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The MSA Yearbook 2018

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Contents

Incoming Chairman's Message	4
Outgoing Chairman's Message	5
How to Use the Blue Book	6
Background to the Sport in Great Britain	8

Part 1: Structure of the Sport

Governance	11
Who's Who at the MSA	16
Regional Structure	20
Motor Sports Venues	32
British Championships	46

Part 2: The Regulations

A: National Sporting Code	49
B: Nomenclature and Definitions	54
C: Judicial	68

COMMON REGULATIONS

D: Organisers	77
E: Circuits and Venues	90
F: Emergency and Medical Services (Units and Equipment)	96
G: Officials – Regulations and Licensing	105
H: Competitors: Licences	126
J: Competitors: Vehicles	145
K: Competitors: Safety	156
L: Competitors: Permitted Tyres	196

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

M:	 <i>Autotests</i>	207
N:	 <i>Autocross and Rallycross</i>	215
P:	 <i>Cross-Country</i>	231
Q:	 <i>Circuit Racing</i>	271
R:	 <i>Rallying</i>	291
S:	 <i>Sprints, Hill Climbs and Drag Racing</i>	337
T:	 <i>Trials</i>	349
U:	 <i>Karting</i>	363
V:	National Records	388
W:	Championships	391
	Index to the Regulations	418

Part 3: Appendices

1	Competition Fees	399
2	Insurance	403
3	Competing Abroad	408
4	Judicial Notes for Guidance	410
5	Appointed Officials Listings:	
	a <i>Forestry Liaison Officers</i>	412
	b <i>Route Liaison Officers</i>	414
	c <i>Radio Co-ordinators</i>	416
	d <i>Appointed Technical Commissioners</i>	417
	e <i>Appointed Environment Inspectors</i>	417

MSA Licensed Officials details are available
on the MSA's website www.msauk.org

Part 4: Motor Sports Directory

Welcome to the MSA Yearbook for 2018

For as long as I can remember my copy of the MSA 'Blue Book' has arrived in the post each January and I have a quick flick through its pages before it finds its way onto a bookshelf.

However, this year, given my new role, I decided to read it more thoroughly, and it is only when you do this that you fully appreciate what an impressive document it is.

The hours of meticulous work from numerous officials, committees and working groups to produce the regulations, across such a wide range of disciplines, ensures that we all compete safely and on a level playing field.

Within its pages you will also find a long list of officials who give up their time so freely to ensure competitors in this country continue to enjoy motor sport at a level that is the envy of the rest of the world. However, this is only the tip of the iceberg as we also have almost 10,000 volunteers on our marshals' register, turning up at events every weekend.

Historically the MSA's principle focus has been as the administrator and regulator of motor sport but this is changing with an increasing emphasis placed on developing the sport at grass roots level and initiatives such as Go Motorsport, the MSA Academy, Scottish Motor Sports, as well as a new coaching qualification.

We need to recognise that the entire automotive landscape is going through a major revolution, not just technically but fundamentally as the role of the motor car in society is challenged. What impact this will have on motor sport is yet unknown, but in these uncertain times the foresight and leadership required from the MSA becomes far more relevant.



David Richards CBE

The Blue Book is a great example of how well we can administer the sport and shows our capabilities as a regulator but this alone will not be enough. We will need to become a far more customer-focussed organisation that reaches out and engages with all those who share our passion for motor sport, in whatever capacity, and provide them with a clear vision for the future.

There is an old adage in motor sport - 'if you are not continuously developing you are actually going backwards' and this applies equally to the MSA as it does to a competitor.

The changing landscape of motor sport participation in this country will have its challenges but I'm very confident that so long as the MSA retains a strong focus on the needs of our licence holders we will rise to this challenge.

I would like to wish you a very enjoyable and safe year's motor sport as an MSA licence holder.

*David Richards CBE
Chairman, MSA*

Best wishes for the next chapter

The welcome message for this year's Blue Book gives me an opportunity to reflect on the past 12 years as Chairman of the MSA and to thank all those whose support has made it such an enjoyable past of my motor sport career.

When I started the role in 2006 my main objective was to one day leave the organisation – and in turn the sport – in a better place than I found it. I knew the journey would be challenging and rewarding in equal measure, but I hope those who have witnessed it will agree that it has been a successful endeavour.

If I compare the MSA of 2006 with 2018, there are some clear similarities. Then as now, it was a relatively small organisation overseeing the administration and regulation of many diverse and complex sports under the umbrella term of 'motor sports'. But the MSA of today is doing so much more than efficiently processing competition licences and event permits.

Almost 10 years ago we added the development of the sport to our remit by establishing two initiatives that have since gone from strength to strength: Go Motorsport and the MSA Academy. This was the start of a new forward-thinking mindset for the MSA, recognising that we cannot rest on past success and must lay the groundwork today for the sport that we want to see tomorrow.

Go Motorsport began as a marketing campaign to get more people involved in the sport, and it has evolved to become a club support programme that remains underpinned by a nationwide network of Regional Development Officers. The MSA Academy talent development pathway has now benefited over 200 young drivers, many of whom have gone on to great things, whether competing in the WRC or developing cars for F1 teams.



Alan Gow

Meanwhile we continue to represent over 30,000 licensed competitors, who enjoy a sport that is safe and fair thanks to the technical and sporting regulations detailed in this book. Much of their enjoyment is thanks to the dedication of over 10,000 unsung heroes – our volunteer marshals and officials – who play a vital role in the safe and effective running of the sport by upholding these regulations. I wish to thank each one of them for their invaluable contribution to the sport over the years.

I would like to sign off by thanking the MSA staff and the many voluntary members of the Specialist Committees past and present for all that they have done – and continue to do – to ensure that the UK remains a world leader in motor sports.

Although I am stepping down as MSA Chairman, I look forward to remaining heavily involved in the sport through my work on FIA Commissions, my seat on Motor Sport Council and of course running the MSA British Touring Car Championship.

Best wishes for the next chapter.

Alan J Gow

How to Use this Book

All the basic rules governing participation in motor sport events in Britain are contained in this 'Blue Book'. To enjoy the sport to the full, Organisers, Competitors and Officials should ensure they are familiar with the regulations relevant to their own particular discipline.

The Yearbook is split into four main Parts:

Structure of the Sport

The first (RED) Part describes the governance and structure of the sport in Britain, describing the role of the MSA and introducing some of the people involved in the sport, from Council Members to Technical Officials.

The Regulations

The second (BLUE) Part contains the detailed motor sport regulations which are split into two Sections:

- **Common Regulations** effecting all disciplines of the sport from Autotests to Rallying; and

- **Specific Regulations** effecting individual motor sport disciplines, giving Organisational, Competitor and Technical information for each discipline.

Within **The Regulations** all new regulations are indicated by the use of **red text**.

The Appendices

These contain much detailed information that has been extracted from the main

body of the text in order to make the other Sections more accessible and more readable.

The Directory

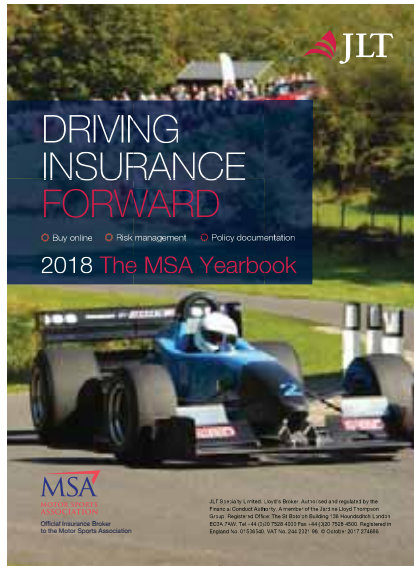
The fourth (GREEN) Part includes the regular MSA Motor Sports Directory advertising products and services from over 180 companies in 100 different categories.

In general it should be possible for readers to find all the relevant Regulations they require by consulting just two sections in the blue part of the book.

As in previous years, a certain amount of cross-referencing between Sections is necessary due to similarities between different disciplines, and because the

safety criteria are common to many.

We hope that once you become familiar with the new Blue Book you will find it easy to read and quicker to navigate through. We would welcome all feedback from readers on this revised publication in the hope that we can continue to improve this important motor sport document.



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An Introduction to Motor Sports in Great Britain

The end of the 19th century saw the establishing and subsequent rapid development of the motor car industry in Britain. From these early years motor sports clubs sprung up all over the country and for over 100 years these have been the bedrock on which the sport has advanced and prospered, both nationally and internationally.

Britain today remains at the very heart of the international motor sports industry. At a national level, it turns over around £2.9-billion annually and is recognised by Government as a major exporter, generating in excess of £750-million in foreign earnings last year. It offers full-time employment to around 38,000 people (source MIA), and part-time work to a further 100,000.

Involvement at all levels

In sporting terms it involves people at all levels: at grass roots through the activities of 750 Motor Clubs (with a total membership of over 200,000) who annually organise over 4,000 events for 100,000 competitors in 22 different disciplines; at elite level through events such as the British Grand Prix and the Rally of Great Britain.

The sport is open to all. Events are available for competitors as young as eight years old. Others are devoted to women drivers only and there are even opportunities for severely disabled drivers to compete. There are further opportunities for non-drivers to participate as passengers and navigators, or to act as marshals and officials at motor sport events, progressing into areas of scrutineering and timekeeping. On the safety side

there are opportunities for first-aiders, doctors and paramedics in rescue and recovery units.

Training and coaching

Throughout the sport, a comprehensive programme of national training and coaching initiatives are in place to develop skill levels whatever the involvement: competitor, official, marshal, medical officer or administrator.

The governance and administration of this hugely successful sport in Britain is today the responsibility of the Motor Sports Association (MSA), with its roots in the Royal Automobile Club that successfully formed and has moulded the sport for over a century.

The sport's governing body

The MSA is recognised as the governing body of motor sport in Britain by the world governing body, the Federation Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA). As such, the MSA is responsible for administrating and controlling the rules governing the sport.

This MSA Yearbook, known as the 'Blue Book' and published annually by the MSA, is the sport's regulatory 'Bible' for Organisers, Competitors and Officials.

BRITISH MOTOR SPORTS TRAINING TRUST

This charitable trust was formed in May 1977, and in the last four years alone the Trust has committed grant aid amounting to over £500,000 to assist with the training throughout the UK of volunteer officials and marshals in motor sport together with other training initiatives such as the provision of Marshals Safety Tabards, Club Officials Workshops and seminars, specialist courses for Doctors and Paramedics.

British motor sport enjoys the dedication and commitment of very many volunteers without whom the sport as we know it could not continue. Through the work of the Training Trust, not only can these individuals access dedicated training programmes to best match individual needs, but they are also helped to advance their own personal development by acquiring important lifeskills as a result of their involvement with the sport.

The British Motor Sports Training Trust is the motor sport Governing Body's own charity, and donations from organisations, clubs and individuals to help advance the work of the Trust are always most welcome.

Lord Rooker, Chairman of the Trustees

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