

The Welsh Association of Motor Clubs



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SOUTHERN CENTRE General Meeting – Tuesday 2nd June 2015

Held at the White Hall Hotel, Llandovery

Present : Neil Fuller- Southern Centre Chairman ,Rebecca Richards – Southern Centre Secretary, Dorian Evans – Junior Championship, Fran Davies Tarmac/KoE Championship Secretary, John SurrIDGE – Road Rally Secretary, Jerry Herbert – Cross Country, Geoff Field – WAMC Secretary, Paul Loveridge – WAMC Chairman, Dave Thomas – Hillclimb & Sprint Secretary,

And representatives of the following clubs: Ecurie Cymraeg, HOVAC, Forresters C.C, GVMC, Amman & District MC, HRCR, Ross & District MC, Brecon MC, Lampeter MC, Carmarthen MC, Epynt MC, HERO, BARC Wales, IRDC, Marches 4x4, HRCR, PTMC,RST, SWAC, LLandysul MC, Amman & Dist MC, Dyffryn Tywi MC, Swansea MC

1. **Apologies:** Rob Baldwin, Phil Jones, Bath MC, Mike Taylor, Andrew Thomson, Gethin Rees, Dave Evison, Jimmy Jones, Heather Jones, Chris Summerfield, James Chappelle
2. **Minutes of last meeting.**
Proposed Alun Morgan Seconded John Morgan
3. **Matters Arising**
None
4. **Road Rally Championship (John SurrIDGE)**

The 2015 Championship has attracted 78 Registrations, 42 Drivers and 36 Navigators which although down on last year, is still a healthy number

Four rounds of the Championship have now run, and the positions are as follows:

DRIVERS- OVERALL POSITIONS

				Mike	Bro	Rali	Night	
				Darowen	Caron	Llyn	Owl	Total
Name								
Ian 'Dude' Roberts	Driver	Expert	Over 1800	98	94	100	98	390
Jamie Jones	Driver	Semi Expert	Over 1800	93	84	89	87	353
Wayne Jones	Driver	Expert	Over 1800	90		95	92	277

Steve King	Driver	Expert	Over 1800	89	85	92		266
Jordan Reynolds	Driver	Semi Expert	1401-1800		81	96	88	265
Stefan Davies	Driver	Expert	1401-1800	86	100		78	264
Fred Price	Driver	Semi Expert	Over 1800	87		93	82	262
Mark Jukes	Driver	Expert	1401-1800	84	87		89	260
Polly	Driver	Semi Expert	1401-1800		83	91	85	259
Thomas Slack	Driver	Novice	1001-1400	88	76		81	245

NAVIGATORS -OVERALL POSITIONS

				Mike Darowen	Bro Caron	Rali Llyn	Night Owl	Total
Gwawr Hughes	Navigator	Expert	Over 1800	100	95	96	95	386
Justin Davies	Navigator	Expert	1401-1800	90	100	93	80	363
Dafydd Sion Lloyd	Navigator	Expert	1401-1800	86	88	88	89	351
Jonathan Kennedy	Navigator	Semi Expert	Over 1800	95	85		88	268
Clive Jones	Navigator	Expert	Over 1800	85	89	92		266
Dave Thomas	Navigator	Semi Expert	Over 1800	91		91	83	265
Chris Ashley	Navigator	Semi Expert	1401-1800		84	90	86	260
Daniel Belcher	Navigator	Novice	1001-1400	92	79		82	253

You will be aware that three vehicles were selected at scrutineering on the Bro Caron, to have their engines sealed for a capacity check. The rules state that once sealed, an engine must be inspected within 30 days.

Arwel Hughes Jones declined to have his engine inspected and so all points accrued so far by Arwel and his Navigator, Dylan John Williams have been removed.

Ian 'Dude' Roberts arranged for the inspection to be done within the agreed time. The cylinder head was removed to allow the engine capacity to be checked and his engine was found to be completely legal.

Kevin Kerr was granted an extension to 50 days as per MSA rules and has twice refused to have his engine inspected as per WAMC Championship rules. As a result, all points accrued by Kevin and his navigator Max Freeman have also been removed.

Competitors who are registered for the Championship are reminded that both Driver and Navigator are responsible for ensuring that the vehicle in which they compete complies with WAMC Road Rally Championship rules. Registered Navigators who compete with non registered Drivers must also ensure that the vehicle complies if they wish to score Championship points.

There has been considerable discussion about this situation, and the rules for 2016 will need to be strengthened considerably to ensure that we can police the capacity rule rigidly.

The feedback from competitors has been mostly favourable, as there have been many accusations of competitors using oversize engines over the last few years.

5. Tarmacadam Championship (Fran Davies)

Registrations for the championship has now closed, and there are 38 Drivers, and 25 Co-Drivers registered. Four rounds of the championship have been held, and leading the Drivers is Bob Fowden with 75 points, Roger Hicks with 68 points and Phil Turner with 65 points. Simon Anthony is leading the Co-Drivers with 66 points, Tim Samuel with 63 points, and Phil Williams with 62 points. Sherryn Roberts and Emma Todd are joint first in the Ladies Award, and Chris Hand is leading the Under 25 Driver Award. The next round of the championship will be the Harry Flatters Rally run by Brecon Motor Club on the 26th of July, 2015.

6. Forest Championship Clubman (Jimmy Jones)

No Report

7. Forest Championship National (Dave Evison) Centre Chairman gave report

Registrations for 2015, now closed stand at 124 (86) (64 Drivers, 60 Co Drivers)

Following Round 5 Severn Valley Stages the leading contenders are :-
Leading Overall Driver Paul Davy Co Driver Roger Allan
Grp N Driver Paul Davy Co Driver Roger Allan
Leading Two Wheel Drive John Baker Co Driver Ian Jones
Leading Under 25 Driver Meirion Evans Co Driver Caron Tomlinson
Please visit the Championship Website for full details of points allocated to date.

The remaining rounds are Nicky Grist Stages, 11th July, Woodpecker 5th Sept & Cambrian 17th October.

The Neath Valley listed as a reserve event has been cancelled for 2015.

Note the championship is featured on Motors TV, Special Stage Extra which is now fortnightly. You can also "catch up" with any championship rounds on "You Tube" Special Stage Extra.

8. Historic Rally Championship (Rob Baldwin) Centre Chairman gave report

Four of the eight rounds have taken place and we now have 29 registered contenders which is down on last year a situation not helped by the current seeding which puts historic crews to the back of the field and in the ruts so many

are voting with their feet and not registering and some of those who have entered early in the season have given notice that they will not be out for the rest of the year all of which is a worrying trend

Current championship leaders

John Baker/Ian Jones Escort Mk2

Next round is the Nicky Grist Sages on the 11th July

9. King of Epynt (Fran Davies)

The 2015 Championship has 62 Registrations, 32 Drivers and 30 Co-Drivers, an increase of 13 registrations from 2014. The second round of the Championship ran last Sunday being the Mini Epynt, and the current leaders are Ian Caddy and Alan Thomas in their Ford Escort Mk II. Lying in joint second in the Drivers are Damian Cole, Christian Prynne, and Sean Crowley. Jack Morton, Rhidian Jones, and Emma Jones are joint second in the Co-Drivers. The next round in the championship will be The Harry Flatters Rally on the 26th of July run by Brecon Motor Club.

10. Club Championship (Jimmy Jones)

No report

11. Sprint & Hillclimb Championship (Dave Thomas)

Eleven rounds have now taken place with varying amounts of support; the most popular being the events at Llandow(13), Llys y fran(18) and Penmbrey(10/10) with reasonable support for Loton Park (9). All events in Wales so far are suffering from reduced entries and the Epynt Weekend on 13/14th June is no exception.

Wynne Morgan leads the championship, followed by newcomer Paul Meadows and Simon Hutchings.

29 contenders have now registered for the championship although less than 50% have competed in more than 4 events so far.

Having attended a number of events chatting to competitors one surprise is an apparent ignorance of the championship. After chatting to one person at Pembrey and leaving a yearbook with him he telephoned me 10 minutes later to sign up; has competed for a number of years but was unaware of the championship.

This is an area I will be addressing over the next few months and looking towards 2016.

12. Junior Challenge (Dorian Evans)

The first round of the 2015 WAMC Junior Challenge, the Spring RosSolo, organised by Ross and District Motor Sport Group, took place on the 15th March, at Mitcheldean.

One eligible contender, Miranda Wakeman, registered for the championship along with her father Alan in the team category.

I have since received the registration from the current Junior Challenge Champion, Charlotte Phelps, along with her brother Adam and father John in 2 separate teams, although only Charlotte is eligible for the Junior challenge and her first appearance will be the Epynt Hillclimb when she finishes her exams.

Unfortunately I was unable to attend the Ty-Croes Sprint nor the Llys y Fran Hillclimb, and I want to thank Dave Thomas and Paul Loveridge for standing in for me at the 2 events. Also unfortunately there were no eligible competitors at either event.

The next event in the Junior Challenge will be the Eagle Road Rally, on the 6th of June.

The Regulations for Epynt Hillclimb are available, and they have been publicised on the Website and Facebook page, and the details sent to this years and last years registered contenders.

The points are as follows:

Overall:

Miranda Wakeman 30

Class JC2 1001 - 1600cc

Miranda Wakeman 20

Team Award

Team Wakeman 20

13. Pembrey Liaison Officer (Gethin Rees) Centre chairman gave report

Pembrey has been very busy over the past few months with Rallies, Motokanas, Rallycross, Race meetings (both Cars and Bikes) and the BARC Wales annual sprint last weekend which was a round of the British Championship.

BTRA Trucks racing together with Legends and the popular Welsh Sports & Saloon Car Championship also on the programme have been at the venue. Local interest was increased in the Legends races as Welsh number 12 Scott Williams was invited to take part. Thus boosting the crowds at the venue to those previously seen at BTCC rounds

14. Epynt & Caerwent Liaison officer (Phil Jones)

No Report

15. Forestry Liaison Officer (Neil Henderson)

On Behalf of the Southern Centre – thanks to Neil Henderson for his support to the WAMC in his role as FLO.

16. MSARLO (Andrew Thomson) Southern Centre chairman gave report

So here we are halfway through the 2015 year and another busy Season of Motor Sport for us all. The first half of the year has gone quite well still Clubs don't seem to want to read and adhere to the Regulations in the MSA Blue Book, WAMC yearbook, or the MSARLO requirements document. Nearly everything you need to know is in there somewhere so please take the time to read it.

Can I just remind you all that it is a WAMC requirement, and courtesy, to contact the other Clubs who also run events in the area that you intend to use and notify them of your intentions? This can be of great benefit to your event, more entries from those Clubs, more Marshals or manpower to assist with the event, and all from a simple e-mail or phone call to the other Club. As the advert once said, "It's good to talk", try it? Sadly not all Clubs have grasped this yet!!

Even though it is now well over Six Months since the 1000 Lanes Road Rally, I still have not received any contact from the Club regarding the PR Complaints from last year!! The same applies to the Rali Elli, I haven't received their post event PR report!!

Finally, please remember that as the appointed MSARLO to this area I am here to help and unless you contact me and talk to me then I can't help you.

17. Cross Country (Jerry Herbert)

The second round of the six round national series ran at Radnor on 9th – 10th May.

For the first time we have noticed spectators. As a precaution we had planned for this before the season started, and spectators were well controlled, well behaved and contained.

The course was very challenging and true “cross country” territory; in fact we had a route change for the second day as some bits were a bit too challenging for some of the vehicles!

In spite of this, there was a good spirit and close racing all weekend, comms and timing were excellent, and we look forward to the next event in Scotland at Forrest Estate near St John’s Town of Dalry on 6th – 7th June..

18. Training

Asked for suggestions for training as there is a pool of money available. AWMMC (Association of West Midlands Motor Clubs) delivering training at Shrewsbury showground – Mock Rally Stage. WAMC are looking to get some kind of ‘badge’ for recognition that people have attended training courses.

Sessions are planned for North, South, Mid and West Wales. The MSA have requested that Clubs attend coordinated training sessions and not ad-hoc. The thoughts are to look at initially Rallying, but then progress to other disciplines.

If there are clubs that deliver/do any training, could they please pass on these details to the MSA as it is envisaged that ‘Training nights’ will be scheduled for a group of local clubs.

There has been a request from clubs to hold basic training in regards to Road Rallying (CoC etc) This is currently under consultation.

The MSA are looking at the Scottish Review (we are waiting for updates)

If clubs are looking for funding for ‘Safety Training’ such as first Responder please contact Alan Paige at the MSA for more information. Alan.paige@msa.org.uk

19. Correspondance

None

20. Club official changes

James Chappelle is now Secretary for Brecon MC. Please contact Geoff Field with any changes.

21. MSA Reports. Geoff Field gave report

Rob Jones:

Scottish report - almost time to call it an implementation of recommendations. Impressed with the way organisers have reacted to the changes. Interim requirements are published - done to ensure the safe future of our sport. FC was concerned about possible consequences. New master agreement should be possible now.

Safety car training is done.

Radios frequency - funding available for upgrade or replacement.

Tracking - has been tested, but no conclusions yet.

Comms - Ben Taylor is now IMS, not MSA head of comms. Tim is interim head until a review.

Allan Dean-Lewis:

Club Dev Fund & Safety Dev Fund:

£48 available for modification of radios and up to £240 for replacement radios.

Extra funding for red/white safety tape & warning signage - up to 60% grant for 2015.

Training trust funding for training initiatives.

MS Safety fund - "pull-out pens".

19 grants agreed this year £52k - total value £128k. Total for whole CDF, since it started is 997 awards, with 10 more on Allan's desk. ADL was hoping to make it 1000 before he retired.

Allan will quit his role on 31st July.

Association visits - list has gone out - one visit per association. Rob Jones in October.

COTY & VOTY awards - nomination forms are available on MSA website now. Due back by 1st October.

Train the trainers and radio controller training being planned - stage commander training to be done too.

Clubs & associations bank details need to be updated to the MSA.

Club safeguarding policy - child protection policy has been in place for many years. Allan has worked closely with the relevant department and there is a new process now in place. DBS checking requirements are included. There are variations for different parts of the UK. Biggest change is that there is a requirement for every club to have a named officer for child safeguarding. That person could cover more than one club.

Ethics committee Chairman - Rob Jones has stood down from that.

MSA formula is being well received and supported.

WEC took place, WRX championship, Formula E final round is scheduled for Battersea Park.

European Cart & WRGB.

GoMotorsport:

Big Bang fair - science & technology. Wheel change exercise took place with RDO's available to answer questions.

Expo show at Gaydon - grass roots disciplines explained. Positive thoughts received and opportunities explained for involvement as both competitors and organisers etc.

Extra budget to increase RDO support. Final arrangements are being done now.

Make clubs aware of GoMotorsport's objectives.

A new RDO for South Wales is due to be announced, to replace Ryland James.

Inter-Association Events:

Auto test - 30th August - Whitchurch MC

Cross country - 6th September

WAMC team won the Inter-Association Road Rally, hosted by WBCC.

Long discussion on the Scottish report and changes as a result of that. Single venue stages are also now being looked at, to incorporate relevant changes.

FLO for Forest of Dean - an announcement is imminent on Neil Henderson's replacement.

Clubs should have been contacted regarding training for Multi venue events – Course Car/Safety Car. The next training session will be held Clyro 13/14 June.

22. AOB

Centre Chairman gave James Chapelle Report regarding the new WAMC AutoSOLO (please see report attached)

DE mentioned Road Rallies in the North regarding Code Boards on the entrance to controls to slow cars down.

JS replied stating that WAMC are trying to standardise the rules with regard to mis/bad behaviour at controls.

At the recent AGM (main Meeting) the following were elected:

Chairman – Paul Loveridge

Secretary – Geoff Field

Treasurer – Mike Taylor

DT raise that there is lack of awareness regarding the Hillclimb & Sprint Championship. If anyone has any ideas in how to promote this could they please get back to him so that he can raise any proposals at the main meeting.

AM responded to this stating that if someone volunteers to oversee a championship, they should bring some ideas with them.

Date of Next meeting: Tuesday 1st September, White Hall Inn Llandovery at 22.00hrs.