. We continue to need help from members by turning out at working bees (especially important over the next few months as we complete some big projects) and by giving helpful feedback on ways that we can improve events and improve the facility.

One critical way that you can help the club is by being part of the team of volunteer officials who run our events. We can't stage hillclimbs without flag marshals, grid marshals, chocks, scrutineers and

general officials and if we have a good sized pool of people willing to help out for a day or half a day we can share the load and reduce the impact on everyone. It's an enjoyable way of being part of the fun of a hillclimb.

Becoming a *Motorsport Australia* general official is straightforward. The first level is an online course that takes about half an hour. It's all free and you get a general licence for club level events, helping out with tasks like flagging and working with the scrutineers. If you get a taste for being trackside, you can go through various levels and could end up being able to volunteer at high profile events like Bathurst or the Australian Grand Prix. The link that gets you going is: <https://motorsport.org.au/membership/officials/signup/terms-and-conditions>

Looking beyond this weekend, the next event (Sunday 6 June) is a two lapper. These are always highly anticipated and great fun to compete in and to watch. Because each run takes longer at a two lap event, we have a field limit of 40 cars (a one lap event can take 60 entries). So watch your e-mails and the club Facebook page to see when entries open and then be quick!

John

Chief Scrutineer's Report

Round Three - One Lap Hillclimb – Sunday 11 April 2021.

13 out of 54 entrants were physically checked, representing 24% of vehicles. This was higher than what is expected to be the usual percentage of cars checked, mainly because of a large number of new competitors (10). The scrutineering ran smoothly and had no impact on the ability of competitors to be ready to line up when the event started.

Consistent with the '*Managed Scrutineering*' arrangements set out in last month's *Over The Hill*, the focus was on '*new to the club*' vehicles, new or returning drivers plus vehicles selected at random.

The standard of '*new to the club*' vehicles was very high, clearly showing the modern competitor is knowledgeable of requirements, upgrade parts and presentation.

Correct fire extinguisher mounting was the main area noted as needing improvement.

The new policy of managed vehicle and apparel checks worked well.

Anthony Hyde

A time to say thanks.

SDMA is very fortunate to have a strong and effective committee, comprised of members who work together well and who are committed to doing the best for the club.

The last year has been very challenging for all organisations, but community based volunteer clubs like ours have really felt the effects of COVID. Many have struggled to survive.

Since April last year, SDMA has had to operate under restrictions imposed by the ACT Government, Motorsport Australia and, indirectly, the NSW Government. Through all this, the club has continued to hold events when we were able to and then to grow, with new members taking part in every event we've run.

This has been due to the commitment of committee members, who have constantly worked to ensure that we have both respected all the COVID rules and have done everything possible to keep running enjoyable and interesting events.

Committee members generally only get thanked at Annual General Meetings. But as we continue to emerge from the worst of COVID, the club thanks all committee members and recognises that SDMA has benefitted greatly as a result of their efforts.

Many thanks!

NEW EVENT ADMINISTRATION CENTRE PROGRESS!!

The first of the two 40 foot containers which will be the core of the new Event Administration Centre was delivered and installed ten days ago. It's been a long time coming, but well worth the wait.

After a series of delays throughout the day, the truck eventually arrived in the cold late afternoon dusk and the container was offloaded onto the footings in about fifteen minutes. Thanks to David Yates, Geoff Bassingthwaighe, Colin Chandler, Iain Chandler, Warren Spires, Henry Hilhorst, Anthony Hyde and Dave Peisley for coming out to the track ready to do any additional work that may have been necessary.

To validate all the preparation by the project team over the last few months, the footings had been perfectly positioned and the container settled onto its new home very easily and happily.

The new unit is, effectively, a brand new container, only used once and in pristine condition. It's a 'high cube' version, higher than a standard container, which gives more headroom and more overall sense of space.

The next stages of the project are to

- Clean out and remove the old scrutineering shed
- Dig in the foundations for the second container, which will be delivered later this month
- Dismantle the old carport in the bottom corner of the pits so the trusses can be re-used for the roof which will span the new containers to cover the full width of the concrete scrutineering pad (and free up valuable extra pit space!).
- Install the new roof and guttering across what will be a much wider and higher scrutineering bay
- Fit out both containers to provide areas for the Event Secretary, a workshop, consolidated secure event equipment storage capacity and scrutineering equipment and records.

There's a lot still to do before the new centre is finished. This will involve jobs at both normal pre-event working bees and some specially called working bees, which will be notified by email and on the club Facebook page. So if you are able to help out at either type of working bee, please do so.





MAKING SURE YOUR ENTRY IS CORRECT

Most competitors know which Type and sub-class their car should be entered in at an event, but sometimes mistakes happen. New drivers aren't sure, an established driver gets a new car or someone hits the wrong key when filling in their on-line entry form.

We've had a few mistakes lately so, on the principle of it's better to be safe than sorry, ***please check your entry carefully before pressing the submit button.***

An important point is that SDMA refers to generic competition classes as Types. So in general terms Type = competition class. Engine capacity then determines the subclasses of a Type.

If you're unsure about your car's Type, the first port of call is the club website.

Go to **Competitor Information**, click on the "**Vehicle Types and Classes**" tab on the right hand side of the page and it will open a page headed "**What Hillclimb Class am I in?**" This gives a good step by step summary of the considerations which determine the Type for your car.

For a more detailed explanation, click on the "**Full Types and Classes**" tab on the right hand side of the page.

If you are still unsure, get in touch with the Event Secretary whose contact details are listed in both the Event Supplementary Regulations (the "Supp Regs" you hear everyone talking about and which you are required to read before each event) and the online entry form, both of which are part of the Online Entry System.

**And if, after all this, you still have questions,
feel free to ask the Event Secretary or the Chief Scrutineer
on the day, BUT BEFORE THE EVENT STARTS.**



EVENT REPORT – ROUND 3 SUNDAY 11 APRIL

A good day for round three of the championship: Despite some early threats of rain, the weather was sunny, windy and brisk. Not perfect hillclimbing weather, but still very enjoyable.

54 starters lined up, with 10 new competitors joining us for their first day of competition. It was great to welcome so many new members and we look forward to seeing them many times in the future.

As well as new members/competitors, we had more spectators as well. The mound was busy from mid-morning and there was a steady stream of people coming to watch what turned out to be a good day's competition. Given how many other motorsport related events were happening in Canberra on the day, most notably the postponed Rally of Canberra, it was a good sign that there is increasing public awareness of SDMA and the Canberra HillClimb.

The new 'managed scrutineering' arrangements (announced in the April edition of *Over The Hill*) were introduced at this event so 13 cars were physically checked by our Chief Scrutineer, Anthony Hyde. The focus was on vehicles and drivers competing for the first time and vehicles and drivers returning to competition after extended breaks.

Anthony said the standard of 'new to the club' vehicles was very high, showing that first-time competitors are knowledgeable about safety requirements and car presentation. Correct extinguisher mounting was the main area of improvement noted during the checks. Our chief scrutineer's choice of car of the day (from those checked) was Jeff Cam's very smart Nissan Silvia.

One class record was broken - six times! The Type AWD 1/2 2001-3000cc mark of 49.41 seconds, set by Colin Chandler in February in his new and very quick Yaris GR, was beaten by Iain Chandler on his first run of the day in his brand new and equally quick (quicker?) Yaris GR, dropping it to 49.14 seconds. Iain dropped it again to 48.95 on his second run, eclipsing Colin's second run of 49.02 seconds, also below his February mark. Iain then had a tyre problem and had to withdraw, which left Colin to rack up three more runs below the February mark, finishing the day with a new record of 48.20 seconds. The record for this class has dropped from 50.58 seconds to 48.20 seconds in three events.



Fastest Time of Day was set by Jeff Nicholls in the Westfield SE Clubman with a time of 44.52 seconds. The Fastest Female Driver was Elise Powley who set a time of 56.23 seconds in the Fiesta double entered with her father Mark and the Fastest Junior Driver was Toby Wilson with a time of 52.48 seconds in the Mazda RX 7 shared with his father Todd.



We were short of officials, so extra special thanks to all those who helped out: Clerk of Course Rohan Thatcher; Event Secretaries Dave Peisley and Celeste Oringo; Pre-Event Secretary Daniel Cummins; Chief Scrutineer Anthony Hyde; Col Merz and Patrick Reid on the chock; Henry Hillhorst on Fire and Recovery; John Courtney, Michael Mann and Rory Diacono on flags; Julie Merz, Liz Hillhorst and Pamela Masterton in the Pit Stop Café; Dave King doing timing and Alex Hitch doing the announcing.



COVID CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

When you enter the track, either at the competitors' gate or the spectator footpath, you'll now see this large sign setting out the conditions on which the club grants entry to the circuit.

It's pretty straight forward. Everyone coming into the venue must register, either using the Check-in CBR QR app.

We are required by the ACT Government to keep a record of everyone who visits the hillclimb during an event. The easier way for most people, who've downloaded the app, is to use the QR code.

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, 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.

Please 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 Kim Le Lievre, the nominated COVID checker.



SCRUTINEERING

Scrutineering arrangements changed at last month's hillclimb.

After eight events of 'virtual' self-scrutiny due to initial COVID restrictions, the club introduced 'managed scrutineering', under which at least 10 per cent of vehicles will be physically checked at each event.

Key features:

1. Online entry will be the only way to enter an event. **Completing both Motorsport Australia self-scrutineering declarations will still be mandatory.**
2. Competitors must still provide the **SDMA Statement of Vehicle Compliance** when arriving.
3. Any **vehicle** entered for the first time will be scrutineered in the Scrutineering Bay before the event.
This applies even if the driver has competed previously.
4. Any **driver** competing for the first time must take their vehicle to the Scrutineering Bay to be scrutineered before the event.
This applies even if the vehicle has competed previously.
5. In addition to vehicles selected under (3) and (4), another four to six cars (10 percent of total entries) will be chosen by the Chief Scrutineer after entries close to be inspected in the Scrutineering Bay before the event. The aim is that every regularly entered vehicle will be physically checked at least once a year.
Drivers whose vehicles are to be scrutineered will be told on arrival at the track.
6. Scrutineering will be conducted in a COVID-safe way.
Drivers will be responsible for opening vehicle doors, bonnets, boots etc.
Scrutineers will use PPE (hand sanitiser, disposable gloves and masks).
7. Random checks of driver apparel (principally helmets) can be done in the pits at any time.

A cumulative list of the number of vehicles that have been checked each year will be on the club website and the Chief Scrutineer will report on each event in the following month's *Over The Hill*. The report will include number of vehicles checked and compliance/safety issues which the scrutineers have observed.

As has always been the case

- **any vehicle that activates the noise meter during a run must be physically scrutineered before being allowed to compete again at that event;**
- **any vehicle about which the Chief Scrutineer has safety or engineering concerns can be scrutineered at any time during an event.**

SDMA 2021 CALENDAR

| EVENTS | TRACK MAINTENANCE | NOTES |
|--|---|--|
| May SUNDAY 2 MAY | Saturday 1 May | Committee Meeting: Tuesday 11 May Reconciliation Day : 31 May |
| June SUNDAY 6 JUNE (TWO LAPS) | Saturday 5 June | Committee Meeting: Tuesday 8 June Queen's Birthday: Monday 14 June |
| July: NO EVENT | | Committee Meeting: Tuesday 13 July |
| 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 XX 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@tricipics.net

General Members

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

Some general committee members have specific roles:

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

For Sale - Toyota 86 and VW Golf 18" 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 with Dunlop Sport Max 225/40 18" tyres**

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



Set of **replica 18" x 8" Audi RS rims, to suit VW/Audi models, 5x112 +45 offset, colour silver.** Wheels are still very usable but do have some scrapes and marks, hence the price. Would be great for your track day tyres for example, or if you wanted to go up in size from smaller rims. \$240: Call **Colin** on 0408 271 296

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

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



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) |  <p>THE HILLCLIMB CAPITAL</p> <p>SDMA MERCHANDISE PRICES</p> <p>Number Plate Surrounds \$4 each (\$8 pair)</p> <p>SDMA Caps \$15 Cloth Baggy \$5 T-shirts \$20</p> <p>SDMA</p> |