

Technical

Updates, clarifications and advice

NON-LEAD-ACID BATTERIES

The MSA Technical Department wishes to draw attention to the latest published MSA rule changes, which include a new regulation covering the use of non-lead-acid batteries as the main vehicle battery, with effect from 1 January 2019. The requirement will be for any non-lead-acid battery pack to be either a standard part for that car, or from a manufacturer registered with the MSA. This registration includes a declaration that the batteries produced by this manufacturer conform to all statutory standards such as UN38.3 and are suitable for motor sport use. Manufacturer registration forms are available by contacting the MSA Technical Department on technical@msauk.org and competitors must ensure that the manufacturer of their battery has registered before 2019.

FHR TETHERS

Following a recent query from a competitor, the MSA Technical Department wishes to clarify that Frontal Head Restraint (FHR) tethers do not expire, providing that they are of the correct standard and remain in good condition. Both tether standards – FIA 8858-2010 and FIA 8858-2002 – are currently acceptable, with no intended withdrawal date. The FIA safety website contains a lot of useful information, guidelines and recommendations on the fitment and use of FHRs. Please visit www.fia.com/safety.

MSA APPROVAL STICKERS FOR FHR

Competitors are reminded of the introduction of an approval sticker for Frontal Head Restraint (FHR) devices. This label will provide the same function as the existing MSA helmet stickers and will be applied to the FHR following a detailed inspection confirming suitable condition and compliance with the regulations.



Scrutineers will remove the sticker if the FHR is found to be damaged or not in compliance with the regulations, or if it is involved in a significant accident – in much the same way as with the helmet sticker. The sticker is made of the same material as the helmet sticker, so if removed it will void and cannot be reapplied. Stickers are available directly from scrutineers at a cost of £2.50 – the same as helmet stickers.

TECHNICAL OFFICIALS LISTING ONLINE

The motor sport community is advised that Technical Officials (Scrutineers and Environmental Scrutineers) are not being listed in the MSA Yearbook from 2018. Instead, a full and up-to-date list of all Technical Officials (including Technical Commissioners and Environmental Inspectors) can be found on the MSA website at the following link: www.msauk.org/Resource-Centre/Officials

FIRE EXTINGUISHER INSTALLATION

The image on the left was submitted by an eagle-eyed scrutineer following a recent event. During scrutineering, it was noticed that the fire extinguisher Bowden cable outer simply fed straight through the lower part of the lever. This assembly would give no resistance for the Bowden inner cable to pull against and operate the lever. A correct installation is shown in the right-hand photo, where the outer cable housing positively connects to the lower lever arm using a suitable ferrule.



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