



DAILY NEWSLETTER  
WEDNESDAY 04.12.13

# AUTO+ ASSEMBLY

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## AFFILIATION ON THE AGENDA

Region I clubs hear how new affiliation procedures will strengthen the FIA PG 3

## CONSISTENCY THE KEY

Formula One's race stewards focus on uniformity of decision-making PG 4

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## Racing into 2014

The final WMSC meeting of the year saw the unveiling of some significant developments

The 2014 FIA Formula One season will go ahead without New Jersey's Grand Prix of America or the Mexican Grand Prix after a final calendar was confirmed at this morning's meeting of the World Motor Sport Council in Paris.

Both races had been given provisional slots on the calendar released at the last WMSC meeting in Dubrovnik but with each circuit requiring more preparation time the decision has been taken to postpone the events.

The 2014 season is now confirmed as a 19-race campaign starting in Australia on March 16 and ending in Abu Dhabi on November 23. The Middle Eastern race takes over the season finale slot occupied for the past three seasons by the Brazilian Grand Prix.

In the FIA World Rally Championship, the decision was taken to alter the start order of gravel and tarmac rallies so as to improve the show. On day one, the start order will feature the provisional championship classification order for P1 and P2 drivers, while days two and three will start with the reverse provisional rally classification order for P1 and P2 drivers.

WRC events will also now follow a fixed format. There will be a ceremonial start on Thursday, with the last stage run at approximately 12:00hrs on Sunday at European events. The final stage is defined as the Power Stage, the length of which will be set at a minimum of 10 kilometres. It was also agreed that all classes of eligible cars be renamed in order to harmonise numbering with the other FIA Championships. Therefore, the smaller number will define the most powerful cars, with the RC1 class belonging to World Rally Cars.

Finally in the WRC, the date for Rally d'Italia has been changed to June 8.

Elsewhere, the WMSC confirmed the creation of a new World Rallycross Championship in 2014. The series had been provisionally approved at September's council meeting on the condition that the series' calendar features a total of 11 or 12 events, with nine or 10 European events plus one event in Asia or Africa and one event on the American continent.

Those criteria have now been met with the inclusion of events in Canada at the Trois-Rivières circuit, in Turkey at Istanbul Park and at a location to be confirmed in Argentina.



## WORLD MOTOR SPORT COUNCIL DECISIONS

### European F3 C'ship

The series will gain a rookies' title in 2014. Drivers will be able to make use of on-board camera footage until qualifying to enable them to improve.

### Formula E

The inaugural race of FIA's new electric series will take place a week earlier than planned. The season now starts in Beijing on 13 September, 2014.

### European Rally C'ship

The ERC is to get a Junior Championship creating a ladder between it and the WRC. For drivers under 25 it will use current R2 cars.

### Land Speed Records

An update of Land Speed Record rules has been undertaken and approved by WMSC in line with the update of the International Sporting Code.

### Women in Motorsport

Silvia Bellot (ESP) and Leena Gade (GBR) have been appointed as new Ambassadors, the duo representing racing officials and engineers respectively.

### Karting

From 2014 onwards, points will be awarded to the top 10 drivers after the Qualifying Heats according to a scale of 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2 and 1.





## REGION I

# Placing a premium on membership

This afternoon's meeting of Region I clubs heard details of how changes to the affiliation process will ultimately strengthen the federation

FIA Region I clubs held an Extraordinary Plenary Assembly today to discuss the federation's new affiliation process, the budget for this year and next, and also the schedule of upcoming events for 2014.

Six clubs have applied for affiliation in the past year, four of which are being put forward for approval at Friday's General Assembly. Once a member's affiliation is approved, the club gains a two-year associated membership status without voting rights, after which its application is finally approved or rejected.

Secretary General of Mobility Susan Pikrallidas presented the new procedure, which now requires the payment of an application fee. This has been introduced to discourage applications with no merit, to place a value on FIA affiliation, to offset costs and to gauge an applicant's financial resources.

Region I President Thierry Willemarck said: "We are happy to work with the new affiliation process. It's important for us in the regional offices to get a thorough analysis of applicant clubs."

Also discussed were the accounts for 2013, and a draft budget for 2014. The region's event programme for next year was revealed, with the ACL hosting the FIA Region I Spring Meeting on 12-15 May 2014 in Luxembourg. The Middle Management Workshop will be held in Baden, the Club Correspondents meeting will take place in Brussels, the European Traffic Education Contest is to be hosted by KNAF in Oslo, Norway, and the Road Patrol Contest will once more be hosted by HAK in Sibenik, Croatia.



## REGION IV

# Road safety the priority

Clubs from the region call for continued focus on road safety in wake of successful 2013 forum in Buenos Aires

Today's meeting was opened by a call from the President of Region IV, Jorge Tomasi, who was unable to travel to Paris this week as a result of recent surgery. President Tomasi called on Region IV clubs to build on the work of the last year, which has seen new joint road safety projects carried out and the development of new technologies. All members were united in wishing Tomasi, who is also President of the Automobile Club of Uruguay, a speedy recovery.

Looking back over 2013, a highlight for clubs was the Encouraging Road Safety Behaviour forum held in Buenos Aires in August, organised in association with the FIA, World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB). Clubs agreed to continue to work closely together to develop further initiatives with international bodies such as the OECD and IADB to ensure road safety is put at the top of the political agenda.

Collaboration is also underway between clubs to develop a range of new mobile applications which can improve the service offered to members.

Finally, the Central American clubs present gave an update on a project they have been carrying out with the support of an FIA Development Fund grant to undertake an overhaul of their communication strategies.



## F1 STEWARDS

# Pursuing uniformity

Consistency of decisions remains a key element for Formula One stewards

This afternoon's meeting of Formula One stewards saw race adjudicators agree that continuing to pursue consistency in decision-making during grands prix is at the heart of maintaining credibility.

Today's review of performance during the recent Formula One season followed on from a meeting held earlier this year, at which the stewards and F1 Race Director Charlie Whiting met with grand prix drivers and team representatives who highlighted a number of key issues

they believed would help the stewards reach their goal of uniformity in decision-making.

The meeting also took time to consider a number of incidents from during the season, with issues such as drivers leaving the boundaries of the track and possibly gaining an advantage being reviewed, again in a bid to find a consistent approach to ruling on such transgressions. Today's gathering was also another opportunity for those in attendance to examine the regulations for the coming season.

Commenting on the meeting, Whiting said that good communication was a key element in keeping stewards up to date, adding that their twice-yearly meetings, which included today's, are a critical part of the their duties.

CAMS' Garry Connelly, a regular Chair of the F1 stewards and Deputy President of the FIA Institute also took time out to pay tribute to all the FIA staff present at Formula One race meetings, saying that their dedication was crucial in the smooth operation of events. Whiting, meanwhile, also thanked the F1 media for their co-operation and understanding during the season just gone.

Finally, he added: "As a group, the F1 race stewards are clearly determined to continue improving the system of stewarding, which is extremely important to Formula One."



## NOCOF

# Targeting the road safety black spots

NOCOF clubs continue to tackle danger areas

The NOCOF members of Scandinavia reported on current challenges they face with regard to congestion and road safety. Texting and driving, speeding and drink driving remain major road safety issues in the region. The Icelandic club FIB outlined their success in encouraging members to send photos of road safety 'black spots' directly to the government which has been forced to react as a result.

Despite the difficult economic downturn, membership remains on the up for NOCOF clubs who are aiming to attract further members through the development of new phone applications, the utilisation of GPS systems and a reworking of club magazines to engage more closely with experts from local newspapers.

