

Silverstone Marshals Team

An introduction to Marshalling at Silverstone



Marshalling at Silverstone

Silverstone are hugely appreciative of the time and commitment given to us by our marshals.

Motorsport events at Silverstone rely on volunteers to ensure that they are run smoothly and safely. Whether it's a Grand Prix, or a club-level meeting, marshals are a vital part of the pits, paddock and trackside team.

To organise any race event requires an army of volunteers, usually many more than the number of competitors! These volunteers carry out a wide range of duties, all of which contribute to the overall efficiency and success of the event.

As a marshal, you will be joining a band of enthusiasts who have a passion for motorsport and through active marshalling clubs, an interesting social life.

To find out more about volunteering as a marshal, read on...

Marshalling at Silverstone

Marshalling at Silverstone is a great way to get involved in motorsport. Not only will it give you the opportunity to gain new skills, you will also have the opportunity to make life-long friends and have some fantastic experiences.

All marshals start as trainees, and will mainly work 'track-side'. This will enable you to learn basic marshalling skills before branching out to other areas.

As you gain more experience and complete the relevant training, more roles will become available to you:

Flag marshalling - communicating risks and hazards quickly and efficiently to drivers

Assembly/Paddock - ensuring the correct drivers get out onto the circuit (to practice or race), safely and efficiently

Start-line - ensuring the safety of the grid and the correct positioning of cars

And many more, such as Rescue, Recovery, and Pits.

All of these roles are taken on by volunteer marshals!



Volunteering

You can volunteer for as many race meetings at as many different circuits as you wish.

Members of the Silverstone Marshals Team can volunteer for most events held at Silverstone (special rules apply for the Grand prix and MotoGP)

Remember:

- If you join, you will have access to our online portal where you can keep track of the events you have signed up to
- Try not to sign up to too many events to begin with, you can always add more later
- You don't need to be available for a whole event to volunteer for it, you can do as many or as few days as you like. (Unless otherwise notified)
- If you are unable to attend an event you have signed up to, please let the team know as soon as you can
- If you are a member of various marshal clubs, you only need to sign up to an event through one club
- You can't sign up to more than one event taking place on the same day

Training

Training forms a critical part of your development as a marshal and allows you to broaden your skills as you progress through the grading scheme.

Training is organised and paid for by Silverstone (you can also attend Training Days at other circuits depending on which marshals clubs you are members of). If you attend training through the Silverstone Marshals Team, training will take place on site at Silverstone.

These training days are a combination of classroom and practical sessions. They are designed to guide you through the basics of marshalling and allow you to develop your marshalling career as your skills and experience grows.

Training and development is not restricted to specific training courses, it happens every time you marshal!

'On the job' training and development starts on your first day of marshalling and will continue throughout your marshalling career. The team you marshal with on your first day will provide an insight into marshalling and help to support and guide you

You've volunteered, now what?

In advance of your first day read any instructions sent to you well in advance, making sure you know where you need to sign on and at what time.

Check you have correct tickets or passes (These will be sent to you)

Your First Day

When you arrive at sign-on, let them know it is your first day. You will be allocated a post for the day which you will be able to drive to after sign-on. If you are not sure where the post is, don't be afraid to ask!

Remember to leave sign-on in plenty of time to reach your post and drive carefully. The circuit's internal roads have a speed limit of 20mph. Make sure to park in a safe place. You will be provided with a map that will detail all relevant information.

When you get to your allocated post, sign on with your Incident Officer and Post Chief who will be expecting you and let them know your level of experience!

Marshal's post – who's in charge?

Each post around the circuit has a number of marshals allocated to it. This will vary depending on how many marshals are at the event, and where the post is on the track. The hierarchy of the post is show below.



*Silverstone's post hierarchy is not recognised at all circuits

What to bring and wear on the day

Most marshals wear overalls. When you join Silverstone Marshals Team, you will be provided with your first pair of overalls free of charge and replacements every three years. Other Safetywear items you will need to purchase for yourself, but please come along to a couple of events to see if marshalling is for you before you make any kind of investment.

Until then, please wear:

- Natural fibres
- Loose fitting gloves
- Stout boots

Don't wear colours that clash with flags (yellow, red, or light blue) and always cover your arms

You should also bring:

- Waterproofs
- A hat – for hot and cold weather
- Ear plugs or ear defenders (optional)
- Sun cream
- Layers of clothing

(Food and refreshment will be provided)



Grading - why is there a grading system

- It acknowledges a marshals experience
- It provides a structure for gaining new skills
- It helps the chief marshal to allocate marshals to roles that match their experience

On the opposite page is an overview of how the grading upgrade system works. All marshals start as trainees and need to register with Motorsport UK (to become a registered Marshal). A Motorsport UK registration form will be given to you when you joining the Silverstone Marshals Team. Motorsport UK will then send you a grading book which you will use to collect attendance signatures from the Incident Officer or Post Chief. These signatures are important as they will go towards your upgrade from trainee.

Most marshals work towards the 'track marshal' grade first, as this covers all basic skills and knowledge. They then consider progressing to other specialist grades such as 'Pits'.

Upgrade system chart

Trainee to Track

- 15 x attendance days including 2 x flag days
- 2 x Assessment - 1 x Incident and 1 x Flag (Track assessment first, then Flag. An incident assessment signature can be acquired if Marshal is actively involved in a major incident. The Post Chief should make this call)
- 1 x Training Day - Modules Fire, Flag and Basic Marshalling



Track to Experienced Track

- 20 x attendance days including 5 x flag days
- 2 x Assessment - 1 x Incident and 1 x Flag
- 2 x Training Day (12 months apart) - Modules: Fire, Flag and Basic Marshalling

Incident Officer

- 20 x attendance days as a Trainee Incident Officer
- 1 x Assessment
- 1 x Training Day - Modules: Fire, Incident Officer, Report Writing, Communication & Leadership

You should liaise with the Chief IO as they will advise you on who they want to train as an IO.

Flag

- 15 x attendance days including 5 x Incident
- 1 x Assessment
- 1 x Training Day - Modules: Flag, Report Writing & Communication



Post Chief

- 20 x attendance days
- 1 x Assessment
- 2 x Training Day - Modules: Fire, Incident, Report Writing, Communication & Leadership



Examining Post Chief

- 20 x attendance days
- 1 x Club Recommendation
- 2 x Training Day - Modules, Self Assessment, Leadership & Mentoring



During sessions

Do

- Stay alert
- Watch the race traffic
- Look for problems (loose bodywork, spillages, falling objects, driver behaviour, spectators, and media)

Don't

- Smoke
- Use your mobile
- Sit or kneel
- Stand in large groups
- Stand with your back to the traffic

Joining the Silverstone Marshals Team

Thank you for taking the time to read our introduction to marshalling at Silverstone! If you are still interested, the next step is to join us for a Taster Day to see if marshalling is for you.

If you are interested in attending a Taster Day, please contact: **marshal@silverstone.co.uk** and a member of the team will get back to you as soon as possible.

See you on the circuit!

