



Frequently Asked Questions

Question: How did WAMS start and what does the committee do?

Founded in 2010, WAMS works directly with the FIA Women in Motor Sport Commission, an international body with representatives from each ASN around the world, to assist in the promotion and growth of female participation of women in motor sport. The Australian ASN is the Confederation of Australian Motor Sport (CAMS).

Our aim to increase female participation across all disciplines and positions within motor sport and WAMS has created Core Programs which aid this vision. These include the WAMS Junior Development Scholarship, WAMS Officials Exchange Program, WAMS Weekly Profiles and FIA Women & Motor Sport Commission (WMC) opportunities.

WAMS also encourages activities and initiatives that support the aim of increasing female participation via events run by individuals, clubs, charities and/or other organisations, and will endorse such events providing they meet the terms and conditions set out within the WAMS Endorsement Package.

Each of the WAMS Committee members are proactively involved in the sport and volunteer their time to the Committee and the delivery of WAMS Core Programs.

Question: How can I be a member of WAMS?

WAMS is not a club and does not offer a membership as such. WAMS is a working Committee established to work alongside CAMS, and to develop and support initiatives with CAMS while also providing advice and expertise for the future of women in Australian motor sport.

Question: How can I join the WAMS Committee?

Nominations open for the WAMS Committee in October each year and the application process is promoted on the WAMS website and social media channels. Successful nominees should be prepared to:

- Actively display a commitment to Women in Motor Sport
- Initiate and implement WAMS events and programs to support and increase the participation of Women in Motor Sport
- Pursue opportunities for Government Grants to provide pathways for greater participation and opportunities for Women in Motor Sport

- Communicate with a wide range of stakeholders within CAMS and in the wider Motor Sport community
- Attend meetings monthly committee meetings either at the CAMS national office in Melbourne or via conference call facilities for interstate members, plus be able to contribute to agenda items.

Question: How does WAMS create opportunities for women in motor sport?

While our aim is to increase female participation across all disciplines and positions within motor sport, the Committee cannot take full responsibility for changing the entire landscape of motor sport within Australia. We aim to contribute to this, however, by establishing and executing various Core Programs, WAMS is able to give tangible opportunities to females to assist with their skill development and experience in motor sport. Here are some examples:

WAMS Junior Development Scholarship – each year, WAMS provides a scholarship for junior racers, mostly in karting or state open-wheeler categories, to develop their skills and prepare them for a future career as a driver. The program includes training in the areas of health and fitness, media, driver coaching, mentoring, sport psychology and potentially CAMS Academy camps.

WAMS Officials Exchange Program – every year WAMS provides an exchange program between CAMS in Australia and the Singapore Motor Sports Association to give an official in both countries the opportunity to work in the other, learning new officiating skills, team work, networking opportunities, and the chance to work at an international level motor sport event. Due to the success of the Exchange Program with Singapore, a similar program between Australia and New Zealand was launched in 2016, with more markets being considered in future.

FIA Women & Motor Sport Commission (WMC) opportunities – the FIA is the world’s governing body for motor sport and the WMC is an initiative which aims to create a sports culture which facilitates and values the full participation of women in all aspects of motor sport. From time to time, scholarships, training and programs for female drivers/racers arise where those actively racing in Australia have the opportunity to apply via WAMS. WAMS will then promote such opportunities and assist with the selection process.

WAMS Weekly Profiles – in 2014, WAMS created the Weekly Profiles program whereby all females participation in the sport have a chance to be recognised for their contribution and involvement. Whether individuals are drivers, officials, administrators, mechanics, medics, volunteers or work in other roles, we invite all to take part and have their “15 minutes of fame”. The WAMS Weekly Profiles is also a way for WAMS to assist in educating women about the various roles available and give hope that every female can be involved in some way and make a positive difference sport.

Question: What is a WAMS Endorsement Package?

While WAMS has it’s own Core Programs, the Committee also encourages activities and initiatives created by individuals, clubs, charities and/or other organisations to help promote and increase female participation in motor sport.

The WAMS Endorsement Package is a formal request document which should be filled out by such parties should they wish to have the endorsement and support of WAMS for their event, award giving, partnership or advertisement of goods and services.

It is the first document you should fill in and send to WAMS to sufficiently detail your project plan and enable WAMS to assess each application on its merits, so that WAMS can ensure it is supporting an initiative that does in fact support the vision of increasing and supporting female participation.

Please note that this is not to be used by drivers seeking sponsorship funding.

Question: I'm a female racing driver. Can WAMS sponsor me or help me find sponsorship, or help me find a drive?

WAMS relies on donations and limited sponsorship opportunities to be able to support the current Core Programs listed earlier, and in addition to these programs, its time and financial resources are fully extended. WAMS is a committee of volunteers only.

While WAMS would like to be able to assist with making every driver's hopes of a racing career a reality, the Committee is not in a position to seek or distribute funds to sponsor drivers.

In addition to the opportunities available with our Core Programs, WAMS has an Endorsement Package designed for individuals, groups or clubs who wish to run their own events in line with aiming to increase the participation of women in motor sport which in turn may assist with attracting support.

Question: How can I become involved in various roles in motor sport?

If you have never been involved in motor sport before and think it would be a great opportunity to explore, WAMS is happy to provide as much information as possible to help you make that decision.

A list of potential roles and disciplines is available on our website for you to read through and see which you might like to explore: <http://www.wams.org.au/get-involved/>

From there, should you want to know where to start, be in touch via the "Contact" page.

Question: Can WAMS assist me with career development?

Whilst WAMS supports all females involved in motor sport, unfortunately WAMS is not in a position to assist with this type of request on an individual basis.

WAMS' position within the sport is more of an advisory capacity for CAMS than it is on an individual support level, and the Committee's time and financial resources are fully extended with the Core Programs listed earlier.

However, should a female in motor sport be in touch with WAMS about a certain career enquiry, we will endeavour to give the best direction possible to that individual for them to seek further assistance externally.

Questions: Can WAMS come to my club night?

If you wish for WAMS to be present at your club night, we would appreciate the opportunity to recognise the contribution women are making in your club, and also speak with your members about the progress women are making in motor sport in general.

In addition to our Core Programs, WAMS is always looking to assist clubs where possible and support their own quest to increase female participation in all disciplines and roles in their local area.

Whilst we cannot guarantee the availability of a Committee member to be present at your event, we will work to try and accommodate any request. Information about your event should be sent to the WAMS Committee via email <mailto:info@wams.org.au> with details on the time, date and location of your next three club meetings.

In the meantime, we encourage clubs to view the WAMS Event Endorsement package to see if this can be of benefit, and we encourage you to read the WAMS history document to gain a better understanding of WAMS, its history and the future.

Question: I have a product to advertise or sell to women in motor sport. Can WAMS assist?

WAMS' first responsibility is to promote women in motor sport and to make life easier for them in their career endeavours, whether it be on or off track. However, if you have a product or service that you feel will assist women in motor sport, please send the details through to info@wams.org.au for assessment.

You may also be asked to fill out a WAMS Endorsement Package which will detail to WAMS how you intend to assist WAMS and detail what you are requesting from WAMS.

WAMS may, in its discretion, place the product/service on social media or via any newsletters it sends out. Priority will be given to goods or services which offer all women racers a discount or benefit, in return for advertising. WAMS requests that products/services are made available to our scholarship recipients free of charge or that the organisation makes a donation to WAMS.

If you want to request ongoing support from WAMS for your products, email WAMS about entering into one of our organisational partnership packages. Please note that WAMS is under no obligation to assist any requests and can decline any offers that are not deemed to be in the interests of our vision at any time.

Question: How can I show my support for WAMS?

There are many ways you can show your support for WAMS. The easiest way is to direct your friends, family and fellow motor sport enthusiasts to the WAMS website and social media channels to let them know about the Committee.

If you are a racing driver and wish to display the WAMS logo on your car, then WAMS can offer small stickers to people for display on their vehicles. To be eligible for a sticker WAMS requests you fill out a profile form detailing your involvement in the sport so that we get to learn more about you. You can select to keep this information anonymous if you wish.

With the profile information collected, WAMS hopes to learn more about the women in motor sport to help guide future initiatives. WAMS would also like to showcase some of the great women involved in the sport, whether they are a driver, official, administrative, mechanic or even spectator!

Permission to use the WAMS logo for other purposes can be requested via the WAMS Endorsement Package available for download from the WAMS website: www.wams.org.au

Question: I have a query on discrimination. Can WAMS help me?

WAMS is an initiative of CAMS and therefore adopts the CAMS Member Protection Policy (MPP). The CAMS MPP is available on the CAMS website and lists the correct procedures to follow if you feel you have been discriminated against.

You can find the policy here: <http://www.cams.com.au/about/administration/policies>

A CAMS MPIO (Member Protection Information Officer) is able to assist you through the process, and provide confidential advice and information that will ensure your situation can be resolved.

WAMS hopes that all participants are treated equally within the sport, and encourages both women and men to adopt an equal opportunity mentality towards every one who wishes to be involved.

Question: I'm doing a research project on women in motor sport. Can you give me information to assist with it?

WAMS certainly encourages as much exposure as possible about the achievements women have in the sport and we're happy to assist where we can to help grow that. If you send a detailed outline of your project and what you need help with to info@wams.org.au we'll be happy to point you in the right direction as best we can.

Question: I am involved in motor sport, so why hasn't WAMS contacted me?

In an ideal world, WAMS would love to know about every female involved in motor sport – from young girls in karting, to professional women racers and officials, and everyone in between. However with such a strong industry in Australia, it requires many exhaustive resources to be able to reach out to everyone.

WAMS is made up of a Committee of volunteers – women actively involved in the sport who give of their own time and resources to ensure that Core Programs are fulfilled, media coverage is achieved, networking is done on the ground at motor sport events, and that as many people as possible are reached via these activities. The Committee also relies on women in the sport contacting and approaching WAMS as well. It's a two-way street after all and we want to work together.

WAMS does endeavour to reach out to the wider motor sport community via information on its website, social media channels and by publishing content in the monthly CAMS Speed Read publication so that CAMS members in particular learn more about what the Committee is doing.

There is no single database in Australia that includes the details of every female participating in the sport, however, we invite all individuals to make themselves known to WAMS should they need any assistance, information, or to be profiled in our weekly WAMS Profiles program. The more we know about you, the more we are able to help.

Visit the ["Contact"](#) page to be in touch.