

MotoAmerica Marshal and Volunteer Program – General Overview

MotoAmerica enlists the support of volunteers to conduct our events. We would not be able to conduct our events without this support. As such, the volunteer program is extremely important to us.

Descriptions of Marshal and Volunteer Positions

The MotoAmerica volunteer program includes five marshal and volunteer positions:

- Flag Marshal (minimum age, 18 years)
- Track Marshal (minimum age, 18 years)
- Tire Control Marshal (minimum age, 18 years)
- Grid Marshal (minimum age, 16 years)
- Hospitality Volunteer (minimum age, 12 years)

Brief explanations of each of the five positions follow:

Flag Marshals: The main responsibility of Flag Marshals is to give signals to riders using flags, either electronic or fabric, and number boards. The signals are mostly with flags. Number boards are used in conjunction with certain flags when a specific rider needs to be signaled. MotoAmerica now owns and uses marshal operated electronic flags (light panels) as direct replacements for fabric flags at the most important flag posts at each track.

Flag Marshals also communicate with Race Control. This is a two-way process. It is sometimes said that marshals are the eyes and ears of Race Direction. This is especially true for Flag Marshals who are usually in a better position to see what is happening during an incident compared to Track Marshals. Even with modern closed-circuit camera and TV systems, the best view of what is happening is usually by marshals very near to the incident. Race Control relies on Flag Marshals to report the current situation in real time. There are, however, certain flags (such as the red and black flags) that are used only on instruction from Race Control.

MotoAmerica designates Flag Marshals as the primary communicators with Race Control after incidents occur, i.e., they have the responsibility of making the initial report to Race Control after any incident has occurred. Communications are mostly by radio, though land lines in permanent flag post structures are used at two circuits (Barber Motorsports Park and Michelin Raceway Road Atlanta).

Track Marshals: Also known as runners, catch, recovery, corner workers, and several other terms, depending on the track. These marshals are responsible for assisting crashed riders, for retrieving crashed bikes, for clearing debris, for ensuring the track surface is suitable for racing to continue (or start), and for tidying up the circuit after an incident. They also occasionally have to use fire extinguishers and to help with replacing damaged air fence. Track Marshals also communicate with race control via radio to report rider condition (using a special rider response code protocol), to report track condition, and to report certain information about the crashed bike.

Flag Marshals and Track Marshals are known collectively as **Course Marshals**. **Course Marshals** may sometimes be paid for their work. This depends mostly on the framework of MotoAmerica's contract with the track owner, but also on the marshals' experience and commitment to MotoAmerica and marshaling, in general.

At various US circuits, **Flag Marshals** and **Track Marshals** may be referred to as track workers, corner workers, runners, catch, flaggers, F&C (Flagging and Communication) etc. **MotoAmerica uses the terms Flag Marshal and Track Marshal exclusively.** This is intentional, so as to elevate the perception of the positions rhetorically. As is often said, “no marshals, no racing”. **This nomenclature is also aligned with the terminology used with the FIMNA Marshal Licensing Program.**

Grid Marshals: Grid Marshals are those volunteers that assist the Race Operations team with the start of races. They hold the “lollipops” (number signs) that show the row number for riders as they assume their grid positions for the start of races. They wave yellow flags if there is a problem on their row of the grid. They remain near the grid until 2/3 race distance has been completed since race restart is required after any red flag condition that has occurred prior to completion of 2/3 race distance.

Tire Control Marshals: Tire Control Marshals are those volunteers that assist the MotoAmerica Technical team with confirmation of tire program regulations conformance. They report to the MotoAmerica Technical Director. They record numbers on tire stickers that race teams are required to place on tires as part of the tire control program.

Tire Control Marshals work on pit lane and in parc fermé after qualifying sessions and races. Experienced and proven Tire Control Marshals may be asked to support the Technical Team on the grid prior to race starts.

A keen level of awareness is necessary in this role because of the danger associated with working near moving motorbikes. Tire Control Marshals also interact closely with race teams on pit lane, so it is important that they are sensitive to how each team operates. The best policy for a Tire Control Marshal is to attempt to be invisible.

Hospitality Volunteers: In this position, volunteers will be part of the tightest and most fun-loving of all the MotoAmerica Race Operations teams! The work alternates between intense and very relaxed due to the nature of hospitality at our events. In this position, the volunteer will assist with to-go meal packaging and delivery, buffet preparation, re-stocking of drinks and incidentals, clean-up, and other Hospitality related activities. A volunteer may on occasion be asked to serve as a host at the MotoAmerica VIP venue.

Basic requirements for ALL Marshal and Volunteer positions

- Experience is not required. Marshals with proven experience will be given priority, however. Training is provided for all positions.
- **The minimum commitment is for two days – RACE DAYS (Saturday and Sunday for all events except Daytona, which is Friday and Saturday). This is for ALL POSITIONS!** A three-day commitment is much preferred for all positions except Grid Marshals, which have duties on race days only.

Clothing:

- Flag & Track marshals should wear white pants and a white shirt. (see picture below as an example) . International orange is an acceptable alternative.



- Tire Control Marshals and Grid Marshals should wear dark (black preferably) long pants, white shirt, and closed toe shoes:



- All Marshals must wear sleeved shirts/tops, long pants, and closed toe shoes. Sleeveless tops, short pants, sandals, or flip flops are not allowed.
- Hospitality volunteers should dress as they like. This position is often the most intense and most appreciated volunteer position with MotoAmerica.

Rain Gear:

- We are a "rain or shine" sport, so rain gear is needed.
- We ask that all marshals refrain from wearing any rain gear or top-layer clothing with red or yellow coloring. White, clear, black, or navy-blue rain gear is preferred. Other colors may also be acceptable so long as they do not resemble marshal flags.

PPE (Personal Protective Equipment): Flag and Track Marshals should bring high quality gloves, hearing protection, hat/sunshade, and other PPE.

Marshal and Volunteer Program Benefits

Flag and Track Marshals are sometimes eligible for pay. If registered for a paid position, then it is a request to be paid. It is not a guarantee. Eligibility for pay is based on the registrants' marshaling experience and registration order. One may also register for a Flag or Track marshal position as a Volunteer.

Paid Flag and Track Marshals receive monetary compensation from MotoAmerica at the end of an event. The compensation is in the range of \$125-150 per day. Paid marshals also receive a parking pass, and a camping pass. All paid marshals will be required to submit an IRS Form W-9 (2025) if they expect to be paid more than \$600 in total from MotoAmerica in 2025. If for any reason a marshal cannot accept payment from MotoAmerica and/or submit a Form W-9, then the marshal should register as a volunteer.

For Paid Marshals: all meals, beverages, ice, etc. during the event are the marshal's responsibility and will not be provided by MotoAmerica, with one exception – the Marshal and Volunteer Dinner the evening of the first race day at each event. Paid Marshals are an important part of our community and are therefore invited to this dinner!

All **Volunteers** are entitled to meals and beverages at MotoAmerica hospitality, a parking pass, a camping pass, MotoAmerica SWAG, including a token with a value of \$30 redeemable at MotoAmerica Merchandise, and one 3-day guest pass.

We provide a designated camping area at each track for all marshals and volunteers at each event. There is no fee to camp in these areas. The free camping areas do not have electrical or water hook-ups. A camping space with hook-ups can be reserved at most tracks for a fee. Restroom facilities, with showers, will be available for all campers.

A summary of the benefits that we provide is shown in this table:

	Pay	Camping Pass	Parking Pass	Guest Pass	Lunches Thu/Fri/Sat	SWAG	Marshal & Volunteer Dinner
Paid Flag or Track Marshal	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Volunteer Flag or Track Marshal	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Grid Marshal	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tire Control Marshal	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Hospitality Volunteer	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

All Marshals and Volunteers are invited to the Marshal and Volunteer Dinner at MotoAmerica Hospitality the evening of the first race day at each event. We host one or more celebrity guests from the paddock at the dinner for a short talk followed by Q&A.

Marshal and Volunteer Program Administration:

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Please contact Dave and/or Lee with questions.