Rally Bulletin – August 2026

As summer continues to fly by, we're quickly approaching an exciting point in the season, with many of you competing for championship titles and so many others working hard behind the scenes to organise and support those all-important deciding events.

While the 2027 season is already starting to come into view, there's still plenty to look forward to before we get there. As we head towards autumn and the final part of the season, we wanted to share a couple of reminders to help everyone enjoy a safe and successful end to the year.

Grampian Rally – FIA Candidate Event

We'd like to start by saying a big thank you to everyone who played a part in the recent Grampian Rally, which also hosted the FIA Candidate Event on the road to Rally Scotland in 2027.

We now await the final report from the FIA, but judging by the crowds in Banchory and at the Service Park at Milton of Crathes, the event was a great success, with the visiting international crews enjoying the challenging stages on offer.

Thirty second start applications

Sending your request to us in plenty of time helps our team provide you with the best possible service. It gives us time to review your request properly, provide any feedback and work with you on any amendments that may be needed before your event.

We appreciate there's a lot to consider when planning an event, and submitting your request early gives us the best opportunity to review it fully and provide any support needed. We therefore encourage you to apply as soon as you can to give us the best opportunity to review and support your request in good time.

To submit a request, please email rally@motorsportuk.org.

Virtual chicanes

Since October 2025, we have been working with a number of events and suppliers to trial virtual chicane solutions. We're pleased to say that the trials have been very successful so far, with positive feedback from organisers and competitors alike. This non-damaging solution has been particularly welcomed at a time when the cost of bales continues to increase.

As these solutions are still being trialled, they're not yet available for use at every event, and we appreciate your understanding while we continue to develop and assess them. If you are interested in using a virtual chicane, please contact Motorsport UK before including one in your event safety plans so the team can discuss the options with you.

At this stage, we are not yet able to approve applications from single venue events, but we'll continue to keep organisers updated as the trials progress.

Competitors PPE – a quick safety reminder

We'd like to share a quick reminder about wearing and fitting your PPE correctly. We know it's something many competitors will already be familiar with, but getting the basics right is an important part of keeping you safe when you're out competing.

Your helmet, FHR device, race suit, balaclava and other PPE are all designed to protect you if the unexpected happens, so please take a moment before you compete to make sure everything is fitted and worn correctly.

If you're unsure about anything or need a hand getting kitted up, please ask. Scrutineers and officials are there to help and will continue to carry out PPE checks at events. Where PPE doesn't meet the required safety standards, they may need to take further action. Ultimately, these checks are about making sure you have the protection you need and helping everyone enjoy motorsport as safely as possible.

Class structure

A note for organisers on the correct use of the Stage Rally Class Structure. Following previous guidance in Clerks and Stewards Bulletins, we'd like to clarify that this class structure is a mandatory requirement for all Stage Rallies.

In accordance with Chapter 13 Appendix 24 Article 1.1.1, all Stage Rallies must use the Class Structure as written (1, 2, H1a, H1 etc). Classes should not be given additional event-specific prefixes, such as A1 or S1, or replaced with alternatives such as Class A or Class B.

We'd really appreciate organisers taking a moment to check this when preparing their event documentation. Where the correct Class Structure hasn't been used, the permit will need to be withheld until the necessary amendments have been made, so checking this early will help make the process as smooth as possible for everyone.

Safety cars

If you're part of a safety car convoy, you play an important role in helping make sure stages are safe and ready for everyone. As you travel through the stage, please keep an eye out for anything that may need attention, such as missing signage, tape on the ground or a collapsed box junction. Where possible, please take a moment to resolve it, or let your colleagues know so it can be addressed.

This is particularly important on the second pass of a stage, as things can change after the first run. By staying alert and working together, we can help make sure each stage remains properly set up and ready for the competitors who follow.

Don't forget you can get your radio kit checked on events

If your event uses Motorsport UK radio and safety car equipment, managed by Dom Saunders and Phil Wallbank, you can visit the Motorsport UK van at events to have your radio kit and ancillaries checked, tested and, where possible, repaired.

This service is free of charge, with only the cost of any replacement parts needed. It's a simple way to make sure your equipment is working as it should and ready when you need it.

We're also looking for some additional volunteers to help Dom and Phil manage this valuable resource at events. If you'd like to lend a hand and get involved, we'd love to hear from you. Please email rally@motorsportuk.org.

Current consultation

A consultation is currently open with proposed amendments across Chapter 13 of the National Competition Rules.

The proposals include:

- Sunstrips on Road Rallies
- Separation of Road and Historic Road Rallies within Ch. 13 App. 15
- Rear Aerodynamic Devices
- National RGT Homologation
- HTP requirements for lower capacity Category 5 Historic Rally Cars.

To help make sure you're kept up to date with consultations that are relevant to you, please take a moment to check and reconfirm your notification preferences. Simply visit the Motorsport UK website here, update your email preferences.

You can also sign up for regulation alerts from Motorsport UK on WhatsApp. These short updates are an easy way to keep up with regulatory changes as they happen, helping you stay informed and prepared when planning and running your events. To join, simply click here.

View the latest consultation → https://motorsportuk.org/the-sport/regulations/proposed-changes-for-consultation/

Finally, a big thank you for everything you continue to contribute to our sport. Your time, commitment and support make a real difference to motorsport and the community around it.

We hope you enjoy the rest of the season and wish you all the very best for the events ahead.

Motorsport UK Rallies Team