

Cross country co-ordinator's report

It has been a busy summer for the cross country clubs, with events ranging from Tyros to CCV through to comp safaris and, at a more leisurely pace, green road runs.

The Scottish Cross Country Championship rounds have attracted a wide range of entries, from Forrest Estate with 30 (including NORC), Bathgate with 20 and a great deal of mud, to Galashiels with 14. 19 competitors have registered for the SCCC; with only one round to go, and 30 points up for grabs, any one of the top six drivers could win: only fifteen points separate the top four. The top six drivers are David Brose (LR Bowler), Tony Rae (Polaris RZR), Colin Stevenson (Simbugghini), Billy Cruikshank (Land Rover), Alastair Morton and Stuart Heaney (Polaris RZR).

The final round takes place near Rhyndale on the weekend of 22nd/23rd October, courtesy of Laird Alastair and the Buchan Off Road Drivers Club.

For the first visit to this venue, a compact 5-mile course over the arable ground of Craig Castle Estate has been designed. All being well, in future the SCCC should be able to access the more interesting hillside to the north of the estate, or more fields to the south.

Each comp requires an army of volunteers, from venue finders, course builders, set-up crews, officials, marshals, and not forgetting those who spend a great deal of time to reinstate the land after the event. The SCCC organising team is always on the lookout for volunteers to assist in any aspect of the comps – if you'd like to help, please contact Dean Pugh.

The Scottish Borders Hill Rally is taking place at Forrest Estate, on 19th/20th November. All 50 spaces were snapped up within hours of entries being opened, and there is currently a waiting list. As always a significant number of marshals is required to help run the event safely; if you can help in any capacity please contact Dean Pugh (chief marshal) at dean.pugh@virgin.net.

Planning is under way for an inter-association event to be held in 2017; discussions are still at a very early stage, but one of the options being considered is to run this as a comp safari during a regular SCCC Round.

Diana Baines

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