

## Castrol BMW Race Series Driver Newsletter 12 – August 2009

A further reminder that the **Icebreaker Meeting** has been moved from Hampton Downs to Pukekohe, and will now be on the weekend of **September 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>**. That meeting will open the fourth season of the **Castrol BMW Race Series**, and for both Open and E30 classes includes a different race format. Separate documents covering the competition format for each class are attached, and will also be posted on the BRS website. Whilst they may look rather complicated, we do need to account for the different possibilities such as the need to have a suitable format for meetings where there is just one E30 race group, allowance for qualifying affected by weather or track conditions and potential changes to the season's race calendar.

Our **second round** will now be the **MG Classic** at Manfeild on **November 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>**. Please note that, as per last year, this meeting will have just one E30 grid – please carefully read the new E30 Race Format to confirm the entry procedure, as well as the race structure. Registered members will be advised by email when pre-entries are open for the 45-car E30 grid. That date is likely to be around September 20<sup>th</sup>.

Also attached with this newsletter (and to go on the website) is the **registration form for the 2009/10 series**. This form needs to be completed, and the appropriate fees paid, for all drivers wanting to race this season. As you will see, we are asking for a bit more information about your cars, as well as asking you to confirm that your car will comply with the relevant regulations, and that you will abide by all rules of the BMW Race Series. NB: You have until **August 31<sup>st</sup>** to qualify for the discounted membership fee of \$100.

For E30 entrants, completion of the membership process will also confirm your order for the **new number boxes**, which are being produced by Optic Signs, owned by E30 driver #81, Daniel Kent. Thanks to the generous support of **Castrol**, one set of panels (with your own race number) is being supplied free of charge to each E30 entrant. Replacement sets will be chargeable! The number boxes are optional for the Open class entrants, and can be ordered by circling their race number on the registration form. They also come at no cost to Open Class competitors, for the first set anyway, and can be produced with your race number. We'd recommend that as many of you as possible take up this offer, as it demonstrates your support for our major sponsor, Castrol. The sooner you complete your registration, the sooner we get the panels printed. When they are ready, we'll confirm what other sponsor decals you require to get your car ready for round one and they will be sent directly to you or at least to a central location for you to collect.

We have a couple more minor adjustments to the **E30 technical regulations**, as follows:

**5.2d** - Clause to be extended with *"...and the valve sealing face must be the centre one of the three faces."*

**5.3h** - Additional clause *"To repair bore damage the block may have one or more cylinders "sleeved", provided all other rules are followed."* Previous clauses 5.3h, i & j to be renumbered 5.3i, j & k respectively.

As advised previously, **soft towing eyes** are now mandatory for the front of all Facelift cars running in the E30 Class. If you do not already have your own one (and it will need to be approved by the scrutineers) then you can buy one directly from the BMW Race Series. The cost is \$45 including GST, which gets you the red webbing strap, extended bumper bolt and spacer. The decision to use the vertical bumper-mounting bolt rather than the forward-facing thread from the original towing point was to ensure that there was no forward projection from face of the bumper. To order, please send a cheque to the BMW Race Series, or make a deposit to the BRS account: **03-0285-0215733-00**.



With the transfer of the HRC Icebreaker meeting to Pukekohe, the one-day **TACCOC Spring Classic on October 10<sup>th</sup>** is now potentially the **first ever race meeting at Hampton Downs**. I say potentially, because that meeting is also subject to cancellation if the track construction continues to be delayed. A final decision on whether this meeting will go ahead should be made by the end of August. If it does go ahead, there will be a race group just for E30's – what better way to try out the new circuit?

A 12-hour endurance race for saloons is planned for Taupo on the weekend of January 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>, with the possibility of a second race (involving the Historic Racing Club) at Hampton Downs in March. At this stage, the organisers are seeking expressions of interest – please let me know if you want an application form.