



# NATIONAL AUTOGRASS SPORT ASSOCIATION LTD

## NASA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICIALS 2020-21

**NASA's AGM is to be held on Sunday 29 November 2020. Clearly in current circumstances it will not be advisable, or even possible, so hold this meeting in its normal format as an "open day" at Walsall, when the voting "full members" (currently 20 in total) are permitted to invite visitors or observers from their leagues' members. Fortunately, temporary changes in company law will give us the flexibility we need to complete the essential business of the meeting. The full members will receive a more detailed note of the proposed procedures. The following notes are intended both for the full members and to inform the general membership on whose behalf the full members (elected as representatives of their league members) will be casting their votes.**

The main items on the AGM agenda are:

**ELECTION OF DIRECTORS** – *There are five candidates for election to the Board; three current directors standing for re-election (one third of the Board must be re-elected each year), and two new candidates.*

*Members will be advised to vote "for" or "against" the resolution to appoint each candidate. Any candidates with more votes "against" than "for" will be eliminated.*

*There are currently three places available to make up the Board's predetermined number of eleven directors. Under the By-Laws of NASA, the number of directors to hold office at any one time will be determined by the Board, subject to the maximum and minimum number laid down in the Articles of Association. For several years this number was set at ten, although the actual number of directors dropped as low as seven at one point. In 2019 it was agreed that the number would be increased to eleven, which is currently considered to be the maximum practical number for the efficient management of Board business.*

*Therefore, following the completion of voting for each individual, the candidates with the highest number of votes "for" their appointment will be selected to fill the available number of positions.*

*If there is a tied vote that affects the candidates to be appointed, a second vote will be taken between those candidates. Should the second vote fail to resolve the tie, the by-Laws require that the Director chairing the AGM will have a casting vote.*

<b>Position</b>	<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Proposed by</b>	<b>Seconded by</b>
<b>Director</b>	<b>Margaret Allen</b>	<i>Barry Thomas</i>	<i>Ernie Ashley</i>
<b>Director</b>	<b>Barbara Harper</b>	<i>Rhys Wyeth</i>	<i>Ernie Ashley, Barry Thomas and Pete West</i>
<b>Director</b>	<b>Ray Wyeth</b>	<i>Barry Holloway</i>	<i>Ernie Ashley</i>
<b>Director</b>	<b>Chris Allanson</b>	<i>Derek Linch</i>	<i>Pete West</i>
<b>Director</b>	<b>Simon Farrar</b>	<i>Dave Mansfield</i>	<i>Sue Nicholls</i>



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*On the following pages, each of the candidates give you more details, in their own words, of their roles within the sport and their intentions, or visions for the future. We should stress that these are personal statements presented to inform NASA members, and the Board do not make any comments on these.*

**OTHER NASA OFFICIALS** – *the positions of NASA Chairman, NASA Vice Chairman, NASA Scrutineers and NASA Chief and Assistant Chief Marshals were elected for the 2020 season. It has been agreed by the Board and the NASA Chairman that, because these officials have not had the opportunity to carry out the major part of their roles during 2020, these positions will carry over to 2021.*

**OTHER AGM BUSINESS** – *the agenda for the company AGM will also include formal approval of the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2019. This is usually dealt with earlier in the year, at a general meeting in June, but of course it was not practical to hold such a meeting this year. The Full Members should receive a copy of the accounts together with these notes. The only other necessary resolutions of the company AGM are to re-appoint the auditors and authorise the directors to agree the auditors' remuneration.*

**THE LEAGUE REPRESENTATIVES' AGM** – *this forum is normally used to deliver individual directors' and officials' reports, elect the non-Board officials and invite members to raise issues through their League Representatives in "any other business". Any League Rep with items for the agenda should submit these either via Diane Tomkinson (as Association Secretary) or Graham Bennett (as Association Chairman). Any other member who would like an issue raised should contact their League Representative, as follows:*

Darrell Wasley	<i>East Midland League</i>
Mike Mumford	<i>Gloucestershire League</i>
Barry Thomas	<i>South Wales League</i>
Rhys Wyeth	<i>Southern League</i>
Tony Griffiths	<i>West Midland League</i>
Barry Holloway	<i>MAP League</i>
David Mansfield	<i>North Western League</i>
Anthony Read	<i>North Yorkshire League</i>
Clarissa Johnson	<i>Yorkshire League</i>
David Robins	<i>East Anglian League</i>
Ernie Ashley	<i>Shropshire League</i>
Peter West	<i>CGTRO League</i>
Derek Linch	<i>Kent League</i>
Sue Nicholls	<i>The Dales League</i>
Howard Thomas	<i>Northern Ireland League</i>
Simon Jackson	<i>Wiltshire League</i>
Ricky Houlihan	<i>Southern Ireland League</i>
Chamelle Clayton	<i>Fenland League</i>
Duncan Robertson	<i>Scottish League</i>



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### **MARGARET ALLEN**

#### **Standing for re-election as NASA Director**

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I have been a director for 23 years, but was the treasurer for 10 years before that. I have always tried to, not just make sure that I do all I can to help any club or league, but be a full and helpful member of the board. This year has been most difficult, but I am sure we will get past it and move forward.

I also have looked after the insurance side of the sport since 2007, and have and will always make sure we get the best deal we can. Helping anyone who is hurt I make sure that they are dealt with and get the best help from the Insurers.

I would like to be able to carry on doing these two jobs and doing my best for the Sport.

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### **BARBARA HARPER**

#### **Standing for re-election as NASA Director**

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<b>Name</b>	Barbara Ann Harper
<b>Address</b>	15 Kent Crescent South Wigston Leicester LE18 4XQ
<b>Telephone</b>	0116 2785502 (07702 433 967 Mobile)
<b>Occupation</b>	Receptionist/Administration
<b>Present NASA Status</b>	Director/Registration Co-Ordinator/Honorary Member
<b>Previous History</b>	
<b>1976</b>	First started racing and still race today
<b>1979 to present day</b>	Treasurer and Assistant Secretary for the Melton Club
<b>1980-1981</b>	Chairman for the Melton Club
<b>1980's</b>	East Midlands League Secretary for 3 years for which was made an Honorary Life Member of the League
<b>1981 to present day</b>	Joined NASA Committee as Registration Co-ordinator to organise licensing system
<b>1983 to present day</b>	Became an Original Subscriber and Director when NASA became a limited company, (20.11.83) and am now an honorary member.



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**BARBARA HARPER** *(continued)*

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### **Job description**

I am in charge of the licensing system for the country and have 7 girls working for me who issue licences on behalf of NASA and who liaise very closely with me. All licences are then put on computer by me. I also deal with sorting out the allocations and all relevant work in that connection for the Men's Nationals. I also process the application forms for the Ladies and Junior's Nationals. I am on duty at the Men's event to sort out substitutes and reserves and at both events for sorting out the racing permutations and work in Pits Control at both nationals.

### **Extended job description**

NASA Director Responsible for sorting out nationals which drivers will be going and NASA Registration Co-Ordinator – all aspects of licensing system

Licences – girls under me issuing them

Licences on PC's and producing print outs as and when required during the season

Collating information from signing on sheets and sorting out queries and then putting this information forward to do the allocations for mens Nationals.

Receiving lists of nominated drivers for nationals and sorting out programme (drivers lists) and producing information to host league and then handing down places given back and producing reallocation sheet together with numbers of cars list for doing allocations sorting out permutations for nationals.

At the same time collating all application forms for the ladies and juniors nationals and producing programme of drivers etc and informing all leagues of their list of applicants taking place at the nationals, producing a list so that the host league can invoice each league individually for the cost of each applicant.

On the board of directors attending all board meetings and chairmans meetings.

Also attending both nationals and sorting out reserve and subs at mens and amending permutation sheets etc.

At ladies and juniors sorting out the racing.

Attending in Pits Control to oversee what is happening in there at both Mens and Ladies.

### **2020 different roles**

This year has been very different with the Covid Pandemic, so whilst still sorting out all the licences, I have contributed to the NASA guidelines for Covid by accepting all the applicant lists for the practice days that are being held by clubs and checking through them all so clubs can pre-write out their signing on sheets in readiness for the meeting and therefore hold all the Track and Trace information of drivers at the practice days.



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### RAY WYETH

#### Standing for re-election as NASA Director

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##### Employment

Skilled mechanical service engineer on water features and irrigation systems on construction sites all over the UK.

##### Autograss History

- 1985** Joined Weymouth club with a Class 3.
- 1988** Voted committee member with Weymouth club.
- 1991** Elected chairman of Weymouth club.
- 1993** Elected chairman of the southern league.
- 1996** Stepped down due to work commitments.
- 1997** Joined South Somerset.
- 1998** Elected vice chairman of South Somerset, also in this year I was voted on as NASA vice chairman where my duties included inspecting NASA club track.  
I have also commentated at the Men's and Ladies/Junior Nationals.
- 2002** New job venture, which is still my current job after nearly 17 years, forced me to stand down.  
Raced Class 6 for many years
- 2011** Took up marshalling at both Men's and Ladies/Junior Nationals and at many large meetings including the MAP/BAS and UK'S
- 2014 – 2020** Took over as Southern League chairman until present, standing down this year to hopefully focus on being a director. In 2019 I was proud to lead the Southern League when we held the Ladies' and Juniors' Nationals and in 2018 ran a BAS round, which we organised in 2 weeks, and a number of successful UKAC rounds.

I would like to re-stand as a NASA director as I have a lot more to contribute to the sport. I have been a director for the last two years. This year especially has been a challenge due to COVID-19, which has been a real eye opener and feel proud I have helped a good number of league/clubs and members to some sort of normality to attend to a somewhat restricted test/practice day.

I have also taken a role in track inspections, which I've enjoyed and hope to continue doing. I am more than willing to be a part of whatever challenges may come next year, and the years after, for this awesome sport.

I pride myself on being approachable to anyone and willing to help anyone I can if I am able to, if not I will try and direct them to someone who can help.



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### **CHRIS ALLANSON**

#### **Standing for election as NASA Director**

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##### **Who am I?**

Let me introduce myself.....

My name is: Chris Allanson, I live in Aldborough in the East Riding of Yorkshire with my wife Jackie and family

I wish to tell you something about myself and set out for you my aims and objectives if I was to be elected as a NASA director.

I'm 62yrs old and am a retired police officer and business man, having attended school locally and lived and worked in the Yorkshire/Humberside area all of my life.

I started racing Autograss in 1978 and I continue to race now in Classes 3 and 10. I have won many championships over the years I have raced - it continues to be my great passion

##### **What is my history in and out of Autograss?**

I left school at 16 years of age, having attained 12 O level qualifications, and went to work on a farm until I was 20, at which time I joined the Humberside Police Force.

My police career was centred around Bridlington and Hull City centre and latterly I became the only detective covering the Pocklington area, which was some 400 miles area of rural Humberside.

During my time in the police force I covered everything from minor crime to child abuse and murder. My training allowed me to deal with everything in a thorough and considered manner in order to bring the offenders to justice - this ensured I never lost a court case throughout my career. This was due to the fact that the preparation and execution of the investigation and associated paperwork was completed to the highest standards, withstanding scrutiny by the highly qualified judges and barristers in the court process. I left the police force in 2004

My company Z Cars had been running alongside my police career and for a while I had in effect two jobs, whilst also bringing up four young children.

Although I had built cars in Classes 8, 9 and 10 for myself, I was constantly being asked to complete customer cars and with my police career now over I was able to concentrate on building cars. My time in Autograss saw me introduce trailing arms to the sport which have been developed and are still used today - and I was the first constructor to build and race a twin engine car - which suffered many complaints from officials.....but look at them now!!!

I was also instrumental in the introduction of the Junior Specials, building a car just so that it could be trialled, and therefore prove that it would be a worthwhile addition to the sport and that the young people who were going to drive them would be well able to do so. Again without question a great move forward.

In addition to this I built high performance race cars for export all over the world. When I left the police I employed four people. As the development continued and the business grew this became 26, all engaged in the building and development of race cars. This business was eventually sold. For more information on Z Cars search 'Tour of Z Cars' on You Tube



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**CHRIS ALLANSON** (*continued*)

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My next venture was to set up and develop Fastmast Ltd in 2010. Having set up Z Cars from scratch, it gave me the insight into building a business with minimal investment and again this has grown to be an incredibly successful business - building a team to deal with new challenges - and getting the correct skills in place to get the job done.

### **What would be my aims and objectives as a Director?**

It's an 'easy' option to moan about NASA - we are all guilty of it - including myself! But due to an incident which took place at Yorkshire Dales earlier this year, the manner in which it was dealt with and the subsequent disciplining of Simon Farrar I have decided that to implement change you need to 'get involved'.

I believe in 'fair play' and don't condone 'bullying' in any way shape or form!

If I am elected to the board I would like to change a number of things which I think would benefit both the members and the sport itself, but I can't do this alone nor would I want to - we are in this together!

During my recent research I have learned a lot more about the structure of NASA and how the rules should be implemented:

- Who runs the sport?
- How are the rules structured?
- Who implements them?
- How are disciplinary issues dealt with?

I started to look into how NASA is structured and to examine whether or not it was being run in the framework set out in the 'Articles of Association' and its corresponding 'By-Laws' - what are they.....you may well ask! Could it be improved by a better understanding and better communication within the sport by the members?

I was astonished to learn that the 'full members of NASA' control the sport (see the By-Laws section 2.4) i.e. your league chairman/or league delegate is your full member.....and the directors, there are 11 of them - although elected by the members, the directors - do not hold the ultimate power (see document section 2.5) your league chairmen/league delegates do!

The board of directors are appointed to run the 'day to day' running of the business, after all National Autograss is in essence a 'business'. The remainder of their tasks are those that the members wish implemented (or that's how it should work). Even many of your league chairmen/delegates are not aware of this.

I suggest that all members get a digital copy of these documents, they will assist you in becoming a useful and informed member of the sport, they are available to all - you just have to request them.

So you can go direct to the board - but they don't need to adhere to your request. But if you suggest or complain to your club, who then take it to the league, who then take it to NASA through your full member (your league chairman/delegate)- it HAS to be dealt with. As long as all the voting procedures have been dealt with in the correct manner then they are compelled to implement 'your' wishes.

Currently going through club/league/directors is time consuming and can take months..... for the issue to be shelved without resolution. I would aim to streamline and speed up this procedure by implementing an online system and process.



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**CHRIS ALLANSON** *(continued)*

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As with any company, its' only as good as the structure and people who are running it. If I was successful I would like to see some changes to update and streamline the sport - while saving money to be re-invested in Autograss.

I would like to carry out a review of all expenses and procedures to see if they can be improved and updated. Looking at the accounts of NASA for the year ending 2019 shows that over £17k was claimed on mileage expenses and £3k on postage..... We continue to pay all bills by cheque! This is both expensive and antiquated - it's time to move on!

We need to be nimbler on decision making. Meetings need to be updated, possibly moved online wherever possible (the current Covid situation has proved this is achievable). The commitment to attend meetings at Walsall is immense and for those living in the extreme areas such as Scotland or Ireland or even Kent - it can be both expensive and time consuming and just simply not feasible when the meeting achieves little or nothing.

From my fellow directors:

- I would expect all members of the board to conduct themselves in a proper manner at all times and to treat members courteously and respectfully.
- I would expect them to adhere to their own constitution at all times
- I would expect them to act in the best interests of the sport and its members at all times.

To those of you who have been involved in the sport for a long time - and have attended NASA meetings, as either a scrutineer, a marshal, a safety officer or a chairman.....have you ever come home and thought 'what a good meeting that was we achieved a lot today' I'm betting it's few and far between - if ever!

Traditionally we change an odd director at a time, and they enter the board where they have good intentions initially, but they are outvoted by existing members who are resistant to change. This year you have two candidates - with the same aims and intentions

In addition to that you already have Graham Bennett in place as Chairman of the Chairmen/League Reps (your full members) who is very active on behalf of the members. This is a great opportunity should the members wish to take it and implement real change. This is no SCS Sale, the opportunity may never come along ever or perhaps not for a very long time.

I do believe that taking into consideration the personalities involved the fact that we now know that actually we can physically change things for the better - then it will happen.

My indications are that some existing board members have been frustrated for some time and they would welcome the opportunity to work in a positive 'can do' manner, rather than always saying 'no - you can't do that'

Its a known fact that there are some members who have been very involved in the past and given good service but then become disenchanted with how NASA is run. Many of these people would re-engage and help once again if they could see that things were starting to move forwards.

I have already got support from additional members who would be willing to step into the breach and volunteer to help out and I'm open to taking offers for specific jobs should that be necessary. I'm also willing to speak to anyone else who feels they can contribute in any way.





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**CHRIS ALLANSON** (*continued*)

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I understand that some of the board have indicated that they would leave if myself and Simon were successful in being appointed - however maybe it would be better for them to go now rather than have a fractured board fighting itself from within. Should any of the board choose to step down - then it speaks volumes for their commitment to the job they were doing.

Don't fear change - its the catalyst for a better future! I feel change is overdue. This isn't possible without a mandate from the clubs and leagues around the country. This change is for you - and needs to come from and benefit, all levels of the sport

Given the opportunity I will work tirelessly to support, promote and improve the sport I have been passionate about as a successful driver, constructor and supporter.

### **Covid.....and 2021**

For the immediate future I would like to see racing commence in 2021 within the constraints of National Covid Regulations of course - but not allowing it to strangle Autograss - we need to protect our sport too by not imposing 'our own rules' over and above what is required. This is not going to go away - we need to live with it and adapt with that in mind perhaps look at differing ways to run championships and events.

### **Summary**

Finally- this will be the most difficult task I have ever set out to be involved in. No one person can achieve the modernisation of the sport alone. Whoever is on the board after this year's election will have to integrate within the team and pull together towards one goal and vision.

We will need the support of every member, driver, mechanic, scrutineer, chairman, marshal, safety officer etc - EVERYONE!

### **BUT I WILL MAKE YOU ALL THIS PROMISE**

- I will do everything in my power to achieve whatever you decide to democratically implement.
- I will not lie to you
- I will not lie about you
- I will not lie for you
- If I make a mistake I will hold my hands up - correct it if possible - and move on
- I will act at all times in a respectful and proper manner and oversee that the rest of the board do likewise

If you vote me in I will take that as a mandate to act on your behalf

If you wish to help me achieve these aims then feel free to contact me on 07786 707734, email to: [sales@fastmast.co.uk](mailto:sales@fastmast.co.uk)

Copies of the Articles of Association are available freely online but if you wish I can forward them onto you. The By-laws are only available to paid up members, but if you contact NASA with your license number I'm sure they will forward them to you

Please feel free to ask me any questions.



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## NASA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICIALS 2020-21

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### **SIMON FARRAR**

#### **Standing for election as NASA Director**

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##### **Monsieur Simon Farrar - personal information**

You are most likely to find me in one thing at a race meeting; the Armco, a yellow jacket or the bar. These three pretty much sum me up really - never shy away from something just because it's hard, always ready to get my hands dirty and I like to have fun whilst I am doing it!

I also like to treat people as I would expect to be treated, a great believer in making up my own mind or giving second chances (probably because it takes at least two meetings before people accept me haha). I believe that these traits are what have allowed me to run a continually growing and successful family business.

I step away from the fast paced world of Autograss racing whenever I can to play a round of golf. A tortuous sport to be honest where its difficulty is enough to drive you insane but equally enough to drive (no pun intended) you back again and again. Golf definitely provides a channel for my traits of not shying away from something hard and having fun whilst doing it. Playing with three or four good friends can honestly be the funniest, most annoying, rewarding four hours of your life.

##### **Autograss Racing**

Ah this addictive drug we call Autograss!

###### *The Hook -*

As an eleven year old boy cycling three miles to a scrap yard just to play with cars, stripping parts and hand painting the inside of my dad's in-build Mk1 Escort first Class 3.

The first time working the wrecker at the Lincolnshire showground, being closer than the spectators to these wonderful noisy machines.

Whipping scrap yard Mini engines in and out of my first Junior Mini in under an hour because I was so good at it.

Even my CDT project for my GCSE was building a roll cage for my new Class 1 Mini! I only got a D by the way. My written work was 'lacking' haha.

###### *The Continuation -*

Loving the Class 3 revival of late. Some of the best and closest racing about at present in my humble opinion. The V8s have definitely provided a different angle for the class and I ruddy love the power and the noise!!

We all know that Autograss gets under your skin, in the blood, the DNA, passed on to generations. My own son is now in a Junior Special, although not seemingly the same interest in getting his hands dirty at the moment!!

Since joining Yorkshire Dales I have taken a much bigger interest in the behind the scenes work of the club. I am treasurer and committee member and its bloody hard work for any of you who are not committee members. Once you get behind the scenes the realisation soon hits you of how much work members have to do to keep our clubs going. So please support your clubs as much as possible, get involved on your committees or work parties, wherever you can.



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## NASA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICIALS 2020-21

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**SIMON FARRAR** *(continued)*

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### **NASA Director**

So what am I actually writing all this gumpf for, why are you even interested? Well I hope that a little insight into me and my enjoyment of the sport will help convince you that I am a candidate worthy of helping take our sport forward.

To do this I would like to have a deeper involvement, to help bring ideas to the table, to influence decisions and direction of our sport over the coming years, to be a director.

I haven't had much experience of how our sport is run at the top but I have had an understanding as a driver. I see areas that are crying out for change, to be modernised to help bring Autograss into the 21st century. As one of the clubs that has used a website booking in procedure I can see positives in an automated procedure, not necessarily just for booking in at a race meeting but throughout the sport.

I see and hear a need for improved communication, a better involved membership, a utilisation of members' skill sets.

As some of you may know I set up a Facebook page to do the same, to bring drivers together to provide ideas and experiences from all walks of life and trades to help find solutions to some of the problems we are facing as a sport. This enabled me to put forward a white paper for how Autograss could restart. Whether it was used or not is actually irrelevant as what it did show is there are members out there who are all willing to help and provide their experience to take Autograss forward.

Some may say this page had the opposite effect but generally I believe that having better communication with the members and providing a platform for ideas can only be a positive thing.

I realise that change doesn't happen overnight, it needs time and planning but most of all it needs conversation. I would like to be a part of those conversations, if nothing else I will keep them interesting and inject a little light heartedness. That's just my way :-)

Simon Farrar  
YD24 (Pinky)  
Yorkshire Dales Treasurer  
All round good egg  
07799 534044