

OVER THE HILL

SEPTEMBER 2023

ATTENTION: ALL MEMBERS

The AGM is THIS Sunday (24 Sept)!

The 2023 SDMA Annual General Meeting is this **Sunday**,
starting at 2pm, in the PIT STOP CAFÉ at the track.

Drinks and refreshments will be provided.

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

For catering purposes, can you let Col Merz
(collie@velocitynet.com.au) know if you're coming.

For a full run-down on what the AGM is and how you can
nominate for a position, see the final pages of this edition (page
17 and 18).





President's report

There's an old truism that nothing is certain in life except death and taxes. For SDMA members there's a third certainty: that there will be a working bee at the track the day before every event.

The reason for the working bee is obvious: we need to check the track and facilities to make sure everything is safe and set for the following day. The e-mail and Facebook notifications about the working bee go out a few days beforehand to remind members.

Unfortunately the number of people turning up to help is getting smaller. This was particularly a problem at the last event. Despite the e-mail reminder saying there was a truckload of work to be done, very few people turned up. And it was the same people who turn out every time. Many, many thanks to those who did attend: we couldn't have run the Sunday hillclimb without your work.

But the track doesn't prepare itself. The sweeping and cleaning doesn't happen by magic. And major projects like getting the new toilet block finished and getting big painting jobs done don't happen by magic either. That's without making the obvious point that Spring and Summer necessarily mean mowing, mowing, mowing.

So when you know that an event is coming up, can more people please make a commitment to come along to the working bee the day before. And when special working bees are arranged for longer term projects, can people try to assist then, too. It's in everyone's interest that the track and facilities are kept up the mark (and improved) all the time.

This Sunday (24 September, 2pm at the Pit Stop Cafe) is the Annual General Meeting, another opportunity for members to contribute to running their club. The Agenda will be sent to all members by e-mail during the week but constitutionally-mandated items include the election of the Committee and receiving the Audited Financial Statements. If you would like to stand for election to the Committee, the nomination forms are in this edition of Over The Hill (as they were in the August edition).

It would be great to see a lot of club members this Sunday, showing their commitment to a club that runs well organised, community motorsport events which bring a lot of enjoyment and fun to many people.

There will be drinks and light refreshments after the meeting so come along and catch up with your fellow members and be part of the club's planning for the next twelve months.

See you at the AGM!!

-John

Event report

ROUND 6 - SUNDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER 2023

Brrr..... it was a cold morning!! Minus six at the gate as competitors and officials arrived but the weather gods were with SDMA again and it turned into a beautiful dry and sunny spring Canberra day, appreciated by all.

50 competitors lined up and the slightly smaller than normal field meant six runs were offered, as happened at the August event. 40 drivers took advantage of the 'extra' run.

Four new class records were set.

The two stars of the day were **Andrew Ericson**, who undercut the old record for Class A Road - 2WD 0 - 1600cc of 51.32 seconds in four of his six runs, dropping it to 50.76 seconds, and **Colin Chandler**, who lowered the mark for Class C Road - AWD 2001 - 3000cc from 48.35 seconds to 47.26 seconds, also undercutting the old record in four of his six runs. Congratulations Andrew and Colin.

The other new class records were set by **Aaron Domio**, who lowered the mark for Class F Track - Sports Sedan Over 3000cc from 46.93 seconds to 46.62 seconds in his third run and **Matthew Brown**, who cut the record for Class E Road - SV Over 3000cc from 43.59 seconds to 43.53 seconds - twice! - in his first and fifth runs. Congratulations to Aaron and Matthew.

Those two identical times gave Matthew the Fastest Time of the Day. Some churlish people might think that setting the same FTD twice is the motorsport version of showing off.

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>. Results shown are the official times for the event.

The after-event presentations were well attended, and it's great to see competitors, support crew and officials relaxing to enjoy a drink and cheese and nibbles while the certificates are awarded.

Our officials and volunteers again ensured the day was another success.

The club thanks every one.

Clerk of Course: Rohan Thatcher

Motorsport Australia Stewards: Helen Nichols and Mick Nichols

Event Secretary: Celeste Oringo

Pre-Event Secretary: Dave Peisley

Chief Scrutineer: Anthony Hyde

Scrutineer: Ed Goncalves

Fire and Recovery: Henry Hilhorst

Flag Marshals: Col Merz/Jenny Shaw/John Courtney/Phil McPherson

Timing: David Deaves and Gavin Longmuir

Chock: Phil McPherson/John Templeton/Colin Merz/ Jenny Shaw/Ed Goncalves

Pit Stop Café: Julie Merz/Pam Masters/Pam McPherson/Julie Yates

Announcer: Lyell Reed/John Templeton

Event photos

ROUND 6 - SUNDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER 2023





Event photos

ROUND 6 - SUNDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER 2023



2023 SDMA DATES



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

NSW CHAMPS: MY TAKE (PART 3)

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



ROUND 4: MT COOPERABUNG (KEMPSEY)

<https://youtu.be/MwrYlsu5Yk8>

Round 4 of the NSW Hillclimb Championship saw us travel to Mt Cooperabung, just south of Kempsey. A track that once was the Pacific Highway and full of history, now turned Hillclimb track, was a blast. Although short, it did not lack a level of complexity that if gotten wrong, can bite you at any moment.

Practice started at 12pm on Saturday with an opportunity to knock out as many runs as you could fit in. The current class record stands at 25.724 set by (surprise, surprise) an R35 Nissan GTR in 2017.

I was determined to break into the 25s bracket during practice and on the 9th run, it finally came with a run time of 25.991.

With the goal achieved, we packed up and went to our hotel for the night.

Sunday morning (competition day) was cool, with the track lacking the same grip experienced the day before. With so many runs had on the Saturday during practice, it was soon discovered the brake pads were not up to the task of stopping after coming into the hairpin after the chicane on the first run. Thankfully I managed to pull the car up and avoided running into the tyre barrier but ended with a run time of 26.869.

With this run time, I was forced into second place by the newly improved RS4 of Daniel Son after he posted a solid first run time of 26.655.

Round 4: Mr Cooperabung (Kempsey) continued...

Run two saw a similar situation with stopping not as it was the day before.

The best I could muster for this run was a 26.182, which put me slightly ahead of the other RS4 which ran a 26.406.

Thankfully I had my street/ light track pads with me but unfortunately, I missed run three whilst I frantically changed brake pads on searing hot brakes.

Jason (AKA Daniel Son) posted a respectful time of 26.463 on his third run.

Run four was sadly a 26.370 as I felt out the abilities of the new pad compound, which lacked the same initial bite and confidence-inspiring stopping power of the track pads.

The fifth and final run turned out to be an 'all or nothing' run after Daniel in his RS4 jumped ahead with blistering time of 26.126.

Focused on giving it everything I and the car had, I set off one last time. Making it through the chicane with only a small lift, I was able to get back onto the power early and to the hairpin at a top speed of 160kph.

Coming in slightly faster than before, I managed to pull the car up a little more than potentially needed which cost me speed and time.

Although slow into the hairpin, I was able to get out faster, and carry more speed into the final right hander that requires considerable feathering of the throttle as it sweeps around before then getting back on the power at just the right moment.

Clawing for ground at every opportunity, I crossed the finish line in a time of 25.902 which secured 1st in class, 2nd outright (state comp) and fastest tintop of the day.

With these results, it has now moved us into

2nd outright in the state championship, 1st in class and moved us even further ahead as the state championships fastest tintop.

Thank you must be said once again to my unwavering pit crew, family and close friends who make these trips so amazing and memorable.

For anyone who looking for a new challenge or just wants to test your skills on a new track, I cannot encourage the NSW Hillclimb Championship enough. It will definitely be in my 2024 motorsport calendar, along with as many local rounds as I can possibly do!



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

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. We were waiting for a nice calm day to install the plywood ceiling lining, sisalation and the corrugated metal roofing but no such luck and the task was attempted on Saturday 19 August, a cold and windy winter's day. A very hardy team of four volunteers got the job done without incident, perhaps more by good luck than good management. As can be seen in the photo, the building is really taking shape.



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 area. We now have to accurately measure the area so Celeste has something to work with and then we would then have a plan that we can share with 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

Don't forget, if you need a plumber, contact Joe Merceica on 0415 788 850 or actdraincleaningandplumbing@gmail.com
If you contact Joe, mention the SDMA.

-Col



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 ALMOST HERE!

The AGM is THIS Sunday (24 Sept)!

The 2023 SDMA Annual General Meeting (AGM) is this **Sunday, starting at 2pm**, in the PIT STOP CAFÉ at the track. Drinks and refreshments will be provided.

The committee would love to see 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 make suggestions about the way the club is run. So please try to attend.

For catering purposes, can you let Col Merz (collie@velocitynet.com.au) know if you're coming so that we have enough refreshments for the social side after the meeting.

Electing the committee for the coming year is the AGM's most important task. The club 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, 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 dpeisley@outlook.com.

Nomination forms for all committee positions are below.



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
