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RAISING THE GAME

ASN Development Task Force launches new modules
and reveals results of global survey



NEW INITIATIVES AND NEW DATA AIM TO HELP GROW MOTOR SPORT GLOBALLY

The ASN Development Task Force yesterday revealed details of a number of new modules designed to help Clubs grow motor sport around the world. FIA Deputy President for Sport Graham Stoker also revealed fascinating new data about global motor sport that he said would help ASNs/ACNs in their engagement with government and motor sport stakeholders.



Presenting the results of the global survey of 140 FIA Sport Clubs, Deputy President Stoker said that for the first time the FIA and its Member organisations have access to “hard evidence that can be taken to government and stakeholders to explain the importance of our sport around the world”.

The survey reveals that motor sport involves more than 500,000 licensed competitors globally, with some 237,000 of those in the US alone. Over a quarter of a million officials and volunteers are involved and more than 14,000 events are held at 3,316 homologated circuits around the world. These figures alone proved the value of motor sport to economies around the world, said Deputy President Stoker, adding that the data could prove invaluable in lending weight to Clubs’ negotiations with government and potential partners.

The sixth edition of the forum had earlier begun with an outline of the main events of 2018, first focusing on next

year’s FIA Sport Conference, which will take place in the capital of the Philippines, Manila.

To be run in conjunction with the Asia-Pacific edition of the FIA Regional Sport Congresses, the sixth edition of the conference will take place from 4-6 June in the Pasay City district of Manila. Augusto C Lagman, President of host Club the Automobile Association Philippines said he was looking forward to hosting the conference and encouraged delegates to not only visit Manila for the work of the conference but also to enjoy time on one of the country’s 7,600 islands.

FIA Safety Director and Deputy Formula One Race Director Laurent Mekies then revealed details of the second edition of the FIA Race Directors Seminar and the FIA International Stewards Programme, scheduled for 8-11 February in Geneva.

The Race Directors Seminar is a one-day meeting set for 8 February. "This seminar is going to be compulsory for FIA Championship Race Directors, but we strongly recommend you to send your Race Directors if you have international series in your country" he said. "At the first edition, we had nearly 100 Race Directors there and hopefully it creates a very good forum where we can exchange best practice and so on.

"Perhaps even more important, we have the International Stewards Programme," he added. "We will require all stewards of our World Championships to attend but we also recommend stewards from any FIA Championship to come as well.

"There is something new for this year, which has been added as a result of our exchanges with ASNs. We would like to invite up to two national stewards per ASN, and we will convene for almost three days to exchange on best practices and various case studies. We expect to have almost 300 people but we think it will be a very important family moment.

"It will not be simply a seminar, we want to propose a complete path for best national stewards to be World Championship Stewards. We would welcome your two best national stewards who would come to the seminar. Then, there will be an evaluation process and from there we will select a number of them to come to races, under observation. They would do a minimum of three races under observation and then, they might be nominated as an FIA official at any of our international championships. The very best would be eligible for World Championship stewarding in the coming years."

The Forum then heard details of the launch of a new Sport Clubs Liaison office, to be staffed by three officers with responsibility for particular regions – Europe, MENA and the Asia-Pacific area.

Delegates were then informed about three new Global Training Programme modules covering a range of different topics. The first is a programme designed to aid ASNs/ACNs in relationship with government, public affairs and stakeholder management and to "maintain a constructive and positive dialogue with government agencies and key stakeholders".

The second, introduced by FIA Compliance Officer Paolo Basarri, is designed to assist Clubs with compliance including the FIA Code of Ethics, conflict of interest management, the raising of compliance concerns, due diligence of third parties, and the principles of good governance.

The third module, involving training for rally and hill climb marshals, was outlined by Stuart Robertson, FIA Head of Circuit and Rally Safety.

The programme proposes to ensure a minimum standard of marshal knowledge about their role, the handling of incidents and spectator engagement, as well as providing tools and techniques to enhance their confidence and skills in managing situations while at events.

Finally, delegates were given information about the FIA Safety Homologation ASN Reward Programme, which seeks to improve safety in motor sport by financially rewarding Clubs for compliance with FIA equipment standards across a range of categories.

Launched in 2017, 16 Clubs applied for the first round of awards – nine in Europe, five in Asia and two in South America. Funds for the successful applicants will be paid in January and a total of €100,000 will be awarded this year. The next round of applications will be opened in September, 2018.



LORD ROBERTSON CALLS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF UN GLOBAL ROAD SAFETY FUND

The FIA Foundation held its 2017 AGM on 7 December in Paris and published its Annual Report.



Lord Robertson of Port Ellen, Chairman of the FIA Foundation, opened the meeting with a call for action on global road safety, pointing out that over the past decade, 12 million people have died on the world's roads. He explained that in order to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goal target to halve road deaths, the creation of a new UN Global Road Safety Fund to significantly increase funding is needed.

Speaking during the AGM, he said: "How many lives can we save by 2030? This is the urgent question, and the FIA Foundation is playing its part in finding the answer. Our philanthropy is needed now more than ever."

Setting out the Foundation's 2017 achievements, Saul Billingsley, Executive Director, presented the international work across infrastructure, car safety and air quality.

He called for governments to reposition road safety as a human right. The 'Every Life' campaign was launched in October with the 'Declaration of Every Child's Right to Safe and Healthy Streets', a document comprising six articles focused on protecting children's health and safety. The declaration calls on global leaders to commit to providing a safe and healthy journey to school for every child.

Automobile Clubs from across the world spoke about their Foundation-funded work. Focusing on children's wellbeing though behaviour, the AGM heard from the Canadian Automobile Association and the Touring & Automóvil Club de Colombia. Training and recovery was the chief focus in the area of motor sport safety, with contributions coming from Motorsport South Africa and the Automobile and Touring Club of United Arab Emirates.

Finally, the Automobile Association of South Africa discussed the impact of the first independent African car safety testing with the launch of the first Global NCAP #SaferCarsForAfrica event.



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