

Background to the North & Midlands Speed Classes & Clarifications.

For years, competitors have struggled with the MSUK Yearbook (the Blue Book) when trying to work out what they can and cannot do to their cars. They also struggled to work out which class their cars were eligible to enter at events, as different organisers gave their sub-classes different numbers, or sometimes described their classes differently, which added to the confusion.

Back in 2003, six event organisers lead by Liverpool MC and North West scrutineers got together to try to formulate a set of classes that would be common to all. They came up with a basic class structure based on the Blue Book categories which included a fairly detailed appendix that laid down in simple terms what a competitor could do or not do to their car to fit in a particular class. The structure and clarifications were adopted by all 6 organisers and became known as the North West Classes & Clarifications and provided for extra classes for one-make championships etc to be added to suit local demand.

Over time, the classes proved to be so successful that other organisers adopted the class structure and asked to be consulted when the structure was reviewed at the end of each year. Because so many other organisers were basing their own class structure on them, they became the **North and Midlands Speed Classes & Clarifications** and are now used by most speed event and championship organisers from the Scottish borders down to the South Midlands and even beyond.

Over time, many of the clarifications have been adopted by Motorsport UK and incorporated into the Blue Book which has allowed us to slim down the original two and a half pages of clarifications to the half-page we see today.

Far from these being just Liverpool MC's regulations, they form a common framework that is used by over 20 event and championship organisers when preparing their own regs.

Each year we review the classes to see if any changes need to be made and although changes are rare these days, suggestions are welcome from all participants.

Whilst the Classes & Clarifications are not compulsory, adoption of the structure does help competitors when entering events, particularly those who compete on the events of several different organisers. If you find an event that uses a different class structure and would like to see them change to the one you are used to seeing, then why not suggest they adopt the **North and Midlands Speed Classes & Clarifications**.

John Harden, Liverpool MC.