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SIC chairman ticks off indisciplined racers

SEPANG International Circuit chairman Datuk Mokhzani Mahathir said that motorsports in Malaysia cannot survive if many of its drivers and crew choose to be indisciplined.

Speaking at the 2003 Malaysian Super Series Championship prize giving ceremony in Kuala Lumpur yesterday, Mokhzani said the negative attitude of many of the current drivers and their crew was unfortunate as the Government and its partners were working hard to develop the sport in Malaysia.

"Discipline is the key to success, but unfortunately, the lack of discipline among drivers and their crew members was evident at this year's Malaysian Super Series Championship (MSS)," he said.

"For the series, or more correctly, for Malaysia's motorsports to survive, the competitors and crew must correct themselves," he added. Highlighting the simple rule of no smoking in the pits and pitlanes, he said that many drivers and crew were seen smoking and risked starting a fire.

"Let's change that for the new year. Let's make 2004 a glorious year for Malaysian motorsports. Let's work together to build a respectable image so that the whole of the country can look upon us as a role model for discipline, commitment and dedication for success," said Mokhzani, who is a part-time racer.

Introduced last year by the Sepang International Circuit, the Malaysian Super Series Championship - which combines cars and motorcycle races - is aimed at developing motorsports in Malaysia by providing more competition for local drivers and racing teams.

The aim of the series is to unearth new racing talent, including management and running of racing teams.