

Chairman's Report to the September 2020 General Meeting of SAMSC

Its time for me to give my thoughts and comments on what has happened in the world of motorsport since our last meeting in June. Well that shouldn't take too long!

When we 'met' in June, we had gone through three months of various lockdown phases. Since then, some things have eased off and some events have started to happen but probably not as much as we might have wanted. As I sit and type this report on the evening of Tuesday 1st September, household visit restrictions have been imposed on much of the Greater Glasgow area just as others area being relaxed around Aberdeen. Thankfully I live outside the defined area of Glasgow covered by the restriction but only by less than one mile!

As far as motorsport activity is concerned, there is some good news and some possibly less good. First the good news. I wrote to SAMSC clubs on 10th August to confirm that the team at Motorsport UK had reached agreement with the Scottish Government for the resumption of events subject to the Motorsport UK published Covid19 protocols and within the relevant Government guidelines and regulations applicable at the time of the event (bearing in mind that these might be the subject of local restrictions as was the case with restricted Aberdeen travel). I know that several events have taken place under these arrangements including a combined Race and Speed permit over two days at Knockhill at which I was Motorsport UK Steward. There have also been Autotest and Cross Country event in the last couple of weeks. From what I have seen, the level of Covid19 compliance at these events has been high.

But here remains an outstanding question about events with two people in a car including rallies and Touring Assemblies. The expectation was that these would be allowed from the same time as driving lessons were allowed to resume i.e. 24th August. I have been trying to get clarity that this is the case but as yet, have not been able to confirm it. Hopefully I will have an answer by the time of our meeting if not before because I know a few clubs are on tenterhooks waiting for this confirmation.

Turning to our meeting, this will again be held in the virtual world of Zoom and will include both the AGM and the General Meeting. Lock will publish the normal agenda but I will give prior warning that I may need to manage the running order and content to contain it within a reasonable running time while hopefully giving everyone an opportunity to air their views. We still have the November meeting in plan and it remains to be seen if we will be able to gather in Stirling for this.

As is usually the case, I will update this Chairman's report if more information comes to light that I think you need to know before the meeting and will almost certainly want to add further comments on the night.

Until then, stay safe.

Pete Weall

Chair Scottish Association of Motor Sports Clubs