

## **Road Rally Report for SAMSC Meeting 20<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

The Scottish Navigational Rally Championship is still ongoing, it looks as if we will be running with 7 of the scheduled 8 events running. The Nuit Blanche did not run this year as EUMC reckoned they didn't have anyone to organise the event. I suspect that will be the case next year as well. 6 events have already run this year with round 7 being the Boontree Birl scheduled to run on 1st December.

A total of 38 competitors have scored points in the championship by entering the Nat B section of events. Expert and Novice classes have been well represented but less so the Non-Expert class. This may be due to the changing requirements for Novices to make the move up to Non-Experts, introduced for 2018. The average number of entries per event was 14, although this includes those also entering as Clubman and therefore not eligible for Championship points. Some events will be running only under a Clubman permit whilst others will retain the current Nat B/Clubman formats, although now both will score championship points.

For 2019 the Championship will be able to count Clubman section for points due to the two year trial changes made by Motorsport UK's Regional Committee in an attempt to boost numbers for Regional Association Championships.

My big concern for 2019 is getting events. I have already mentioned above that it is unlikely that EUMC will be in a position to run the Nuit Blanche, based south of Edinburgh. I'm also lead to believe that Richard Crozier has decided not to organise next year's Aquarius Rally and that nobody else from the organising club, GMSC, has come forward to take over. It will be a great loss if the Aquarius doesn't run in 2019. I believe that a route in the west of Scotland has been drawn up by existing competitors, but when they went to their club (EACC) they wouldn't provide the necessary backing or support to get much needed marshals. The potential organisers have no experience of organising an event but have been offered assistance by both Sewart Merry and myself – but they need local marshals! I've suggested that they speak to Coltness to see if they might offer local support, but not heard anything back yet.

In order to get a better balance over the year it is likely that 63CC will switch counting events and run March Hare Rally (in May??) to count in preference to the Seafield which will revert to 12 car clubman.

Targa rallies still seem to be popular with Mull Targa attracting an entry of 61 and the re-run Saltire Classic/Targa 42.

**Dave MacIntosh**