



# e-Wheels

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[adean-lewis@msauk.org](mailto:adean-lewis@msauk.org)

## **Marshal of the Year**

Steve Weston, a member of the Castle Combe Racing Club, has been voted the winner of the prized JLT Sport/MSA Marshal of the Year Award 2008 by the MSA.

The award recognises excellence by a volunteer marshal from any discipline of motor sport and the winner collects the prestigious trophy (as well as a cheque for £250) at the MSA's annual Night of Champions awards evening in January. An active marshal for nearly 20 years at race and speed events, Steve recently took on the role of Club Child Protection Officer at Castle Combe and has since taken an active role in the recruitment and training of young cadet marshals.

## **Club of the Year**

The Rathfriland Motor Club in Northern Ireland has been voted the top motor club in the UK for 2008 by the MSA.

Representatives of the club will receive a trophy and cheque for £1,000 at the MSA's annual Night of Champions awards ceremony at the Royal Automobile Club, Pall Mall, London in January.

Of particular importance to the judges was Rathfriland's Safety First schools programme, which highlights to young motor sport fans the importance of car preparation and safety requirements for motor sport and how some of these lessons can be carried over to new road drivers – a direct road safety message.

## **Second and third clubs**

Second prize, an MSA Flag Trophy and £500 goes to Clay Pigeon Kart Club. With entries increasing by 20 per cent and club membership by 40 per cent, Clay Pigeon is obviously doing a great deal right. Regular open days address entry-level issues for new competitors and the club undertakes extensive promotion in the nearby towns.

Third prize, an MSA Flag Trophy and £250 is awarded to Castle Combe Racing Club which, in just three years, has been responsible for the recruitment of more than 100 new marshals and the training of more than 600.

## **Highly commended clubs**

The Trent Valley Kart Club and Stockton & District Motor Club were highly commended by the judges and will receive commemorative certificates. Trent Valley has become one of the UK's leading kart clubs with its splendid facilities at PF International. Stockton & DMC has arrested a decline in numbers to emerge as a very active club.

## **2009 Seminars for Officials**

### ***Licensed Clerks & Stewards***

Letters have been sent to MSA Licensed Clerks and Stewards inviting them to attend the full day training seminars planned during the period January to March 2009. If you are eligible to attend these seminars and have not received an invitation to attend, please advise Richard Nunn, Volunteer Officials Coordinator at the MSA on 01753 765071 or e-mail at r.nunn@msauk.org, so that full details can be forwarded.

For your guidance, dates and broad locations are as follows:

24 January – Motherwell; 25 January – Inverness; 31 January – Peterborough; 1 February – Basingstoke; 7 February – Brighouse; 8 February – Solihull; 21 February – Exeter; 22 February – Llandrindod Wells, 8 March – Belfast.

Evening seminars are also planned in the Isle of Man (2 February), Jersey (3 February) and Guernsey (4 February).

### ***Scrutineers***

Letters have been sent to MSA Licensed Scrutineers, Trainee Scrutineers and Environmental Scrutineers, advising of the series of training seminars arranged for them. If you are eligible to attend these seminars and have not received an invitation to attend by Christmas, please advise Michael Duncan, Technical Administrator at the MSA on 01753 765037 or e-mail at michael.duncan@msauk.org, so that full details can be forwarded. Note that there are separate seminars for Car and Kart disciplines.

For your guidance, dates and broad locations are as follows.

**Car:** 17 January – MSA HQ; 18 January – Taunton; 24 January – Cambridge; 25 January – Brands Hatch; 1 February – South Wales; 7 February – Belfast; 8 February – Fife; 21 February – Brighouse; 22 February – East Midlands.

**Kart:** 18 January – Three Sisters; 24 January – Whilton Mill; 25 January – Buckmore Park; 31 January – South West; 7 February – Belfast; 8 February – Fife.

## **Club Insurance**

Through special arrangements with JLT Sport in early 2008, the MSA arranged club social events cover as an addition to the automatic insurance cover provided to its Clubs as a benefit of MSA registration. We are pleased to advise that this continues for 2009 at no additional cost to Clubs.

Full details of the cover is available from Simon Fowler, Competitions and Clubs Manager on 01753 765045 or e-mail simon.fowler@msauk.org

## **VAT**

Following the reduction of Value Added Tax announced by the Chancellor in the recent Pre-Budget Report, the MSA made the following statement.

The majority of fees charged by the MSA are exempt from VAT – licences, permits, etc. Only certain products and services are subject to VAT at the prevailing rate.

The MSA will amend the price of all items over £100 in accordance with the reduction of VAT from 17.5 per cent to 15 per cent.

The MSA will not amend the prices of items under £100. Any additional revenue generated as a result of retaining these prices will be donated to the Motorsport Safety Fund. The MSA estimates that this sum is unlikely to exceed £5,000 in 2009.

### **Yearbook omission**

There is an omission in the MSA *2009 Competitors' and Officials' Yearbook* (the so-called Blue Book which is sent to licenced competitors). It is in Section I - Sprints, Hill Climbs and Drag Racing.

The omitted text is in the Winter issue of *Motor Sports Now!*, the MSA publication sent to licence holders, and on the MSA website at: [www.msauk.org](http://www.msauk.org) > News under the heading Clarification for Sprint and Hillclimb competitors.

### ***e-Wheels***

Word and pdf versions of previous *e-Wheels* can be downloaded from the MSA website [www.msauk.org](http://www.msauk.org) by clicking on MSA publications>Wheels>e-Wheels.

Merry Christmas from all at the MSA. Have a safe and successful 2009 motor sport season.

*Allan Dean-Lewis*

ENDS.