



Castrol BMW Race Series

Driver Newsletter – November 2008

TV Coverage: The first episodes of the new *Metalman Classic Motorsport Show* will appear on Sky TV this weekend, with coverage of the Alfa and Arrow Wheels race groups from September's Icebreaker meeting. The two E30 groups will feature the following weekend, with the Open Class a week later. See <http://www.skytv.co.nz/Default.aspx?tabid=211&Search=BMW+Racing> for full details. Each programme will show 4 or 5 times on Sky Sport 1, 2 & 3. NB: We are still waiting for confirmation that the coverage will also appear on Prime TV on the same weekends.

Round 2 - Manfeild: The second round of the 2008/09 **Castrol BMW Race Series** takes place at the Manfeild Park circuit this weekend, as part of the **MG Classic Meeting**. Initially, our E30 field was oversubscribed, but some attrition over the last month or so has seen the field drop to 40 cars. Still a very respectable turn-out considering the distance that most drivers have to travel. Additionally, we have a great field of 29 cars in the Open Class. Between the two classes, there are a total of seven drivers making their BMW Race Series debut, and we would like to welcome the following:

Richard Batchelor, #101, E30 320i

Derek Cecil, #73, E46 M3

Matthew Philips, #282, E30 320i

Russell Grace, #60, 2002

Stephen Marks, #132, E30 320i 2.7

Michael Starnes, #70, E36 M3 3.2

Warwick Mortimer, #98, E46 M3 GTR replica

Additionally, **Greg Symons**, E30 runner-up from Round 1 has entered an E46 M3 in the Open Class.

Both classes will have practice, two scratch races and a handicap race, spread over the two-day meeting. Many of the entrants, especially those racing at Manfeild for the first time, will take advantage of the practice day on Friday. Results should be available on the Race Series website by Tuesday.

Dyno Testing: Four cars were selected randomly from the E30 race groups at the Icebreaker meeting, and were scheduled to be dyno-tested before Round 2. Further cars will be chosen at the conclusion of Round 2, including the two cars with the fastest lap time, plus another four chosen at random. Those drivers will be advised of the requirements for testing.

Security Tags: As part of the scrutineering and dyno-testing process, E30 series cars are to be fitted with security tags on the rocker cover, sump/bell housing, ECU and differential. At the latest, these will be fitted at the same time as cars are dyno-tested, but most will be asked to have them fitted in the next month or two. The fitting of the tags requires some pre-drilling of components, but this is a fairly simple task. Full instructions will be posted on the BMW Race Series website in the next few days.

Vehicle presentation: Everyone should have received the October newsletter, detailing the numbering and labelling requirements for BMW entrants. If you haven't seen it, please download a copy from the website. In particular, we wanted to be sure that all cars met the MNZ requirements in terms of:

- **Race numbers** . size, typeface, colour and background. (both classes)
- **Front Screen Numbers** . size & typeface (both classes)

Additionally, the BMW Race Series requires the following additional markings:

- **Rear Screen Numbers** (compulsory for E30, recommended for Open class)
- **Novice markings** . up to 3 stripes, depending on experience in THIS series (both classes)

All of the cars at Manfeild should meet these requirements, and those planning for Round 3 in January have plenty of time to ensure their cars comply. You also have a good opportunity to ensure the overall presentation of your car is up to the standards we require. Save for race damage suffered within a race meeting, cars will not be permitted to enter BMW Race events if they have any of the following defects:

- **Missing parts, including bumper trims and body mouldings.**
- **Dented panels or badly faded/peeling paint.**
- **Missing or peeling sponsor decals or windscreen banners.**
- **Mud flaps, tow bars or non-retractable aerials.**