



The Vintage Sports Car Club (VSCC) has a long-standing reputation for excellent driving standards. As a result, the VSCC seeks to attract like-minded enthusiasts who share a common dedication towards their cars, using them in the modern day as they were intended to be used in period. The VSCC expects all current and prospective competitors to study and uphold this 'Code of Racing Ethics' and to acknowledge these values when participating in our races.

The Code and its associated disciplinary process concern on track incidents at race meeting only. They are separate to the "VSCC Respect Guidelines". The purpose of this Code is to encourage good driving and where necessary identify drivers who present an increased risk to other drivers. Drivers posing such a risk may be denied entries to future race meetings as part of the VSCC's risk assessment procedure. In all cases the MSUK disciplinary procedures take precedence over this Code.

1. THE VSCC'S RACING ETHOS

- The VSCC is regarded within historic motorsport as a respected environment to come and enjoy racing significant, rare and valuable cars of historical importance.
- The VSCC operates under the permit of the sport's governing bodies, the FIA and Motorsport UK. MSUK state "historic motorsport is a discipline apart in which one of the essential ingredients is a devotion to the cars and their history". Under the jurisdiction of a permitted race meeting, all drivers must attend a briefing where officials reiterate that motor racing is a non-contact sport resulting in no reward other than a trophy, friendship and mutual support.
- One key feature of VSCC racing is that the vast majority of cars compete with no seat belts/harnesses or roll over bars. This is an extremely privileged position, permitted in the interests of preserving the originality of our cars, and it is therefore incumbent on all competitors to always uphold safe standards of driving.
- Competition is of course encouraged but not at the expense of damage to cars and injury to drivers.
- It is acknowledged that the level of driver experience can vary greatly between competitors. These variations in experience must be respected by all competitors. There is often a significant difference in the performance of cars in each grid; some cars being much faster than others, with better brakes and handling. In period, there was a similar disparity in speed across a grid, and this is reflected in our racing today.
- The VSCC provides a rare opportunity to use historic racing cars in the manner for which they were intended. This freedom is to be respected.
- The VSCC recognises that circuit time is expensive. Stoppages of races due to avoidable incidents is unacceptable.
- The VSCC will appoint a Driving Standards Coordinator (DSC) to oversee the implementation of this Code. Their work will be supported by at least one Driving Standards Advisor (DSA) at each race meeting.

2. COMPETITOR COMMITMENT

- VSCC competitors will drive in a responsible manner which avoids contact or near misses with other cars or which forces other cars to leave the track.
- VSCC competitors will not drive in an aggressive, reckless, or negligent manner which risks injury to others and themselves.
- VSCC competitors will give space to other cars to increase the margin of safety.
- VSCC competitors are expected to sacrifice track position and lap time to avoid other cars in a manoeuvre which they are contemplating.

- VSCC competitors will abide by the instructions issued to them in the race regulations and the drivers' briefing.
- VSCC competitors will abide by flag and light panel instructions from marshals around the track and should familiarise themselves as to where the flag points and light panels are located.
- VSCC competitors will comply with all marshals' instructions specifically addressed to them; any penalties imposed on a driver by officials will be accepted with good grace and courtesy.
- Any driver who becomes aware of a mechanical problem, which could lead to the spillage of fluids or fire or which may result in their car being stranded in a dangerous position, will make every effort to pull over away from the track as soon as it is safe to do so, and then to follow the instructions of the marshals. It is not acceptable to attempt to limp back to the pits when leaking fluids, nor is it safe to attempt a repair at the side of the track.
- Drivers of slower cars have a responsibility to be aware of cars which may be likely to overtake them and must diligently use their mirrors.
- Drivers of slower cars should remain consistently on their racing line through corners, move carefully to one side on any straights and not make any sudden changes of direction which could surprise and confuse the driver of a faster car which may be approaching them.
- When overtaking a slower car, the driver of the faster car is to be considered wholly responsible for the safety of the manoeuvre; and unless mitigating evidence appears, will be deemed to be responsible if any contact ensues.
- Whilst a defensive line may be taken to defend ones position, deliberate crowding of a vehicle beyond the edge of the track or any other abnormal change of direction are strictly prohibited. This particularly applies in the braking area
- Drivers will always conduct themselves with courtesy towards all marshals, course officials, representatives of the VSCC, other drivers and their teams.
- No driver will drive a car on track knowing that it is in potentially dangerous condition.
- If a driver has to retire a car from a race due to a mechanical issue incurred during testing or qualifying, they must notify an official of the VSCC, it is not acceptable to simply not turn up to the assembly area.
- It is the responsibility of all drivers to report the dangerous driving of others to the Driving Standards Advisor at a meeting or subsequently to the Driving Standards Coordinator.
- Any driver who participates in VSCC races accepts and agrees to uphold this Code of Racing Ethics and will abide by its principles both in the spirit and to the letter.

3. BREACHES AND CONSEQUENCES

- The VSCC will accept the rulings and decisions of the FIA, Motorsport UK, host circuits, organising authorities, race control and their representatives. Furthermore, the VSCC will provide to the relevant authorities this Code of Racing Ethics and such video and other evidence as may be available to it upon their request.
- In relation to alleged breaches of this Code of Racing Ethics, the VSCC will decide, in consultation with the relevant authorities and in its absolute discretion, whether a driver has breached any provision of the code. The procedure by which such decisions are made is available from the Club Secretary.
- A driver who has is found to have breached this code may be subject to an informal caution, a formal caution or may have their future entries temporarily or permanently refused. The severity of the sanction will depend on the severity of the breach, whether the driver accepts their mistake and whether they have previously been cautioned.
- The VSCC reserves the right to exclude competitors and entrants that it deems to have breached the Code of Racing Ethics from further VSCC events for a duration that they see fit
- The VSCC will publish in its Newsletter anonymised reports of poor driving and the actions taken.

In the preparation of this document, the VSCC would like to thank Duncan Wiltshire and the Motor Racing Legends team for allowing us to base this on their similar document.