



e-Wheels

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NMW awards – hurry!

With the National Motorsport Week underway as this issue was being prepared, the MSA is pleased to announce that the Motorsport Industry Association (MIA) is to offer awards each year to motor clubs taking part in NMW.

This year, a £500 prize will be awarded to an MSA affiliated club which organises the event which best captures the spirit of NMW. In future years, there will be additional prizes.

To be considered for the award this year, send any marketing and supporting material about your NMW event to Charlotte Austin at the MIA by Friday 21 August.

Her contact details are: Charlotte Austin, Motorsport Industry Association, telephone 02476 692600, email charlotte.austin@the-mia.com

For the latest news about NMW go to: www.nationalmotorsportweek.co.uk

MSA Academy launched

The MSA has created the MSA Academy – a new structure for the MSA’s investment in the training and development of young drivers – and a new TEAM UK identity which will encompass the country’s best up and coming motor sport talent.

The MSA Academy creates a development pathway which will take competitors from the entry level at just eight years of age, through to Elite and post-Elite levels, with a view to the most promising emerging onto the world stage.

The academy is the brainchild of MSA Performance Director, Robert Reid. The 2001 WRC champion has been working with the MSA for the past four years and is delighted that a recognisable structure has now emerged.

Until the age of 16, all British children must legally remain within the education system, so the academy will ensure that young competitors are supported and encouraged in their mainstream studies. With some 1,600 licence holders under 16 years of age in the UK, the MSA takes its responsibilities to these children and their education extremely seriously.

The MSA is considering the introduction of new regulations to ensure that competitors are fully engaged with their schools and to encourage organisers to provide study facilities for

their competitors. It is anticipated that ultimately all drivers under 16 wishing to enter any of the UK's national championships will be required to enter into a signed 'contract' with their school to keep up to date with their work. The message is simple: no education, no racing.

The MSA has looked carefully at the examples of other sports and has recognised the need to identify the best British talent as a team of individuals under a collective banner. Consequently, members of the MSA Academy at Elite and post-Elite levels will become known as TEAM UK and will be able to carry this designation to identify them as the best emerging talent in British motor sport.

The final element in the MSA Academy will be the creation of a recognised coaching structure within UK motor sport, although this may take a little longer to deliver.

More information is on the MSA website: www.msauk.org

Lydden Hill wins

Following an open tender process, the MSA awarded the title rights to the MSA British Rallycross Championship and the MSA British Rallycross Grand Prix to Lydden Hill Race Circuit for a period of three years from 1 January 2010.

Annual awards reminder

Nominations for Club of the Year 2009 and Marshal of the Year 2009 must be made by 1 October 2009. See June *e-Wheels* for more information.

RoGB

The Rally of Great Britain takes place from 22 to 25 October 2009 starting from Cardiff. Full details and ticket information is on www.rallygb.org

MSA Club Officials seminars 2010

From January to March 2010, the MSA (with the support of the British Motor Sports Training Trust) will be running a series of Club Officials seminars at locations across the UK. Letters asking MSA Registered Clubs to nominate a number of representatives to attend will be issued in September 2009.

The seminars will be targeted at unlicensed officials including, but not limited to, club stewards, those involved in club administration and event organisers.

Workshop groups will cover speed, rally, club sport and permanent fixed venue events (race, kart, drag racing etc).

If you are interested in attending one or more of these seminars, approach your club committee or secretary so that you can be included on the list of nominees.

Downloading *e-Wheels*

If a paper copy is required and to access back issues, Word and pdf versions of *e-Wheels* can be downloaded from the MSA website www.msauk.org by clicking on Clubs then Publications. You can also download *Motorsports Now!* – the MSA magazine sent to competition licence holders and officials as well as MSA yearbooks.

ENDS.