

Chairman's Report to General Meeting

It might look like overkill on my part, not to say a bit greedy, to have two Chairman's Reports but there are just a few points I want to draw attention to at the General Meeting that were not appropriate to cover in the AGM.

Firstly to say thank you once again for all the written reports presented in advance. This should help with running this meeting. But these reports are only part of the process.

Almost everyone that attends the SACC General Meetings does so as a representative of their member club. This is an important role that carries with it responsibilities. One of the key functions of SACC is as a conduit for information between your clubs and the MSA. There are now numerous communication streams including the MSA's own newsletter and quarterly magazine sent to all licence holders and of course the SACC newsletter which is sent out to all clubs. But not all of your members are licence holders or Facebook users and you should think in your own clubs about how everyone is getting the required information.

In terms of this meeting, the MSA Committee reports and SACC Co-ordinator reports are especially important because they often include snippets of information that does not appear in the other channels. Often, there is an early warning of something coming along in the future, for example a rule change. I refer you to my comments in my report to the AGM about looking ahead in order to anticipate what to do next.

One of the things I want to draw your particular attention to is the guidance issued by the MSA on the use of FHRs mentioned in the Rallies Committee report. Competitors have already been caught out by this on events this year. It of course applies now to events beyond rallies.

High on the MSA agenda over the last couple of months has been shouting out the online marshal course. Everyone should please be very aware that this is not a replacement for the face to face modular training that we are delivering across Scotland but is an important step along the way to having an even more effective and focused group of marshals. It is not difficult and does not take much time and I would encourage as many of you as possible to look at it.

On the subject of the MESR, the idea of regional rally forums was mentioned at the last SACC meeting. The first of these was held as a pilot in Northern Ireland and there has been one other held since with the next one scheduled for the day after this SACC meeting. As far as Scotland is concerned, we have identified that the content, while new to the rest of the UK, is already familiar to us because our events were at the heart of developing many of the new requirements through 2015. For this reason, while we will probably have an event, we have agreed to be towards the end of the programme which will run till later this year.

Finally, I hope that most if not all of you share my positive feeling about the opportunities we have in front of us. We will hear in the meeting about what SMS and GoMotorsport are working on for 2016 including some exciting events. The SACC Autosolo Challenge is a move into something new. The GoRally evening in February was a great example of what can be delivered in a short time when clubs work together and I hope we can do more of this. Yes times are hard both economically and in terms of event organisation but at the same time, there are positive signs and I want to work with you all to build on these.

Peter Weall

Vice Chair SACC