

Welcome to the July 2024 edition of the ABKC news.

Thank you to the 36 member kart clubs that have rejoined ABKC this year. Your committee is very active engaging with Motorsport UK committees in areas such as the National Competition Rules (NCR's) that will replace the Blue Book in 2025. A number of trial events under the new rules will take place this year. The NCR drafts can be found on Motorsport UK's website should you wish to comment. We would be grateful to be copied in and assist with suggestions.

We are also contributing to the Future Strategy and the five pillars which include cost issues, increasing participation, promotion, official and volunteer recruitment and retention, and utilising new technology. We especially look for ideas to make karting look cool for the younger generation. That might be increasing the use of electric propulsion, or helping the environment. Motorsport UK are also looking at ways of increasing participation for adults racing karts, as part of a wider review in all areas of the sport.

National Motorsport Week

Many of you will have put forward events to be included in the National Motorsport Week running from 11-21 July and if so should find the events on the Event Finder on the website. There are lots of resources to help clubs publicise the events available on the website.

Entrants Licences

As clubs know, all commercial teams operating at a permitted event must have an Entrants Licence. Motorsport UK are looking into having a lower cost Interclub only level. Clubs should be checking teams for compliance. Clubs should configure their Alpha account and their events to restrict the race team list to only those who have a valid Motorsport UK entrants licence. A link to an explanatory video is at the foot of this email.

Steward's Reports

A review to simplify the forest of reports that a MSUK Steward or substitute must send in after each event has resulted in a new system on Alpha. This produces all the decision sheets and we would urge clubs to adopt this for consistency and ease of use for officials.

Motorsport TV

If clubs wish to publicise their video events on Motorsport TV please drop an email to dan.parker@motorsportuk.org with details.

Slow Boards

Draft proposals for using "Slow" boards to replace or as an alternative to the yellow/black quarter flag to neutralise a race. This is because the yellow/black does not show well on a light panel.

Sustainable Fuel

Motorsport UK will soon open consultation regarding mandatory use of sustainable fuel from 2026 in some major championships where FIA spec fuel is used or mandated. For karting those that purchase their E5 or E10 fuel from a filling station that is fine, but for those who purchase 99 or if allowed 102 octane race fuel to FIA standard, they would have to purchase a sustainable product, of which there are plenty at reasonable cost.

Scrutineering Trial

For those clubs that do the 25% trial please note that there will soon be a requirement that all driver's PPE must be inspected. Details will come from Motorsport UK very soon.

Kart Council

Many clubs attended the Kart Council meeting, and the in person meeting at Bicester was deemed very useful. Updates were provided on many fronts and the minutes and slides from the meeting are available from the Secretary. The Kart Development fund was launched, to be ready for some applications this year but primarily operating from 2025. Clubs wishing to apply for vouchers for Vega Cadet tyres should apply to Dan Parker.

Safeguarding

At that Kart Council it was confirmed that regular engine builders who attend race meetings should have a suitability check, e.g. for England and Wales a DBS certificate.

Accelerator Award

Motorsport UK coaching department have introduced a new on-line first tier award, the Accelerator Award. It costs £35 and is about 3 hours work, and would be recommended for anyone wanting to provide a sound, modern approach to guiding new participants, team principals looking to develop their offer, those working with new drivers, especially children and for club committee members wanting to upskill. It is an excellent taster before going onto the coaching in motorsport qualifications. Details on request.

Steering Group News

The ABKC would like to offer their thanks and appreciation to Grahame Butterworth who is standing down from his role within the organisation. Over the last three years Grahame has been overseeing the social media and working as Operations Manager, his input has been very supportive and positive for the ABKC and we wish him well in his future ventures. Following that news, the Steering Group now consists of Nigel Edwards (Chair), Graham Smith (Secretary), Dan Ashton, Rob Dodds, Paul Sirett, Paul Skipp, Jim Thorsby and Ian Ward. Dan Ashton will take over moderation of our social media. As always please feedback your questions and suggestions.