Officials Newsletter 2012
United States Formula 1 GP

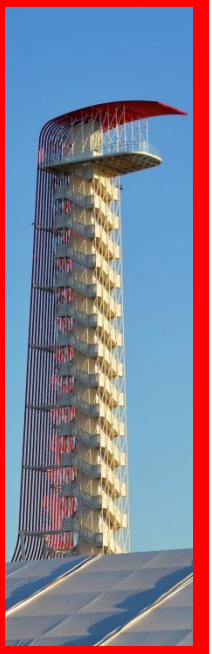
The 325 World Officials

We are 325 dedicated volunteer race marshals and officials. We represent the United States and at least eight other countries, including Australia, Bermuda, Canada, France, Ireland, Mexico, Spain and the UK. There was a lot of interest from India marshals, but they didn't come. Maybe next year?

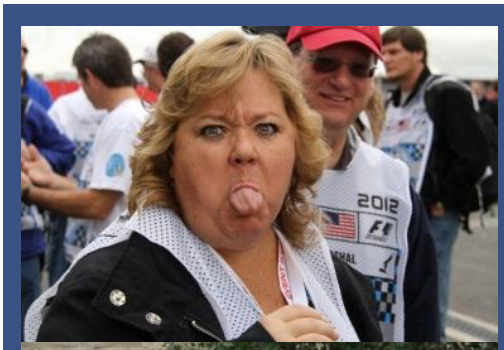
We work with one of five teams of race officials and marshals - Equipment, Flagging & Communications, Pit & Grid, Scrutineers, and Start. The Americans mostly come from SCCA (Sports Car Club of America), but they also represent Grand-Am, IMSA (International Motor Sports Association) and USAC (United States Auto Club).

DENNIS DEAN, long-time member of San Francisco Region SCCA, has worked ten F1 races as Scrutineer, eight of which have been as the assigned Scrutineer to the McLaren team at Indianapolis. Dennis is also on the FIA Land Speed Commission.

BRUCE ENDICOTT, dual member of Chicago and Oregon Regions of SCCA has worked 67 F1 races, and this is his forty-third season in racing. LOU GIALLANELLA of Northern New Jersey Region SCCA has been flagging since 1978 and has worked 56 Grand Prix's.







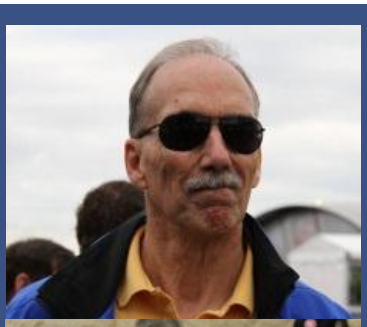


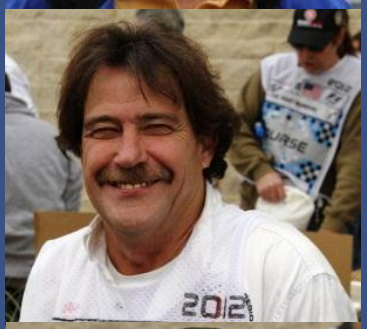














The Officials Newsletter needs you. During the 2012 Formula 1 United States GP please email any news and photos from your working area. The more you send the more we can print. Email to richardm@windsorcaravans.com.au

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Hello from around the world

We all come from the same family; the world-wide Motorsport family. But who are we and who am I?

The Motorsport family is an gigantic family that understands the joy, late nights, heartache, early mornings, long days and also night racing. We endure the cold, we survive the heat and at times we suffer through rain and sleet but who are we? Well, at times we are crazy and at times we struggle to wake for the early coach at 5:15am.

Whilst, we might talk about how early it is, how late we went to sleep or if this or that is not what we are used to, but the one thing we should all agree on is the Circuit of the America's is a brilliant race track. Sure it is new and shiny but the elevation changes, the long uphill main straight, pit lane, corners and corporate facilities are ALL impressive. We all know when we see a good circuit and we all know when we see a great circuit, and this is a great circuit.

Like all brand new events there will be teething problems, like a dark marshal central Friday morning, but given time these minor hiccups will be rectified and we can enjoy the whole experience. Perfect practice makes perfect and at race meetings the cream always rises to the top. So work with the people in your team and work to provide suggestions and constructive criticism so the event can grow and improve.

Who are you and why are you here? Only you know that but it's easy and complicated at the same time. Many have come to the COTA simply to be a part of the first race. Many have come because they live local and many have come from interstate and a few from overseas. Are you a flags expert, a trainee looking to put that first notch on the belt, do you work in race control or are you here simply to help out in any way you can.

Whatever you do and wherever you work make sure you keep safe, listen to your sector marshals, follow race control and always be safe. Formula 1 is very experienced and has been travelling for my years so during this, the penultimate race meeting in 2012, make sure you enjoy this slice of history.

Who am I? Well my name is Richard McLean and I have travelled from Melbourne Australia to assist my friend Lynne Huntting from San Francisco to provide you this Official's Newsletter. Lynne has been travelling to Australia for twenty years so I felt I owed her a few favors.

I have attended fourteen Australian Formula 1 Grand Prix's plus officiated for as long as I care to remember at the Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit my home track. Along the way I have worked trackside in various roles for many years, pit lane and now for the Confederation of Australian Motor Sport (CAMS), our ASN, as Editor of the CAMS Australian 'Officials Gazette'.

Along with my colleagues Michael Shaw who has travelled from Sydney Australia and Ron Searle, an Australian currently working in Qatar, both experienced photographers, we are here primarily to assist Lynne Huntting to provide you the very best Officials Newsletter we can.

This is our first attempt at a Newsletter in the US so work with us as it will be hard to get to you all because we do not have Officials access around the circuit like we do at the Melbourne Formula 1 Grand Prix. Please seek us out on the coach trip out and back from the circuit, at Marshals Central and also at the Drury Inn over a beer or wine.

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Snoop with Lynne

SELINA SPILMAN has dual citizenship in Bermuda and the US, and with her family has been traveling to races in the United States. They all are big F1 fans, and when the chance came to work the Detroit Grand Prix, that was the beginning for Selina. She is excited about getting back into F1 racing. Selina came from Detroit and that is her SCCA Region of Record.

DIEGO and MARCO MERINO are from Spain where they work Formula One races as well as F1 testing at Jerez and Valencia. They mainly work as Scrutineers and this week are working in the F1 garage. Marco is working with Toro Rosso, and Diego is a roaming Scrutineer.

Marco, the Dad, has been working Formula One races since the eighties including two in the US - Dallas and Austin. He also worked Grand Prix's in Abu Dhabi, Australia, India, Italy, Mexico and Singapore.

Diego, the son has worked extensively in F1, on four continents, and in 2012 he worked Australia, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain, Valencia, and now Austin. He is so stoked about Texas that it will be one of his two must-do races every year. The other is AGP.

RUDY VAN WOEROOM of Edmonton, Canada has worked 22 Formula One races. To be continued in Sunday's edition…

Former CART driver, JOHN JONES of Canada, will be the personal driver for FIA President JEAN TODT and the McLaren cars will feature Verizon rather than Vodafone, for this American race weekend only, to celebrate the first ever Austin GP

MARSHALS/TRACK SYSTEMS CHECK - Thursday of race weekend a group of senior officials did a systems check of the track equipment, especially on the turn stations. Emergency response vehicles were driven at speed for many hot laps. The four were Medical Car 1 and Medical Car 2, plus Safety Car 1 and Safety Car 2. No one is copping to who was driving what, but they were timed, as part of the systems check. They were fast clocked in order, with Medical 2 tops, followed by Safety 1, Safety 2 and Medical 1.

The only time displayed was 2:30.647 for Safety 1. Compare that to the reported 1:42 turned by MARIO ANDRETTI in his 1979 Lotus JPS Special F1 car, and the fastest Friday morning Formula One practice time of SEBASTIAN VETTEL/Red Bull Racing at 1:38.125. The past World Champion pulled that lap out of his helmet on his last flying lap of P1.



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Caption Contest

When it comes to comedy the whole world laughs at situations. In Australia we have run a Caption Contest for many years with the Top Five (if there are five good ones) published in order.

Grab the bragging rights and enter the contest by simply leaving your caption entry to this photo in the Marshals Centre Saturday morning before heading out to the circuit:

Caption:.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
Name and Corner/Team:
.....
.....



Bernie's Austin Weekend

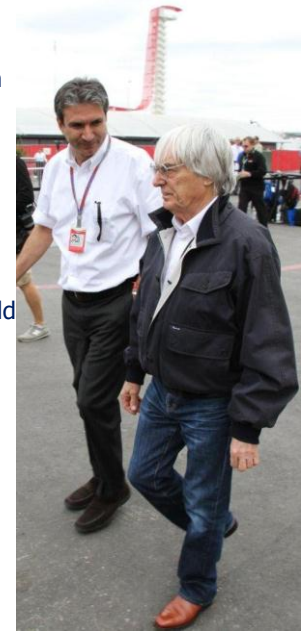
BERNIE ECCLESTONE

"It's good to be back in America. It drew big crowds.

It's a different product that can't be compared to other racing. The track is absolutely super. The way it should be.

It will be good if the event is successful."

Austin is known as Quirky; Bernie thinks "it's F1."



Out on the track







