

Step 4 – Equipment

As a grass roots form of motorsport, there is a strong emphasis on keeping the costs to participate as low as possible whilst not compromising on any aspect of safety. If you want to use your standard road car for sprinting, then there is a mix of mandatory and recommended equipment that each driver will need. As a club, we would always recommend the following list of driver equipment regardless of what vehicle you are competing in.

- Race Helmet
- Gloves
- Overalls
- Fireproof Balaclava

All these items should meet the minimum FIA standards and dates as set out in the current MSUK NCR.

In addition, you will need to make sure you have the following minimum items in order to prepare your car for an event (see preparing your car).

- Timing Strut
- Yellow Battery Tape
- Tow Eyes (front and rear)
- Ignition and Tow Point Stickers
- Race Numbers (stickers) and potentially a background sticker



Step 5 – Preparing Your Road-Going Car / Timing Strut

As this guide is focused on starting out in sprint events, we will focus on preparing a road going car for an event. However, this is just a guide, and you will always need to revert to the specific MSUK NCR and event regulations to ensure that your car meets the necessary requirements.

Timing Strut

Sprint events use a timing beam at the start and at the end of the designated course so that each competitor can be provided with an exact time. To break this beam, a timing strut must be affixed to the front of your car that meets the minimum size and height from the ground. The exact measurements are included in paragraph 11.1 “timing struts” of the MSUK NCR.

https://motorsportuk.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Motorsport-UK_NCR-2025_v5_CH14.pdf

Top Tip – if you visit a sprint event before entering, take note of the large number of ways that people attach the timing strut to their car, how they are made, and from where they may be purchased!



Yellow Tape (Negative Battery Cable)

In order to help with marshalling, it is important to identify the negative terminal and cable on a car battery so that it can be removed quickly if needed. To do this, yellow tape should be wrapped securely around the negative terminal cable.

Tow Eyes (Hooks)

It is mandatory that a towing eye (or hook) is firmly in place at both the front of the car and the rear. The position of these towing eyes should be identified by external stickers / arrows to identify them.

Ignition Sticker

The ignition switch (or cut off) for your vehicle must be clearly identified, together with indicating the direction for switching off (if not a push button).

Race Numbers

As part of the final instructions for each event (see Step 7 – Signing-On for the Event), you will be issued with a unique race number. It is important that this number is fixed to your vehicle so that it can be clearly seen by the event officials and marshals from afar and at speed. (i.e. the numbers should be of a size and a colour that is in contrast to your vehicle colour). Please also note that if you are entering a road going car and driving the vehicle to and from the event, it is a requirement of MSUK that race numbers should not be fixed to your car whilst traveling on public roads.

