

OVER THE HILL

AUGUST 2023

ATTENTION: ALL MEMBERS

The AGM is coming!

The 2023 SDMA Annual General Meeting (AGM) is on

SUNDAY 24 SEPTEMBER at 2pm.

It will be held at the **PIT STOP CAFÉ** at the track.

Drinks and light refreshments will be provided.

The committee would love to see many, many members come along: Every financial member of SDMA is entitled to come to the AGM and is very welcome.

The AGM is an important event for the club.

Read more about why and how you can help support your club by becoming a committee member on page 14, 15 and 16 of this edition of Over The Hill.





President's report

The second half of the SDMA year started well after the July winter hibernation with the 6 August hillclimb enjoying good weather and close competition.

Entry numbers were down a bit (perhaps the cold of this July made some people reluctant to forsake the doona early on a Sunday morning) but the day brightened and everyone who took part had a good day. The full event report is in this Over The Hill. The next event is Sunday 10 September (a one lapper) and entries will open shortly.

As reported on the front page, the club Annual General Meeting (AGM) is on **Sunday 24 September at 2.00 pm in the Pit Stop Cafe**. There is a lot of detail about the AGM in this Over The Hill, including nomination forms for members who want to stand for election to the committee. In the next few weeks there will be email and Facebook reminders about the AGM, including the Agenda which will give details of any general business items which members ask to be listed. We will also ask you to let us know, for catering purposes, if you are coming. We don't want anyone to go home hungry!

SDMA belongs to you, the members, so please come to the AGM and play a part in running your club. There will be drinks and light refreshments after the meeting so it will be a mix of business and socialising with friends and friendly rivals.

The AGM decides club membership and event entry fees for the next year, based on recommendations from the committee. The committee is recommending that both membership and event entry fees remain unchanged in 2024.

Spring is about to spring, and we hope that warmer weather will help us hold working bees at the track to catch up on maintenance and general cleaning up. Clearing the area around the new toilet block has created impressive mounds of greenery which have to be put through a chipper and a lot of painting needs to be done (the main toilet block, the Pit Stop Café, the armco rails around the start pad) so keen helpers will be most welcome. We'll try to hold working bees both during the week and at weekends to give as many people as possible the opportunity to help out. Details will be notified by email and on the club Facebook page.

As mentioned above, work is progressing on the new toilet block at the bottom of the pit area. The roof is on and hopefully the walls will soon follow. At which point the plumbing and fittings can happen. The new block will be a significant improvement in track amenities, particularly for competitors and crew using the lower pit bays.

See you at the AGM!!

-John

Event report

ROUND 5 - SUNDAY, 6 AUGUST 2023

Forty seven brave souls shrugged off winter hibernation and lined up on the starting pad, glad to be getting closer to spring and summer by the day. It was a smaller field than normal but the intrepid were rewarded with six runs and a day that steadily warmed up and brightened the soul. New records were set in four classes:

- Class A Road - 2WD 0 - 1600cc: Andrew Ericson in the Suzuki Swift with a time of 51.32 seconds, taking the mark down from 51.65 seconds;
- Class C Road - AWD Over 3000cc: Justin Houguet-Poole in the Ford Focus RS with a time of 45.90 seconds, well under the old mark of 46.21 seconds;
- Class E Road - SV 1 1601 - 2000cc: Donovan Suine took the FSM Niki around in 49.47 seconds, undercutting the old mark of 49.96 seconds; and
- Class F Track - Sports Sedan 0 - 1600cc: **Jeff Nichols took the Westfield SE Clubman round in 43.88 seconds, taking out the old mark of 44.14s.**

Jeff's record-setting time, on his second last run, was also the Fastest Time of the Day.

The full list of class winners, including all competitors' times for all of their runs, is on the website at the Results page <https://www.sdmahillclimb.com.au/results>

The after-event presentations were particularly well attended with significantly more competitors and support crew staying to have a drink and some cheese and bikkies while the certificates were awarded. Thanks to everyone for staying on and making it a very enjoyable and relaxing end to the day.

One of the awards went to a new junior member, Brodie Nichols, who ran his BMW 318 in Class F Track - Sports Sedans 1600 - 2000cc. Proudly watching the presentation were Brodie's grandparents – our Motorsport Australia Stewards Helen and Mick Nichols, showing again that motorsport transcends generations.

Our officials and volunteers again made big efforts to ensure the day was another SDMA success. The club thanks each and every one.

Clerk of Course: Chris Hardy. Deputy Clerk of Course: Rohan Thatcher

Motorsport Australia Stewards: Helen Nichols and Mick Nichols

Event Secretary: Dave Peisley

Pre-Event Secretary: Dave Peisley

Chief Scrutineer: Ed Goncalves

Fire and Recovery: Henry Hilhorst and Michael Mann

Grid Marshal: Col Merz

Flag marshals: Mike O'Connor/Sean Crain/John Courtney

Chock: John Templeton/Dave Peisley/Klaus Clemens

Pit Stop Café: Julie Merz/Liz Hilhorst/Pam Masters

Timing: David Deaves/Gavin Longmuir

Announcer: Lyell Reed

Event photos

ROUND 5 - SUNDAY, 6 AUGUST 2023





Event photos

ROUND 5 - SUNDAY, 6 AUGUST 2023



2023 SDMA DATES



MONTH	TRACK PREP	RACE	COMMITTEE MEETING
SEPTEMBER	Saturday 9th	Sunday 10th	Tuesday 12th
AGM: Sunday, 24 September at 2pm			
OCTOBER	Saturday 7th (morning)	Saturday 7th (practise 12-4pm)	Tuesday 10th
	Saturday 21st	Sunday 8th	
		Sunday 22nd	
NOVEMBER	Saturday 4th	Sunday 5th (2-lapper)	Tuesday 14th
	Saturday 18th	Sunday 19th	
DECEMBER	Sunday 3rd (Christmas party and awards presentation)		

NSW CHAMPS: MY TAKE (PART 2)

Round 3: Huntley Hillclimb (Dapto)



Images By Grahame Logg

In this series, **Matt Brown** recounts his NSW Championship rounds to date. See OTH June for previous articles.

<https://youtu.be/Et6E2sDjvT4>

Round three saw us travel once again to the Huntley Hillclimb track located south of Wollongong and west of Dapto.

This little hidden gem of a track is located at the foot of the mountains and is surrounded by some the most luscious and beautiful landscape that you will find at a NSW-based motorsport location. Although temperatures were mild, dark clouds loomed overhead all day and at times showers wet the track and put a level of doubt and hesitation in the minds of competitors as they flew up the hill.

What footage of this track does not show is just how steep the run is. Setting yourself at the start line, you are looking at what seems like a wall of tarmac! High horsepower cars really do hold an advantage, however lightweight and lower horsepower cars also hold their own as they make it mid-track and find themselves much more agile through the Esses.

Competing here the year before paid dividends as we were able to look back over footage and find time in multiple parts of the track. What we didn't account for was the worsening road surface conditions from the fork onwards. With dips in the road seemingly deeper and a slightly greasy feel as drizzle plagued the day, we had to work much harder than the year before to find the time needed.

Round 3: Huntley Hillclimb (Dapto) continued...

Like the two Bathurst rounds, the class record was once again set by... you guessed it! An R35 GTR back in 2017. The class record stands at a time of 24.05.

Runs one and two of the day saw times of 25.67 and 24.18 set and with the showers continuing between runs, the thought of missing out on taking the record kept creeping in. About 20 minutes passed between the last shower and run three as I lined up at the start line. With a brave pill taken, I set off up the hill and managed to keep the power down into turn 1 which catapulted me towards and through the fork.

Getting through the Esses cleanly and powering across the finish line is a challenge as the car feels like it leaves the ground before coming crashing down as the run end.

Although not the best of runs, it was enough to post a time of 23.72 and officially taking the class record.

With the monkey now of my back and nothing to lose (other than my car into a wall), I lined up for run number four.

Pushing hard up through turn one and the fork, I came into the Esses hotter than I would have liked and found myself balancing between pulling the car up before the tyre wall and turning to get through the first right hander.

I managed to claw some time back coming out of the Esses and reset the class record again to 23.38!

Two cars prior to my final run found the tyre wall as the track went from damp to wet and with uncertainty of what may still be on the track following these accidents, there was more caution than usual at the back of my mind.

As the light went green, I set off again and made it through turn 1 and the fork as well as the run before.

Entering the Esses, I found myself in a higher gear than usual which hurt speed and efficiency getting through the right hander as shifted down gears. Once in the right gear, we were golden and flying through the remainder of the track.

Although not faster, it was still respectful enough (23.42) and enough to claim 1st in class, third outright and fastest tintop of the day.

In next month's Over The Hill, Matt writes about his experience in Kempsey.

Thanks to Matt for sharing his experiences on the track.

To write an article for OTH about your own racing experience, email John at president@sdmahillclimb.com

TRACK WORKS

BY COL MERZ

Welcome to my second column.

New toilet block

Despite the winter weather and the shorter days, good progress has been made with all the wall frames fabricated and stood up, roof rafters cut to fit and installed. As soon as we can coordinate key personnel with a calm winter's day, the plywood ceiling lining and the corrugated metal roofing will be fitted.

Spectator car park

I must admit it has been neglected. Some temporary repairs have been made to the entry road and some of the more serious erosion ruts to make it a little more accessible for road cars. The good news is that our hard working Event Secretary, Celeste Oringo, has again stepped up to the plate and offered to design a layout to accommodate the maximum number of cars for the given area. We would then share the plan with you, our members.

Roller doors

We had plans of fitting roller doors into the sides of our new 40 foot containers and we had 3 roller doors generously donated to the club. However, we have changed our plans and the roller doors are now surplus to our needs. If any club member could use these doors, we would pass them on at no cost. They are 2650mm wide and the tracks are 2270mm long (or high as they would be installed).

Joe the plumber

You might remember that in the last edition I (or rather I let Tom Ballard) explain how Joe supported the club by providing his plumbing services free of charge. So please, if you need a plumber, show him your appreciation and contact Joe Merceica on 0415 788 850 or actdraincleaningandplumbing@gmail.com



CAMERAS ON HELMETS

TLDR; If you want to use a camera helmet, the helmet must be homologated to FIA Standards 8858, 8859, and 8860 and it must be approved by the Chief Scrutineer before your first run.

The event Supp Regs require cameras in or on cars to be approved by the Chief Scrutineer before competition starts. The same is true of cameras mounted in or on drivers' helmets.

Only helmets with cameras and accessories homologated to FIA Standards 8858, 8859, and 8860 are accepted by Motorsport Australia (and hence SDMA). The FIA homologation sticker is found inside the helmet padding. These are the only helmets that can be used with a camera installed. The technical requirements are on the Motorsport Australia website.

There are obvious implications for the structural integrity and strength of helmets with unapproved mounts and consequent safety risks for the driver. But even if you think you have an FIA homologated helmet, it must be shown to the Chief Scrutineer for approval before the event starts, regardless of whether your car is listed for scrutineering on the day.

Drones are a no-no at the track

The hillclimb is directly under the flight path for Canberra Airport and, by law, the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) regulates flightpath airspace - from the ground up. CASA regulations ban drones from operating under the flight path, which means that drones are not permitted to fly at the track, even supposedly lightweight ones.

Please don't ask for permission to run your drone during an event: the club can't give it.

The matter is totally outside of our control.

ATTENTION: ALL ENTRANTS

You must be a current financial member of SDMA to compete.

If your membership has expired please contact the Membership Secretary, Ross Samuelson, at sdmamembership20@gmail.com.
Membership is \$55 for individuals and \$75 for families.

- **You must have a current Motorsport Australia Speed licence to compete.**

- **You must use an approved safety helmet**
("Competitors' Information" section of the club website www.sdmahillclimb.com.au/competitors has details of approved types).

- **Your vehicle must be roadworthy and safe and meet the safety requirements**
(See "Competitors' Information" section www.sdmahillclimb.com.au/competitors for more info).

- **Drivers must wear long pants and long-sleeved shirts (made from a natural fibre such as cotton) and enclosed footwear.**
No shorts, no t-shirts. Any clothing, including footwear, made of flammable synthetic material (eg. nylon) is not acceptable.

- **If your car has a Motorsport Australia logbook you must have, and use, a compliant frontal head restraint (FHR)**
(aka a HANS device).

- **Provide your own COVID personal protective equipment**
such as hand sanitiser and face masks (if you want to wear one).

WEAR OUR CLUB COLOURS

Let everyone know you're a proud SDMA member!

There is a range of clothing and merchandise with SDMA branding available from Redbubble, a print on demand website.

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

Visit www.redbubble.com/people/SDMA-Hillclimb

Click on 'Shop all products'.

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!



CLASSIFIEDS

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.



For Sale - BREMBO Calipers - 4 piston

One pair, new and unused, radial mount style, pads fitted, suits a brake disc diameter of up to 357mm and 28mm thick. Pics are of the actual caliper. Seeking **\$1,600**.

Contact **Mark** on 0411 101 649



2022-23 CLUB COMMITTEE

President: John Templeton
president@sdmahillclimb.com

Vice-President and Public Officer: Geoff Bassingthwaighte

Secretary: Dave Peisley
secretary@sdmahillclimb.com

Treasurer: Ed Goncalves
treasurer@sdmahillclimb.com

Point Scores: David King

Pre-Event Secretary: Daniel Cummins

Publicity/Media Officer: Celeste Oringo

Membership Secretary: Ross Samuelson
sdmamembership20@gmail.com

General Members

- Colin Merz
- David Yates
- Henry Hillhorst
- Harry Katsanevas
- Warren Spires
- Celeste Oringo
- Daniel Cummins
- Zac Le Lievre
- Anthony Hyde
- Rohan Thatcher
- McKelvy Reed
- Martin Crombie
- Matt Brown

Some general committee members have specific roles: Col Merz is Facility Manager; Celeste Oringo handles social media; 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.

Magazine: Kim Le Lievre.

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, 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; raising sponsorship for key events like SDMA's annual round of the NSW HillClimb Championship.

THE AGM IS COMING!

The 2023 SDMA Annual General Meeting (AGM) is on **SUNDAY 24 SEPTEMBER**, starting at **2.00 pm, in the PIT STOP CAFÉ** at the track.
Drinks and light refreshments will be provided.

The committee would love to see many, many members come along: Every financial member of SDMA is entitled to come to the AGM and is 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 2022-2023 (organisationally and financially);
- the audited financial statements, prepared by the independent External Auditor, are provided to members;
- the club committee for the next 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 coming year and gives members an opportunity to ask questions or to make suggestions about the way the club is run.

Electing the committee is the AGM's most important task. The club constitution says the committee consists of the executive (President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer) and a minimum of six general committee members.

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 dpeisley@outlook.com.

The nomination form for all committee positions is on the following page.

Dave Peisley
SDMA Secretary



Southern District Motorsports Association

2023 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/...../2023
