



Castrol BMW Race Series

Driver Newsletter 16 – November 2009

Castrol Product: Following enquiries from a number of members, we have been working to arrange the supply of Castrol products to those in the Race Series. We are narrowing down the product range to what we believe would be most suitable for the variety of cars racing, and expect to be able to confirm the details shortly: products, pricing, ordering, payment, delivery, etc.

Driver Briefing: To help with the flow of information/ideas through the Race Series, we will be adding an extra component to our own driver briefings at the start of each race meeting, beginning with the round at Hampton Downs this Sunday. Immediately following the compulsory BRS driver's briefing, we will split into our two race groups – Open and E30 for an additional briefing. This will cover off any issues specific to each class, and will be fronted by the Driver Delegate for that class.

With the main driver briefing for the Sunday event taking place at 9:00am, the **BMW Race Series briefing will start at 8:30**, followed immediately by the Class briefing. We expect all competing drivers to be there.

Manfeild Race Incidents: Unfortunately, we had a number of race incidents at Manfeild, with several cars being extensively damaged, but thankfully no-one was injured. A two-round suspension was imposed on one driver, with a further five drivers receiving formal cautions from the Series for driving behaviour that was not appropriate. We will be reiterating this at every driver briefing, but we need to remind drivers that we are not racing for World Championships, not even close! And with our next two rounds being staged at a brand new venue, there will be another variable to contend with. Please, drive with the utmost care!

Manfeild TV Coverage: The following programme times have been confirmed for Round 2 from Manfeild.

Episode 1: BMW Open Class / BMW E30	Sky Sport 1	09:00	Dec 4 th
	Sky Sport 1	05:00	Dec 5 th
	Sky Sport 3	22:30	Dec 7 th
	Sky Sport 3	09:00	Dec 8 th
Episode 2: F5000 / Muscle Cars	Sky Sport 1	09:00	Dec 11 th
	Sky Sport 3	23:30	Dec 11 th
	Sky Sport 3	22:30	Dec 14 th
Episode 3: Pre-65 / Classic Saloons	Sky Sport 1	09:00	Dec 18 th
	Sky Sport 3	14:30	Dec 18 th
	Sky Sport 3	23:00	Dec 21 st

Dates for the first-ever televised race meeting from Hampton Downs will be advised in the next few weeks.

BMW Race Series Signage: After previous general reminders, specific warnings have gone out to more than 20 cars with incorrect Series signage. Further checks will be made at the Hampton Downs round, and we hope there is a much higher level of compliance. If you have any questions, please ask.

Hampton Downs: The last-minute cut of the track limit to 30 cars was looking like a major problem for the Open Class, with more entrants than available places. However, a number of withdrawals in recent days has seen the field trimmed to exactly 30 cars. Surprisingly, the two E30 grids are a long way from full, despite the attraction of racing on a new circuit. At 47 cars, the total number will about the same as the single grid at Manfeild, and quite a bit lower than the Icebreaker meeting in September.

Whether you are racing at this round or not until the New Year, many of you will be wanting to spend some time learning the new circuit. Below are the currently planned dates of test days at Hampton Downs:

Sat 12/12, Wed 23/12, Thur 24/12, Mon 28/12, Tues 29/12, Fri 1/1/10, Sat 2/1, Fri 8/1, Thur 14/1, Fri 15/1 (linked to race meeting on Jan 16/17) **Wed 20/1, Thur 21/1, Wed 3/2, Fri 12/2, Wed 3/3 & Fri 19/3.**

Other dates will be confirmed in the months ahead, and eventually all test days will show on their website.

Additional Race Meeting: For those who want even more of HD after this weekend, you won't necessarily have to wait until mid-January. The **TACCOC Summer Classic** is being held on **Sunday December 13th** and will include a grid for BMW E30's as well as Classic saloons, which covers quite a few of the Open Class cars. If you want to know more about this event, please see: www.taccoc.co.nz Entries are open now at www.motorsportentry.com NB: This is not a competition round for the BMW Race Series.

If you have any queries on this newsletter or any other subject, please email: bmwraceseries@hotmail.com