



RACE DRIVER SERIES

2026-2027



E30 CHALLENGE REGULATIONS

BMW Race Driver Series

E30 Challenge Class Regulations

2026-2027

1. Objective:

Reviving the spirit of the golden era of BMW Race Driver Series E30 racing, the E30 Challenge builds on the 2 Litre Class philosophy with a few simple constraints to level the field. The aim is to encourage close, fair, and nostalgic competition among classic E30s.

2. Eligibility:

2.1 Entry to the BMW Race Driver Series is by invitation only, at the discretion of the Committee.

2.1.1 Competitors are only permitted to enter their vehicle into one class within the BMW Race Driver Series; however, the same car may be shared by two different drivers.

2.2 All drivers must have a MotorSport NZ C1 Grade licence, or higher.

2.3 All drivers must be a financial member of the BMW Race Driver Series and have a current BMW Car Club NZ Membership.

2.4 Presentation of cars must be to a high standard and the organizers reserve the right to refuse entry to cars deemed not up to standard. This requirement also applies to vehicles previously accepted for the BMW Race Driver Series where their condition has deteriorated to the point where this is not of an acceptable standard.

2.5 A minimum lap time (break-out) has been set for ideal conditions at each circuit:

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| • Hampton Downs (National Circuit) | 01:21.500 |
| • Hampton Downs (International Circuit) | 02:00.000 |
| • Manfeild | 01:25.500 |
| • Taupo | 01:51.000 |

2.5.1 Cars going faster than these times in any Qualifying session or Race will be penalised as follows:

- (a) For each lap faster by 0 – 00.500 seconds in any one race, a penalty of 10 points will be deducted from your race points.
- (b) For each lap faster by 00.51 – 1.000 seconds in any one race, a penalty of 15 points will be deducted from your race points.
- (c) For each lap faster by 1.001 – 2.000 seconds any one race, a penalty of 30 points will be deducted from your race points.
- (d) For any lap faster by 2.000 seconds any one race, a penalty of disqualification from that race will apply.

2.5.2 Where there has been a material change to the layout of the track during the season, the committee may notify competitors of a new minimum lap time prior to the commencement of a meeting.

- 2.5.3** If a competitor breaks out of their class time three times in two races (in a single race meeting), they may be moved to the 2 Litre Class for the rest of the season.

3. Series Entry:

- 3.1** Entry into the Series can be made by visiting www.bmwraceseries.co.nz.

- (1) Full season entry is \$200, or
- (2) Per round entry is \$100.

- 3.2** By entering the Series, all drivers agree with and shall abide to the Technical Regulations in Part Two of this document, and the BMW Race Driver Series “Culture Document”.

- 3.3** The BMW Race Driver Series reserves the right to accept “guest” drivers from time-to-time. Such entries shall have no bearing on the points results.

4. Dates:

- 4.1** The following dates and venues have been organised for the 2026-2027 season, however may be subject to change due to circumstances beyond the BMW Race Driver Series’ control.

Round	Dates	Venue	Club
1	24-25 October 2026	Manfeild	Manawatu Car Club
2	21-22 November 2026	Hampton Downs	NZIGP Inc
3	8-10 January 2027	Hampton Downs (Int)	NextGen Championship
4	6-7 February 2027	Taupo	NZIGP Inc
5	20-21 March 2027	Taupo	NZIGP Inc
6	8-9 May 2027	Hampton Downs	NZIGP Inc

5. Race Formats:

- 5.1** The E30 Challenge Class will ordinarily compete on a combined grid with the Open Group C and 2 Litre Classes; however, the composition of the combined grid may change from time to time.

- 5.2 Qualifying:** There will be one Qualifying session.

- 5.3 Races:** there shall be three races at each round.

- (1) Race One:** shall be a ten-lap scratch race (standing start).

- (a) The grid for Race One will be set using the fastest to slowest results from qualifying followed by those without valid qualifying times.
- (b) Those without valid qualifying times shall be ordered in accordance with MotorSport NZ manual, Schedule Z, Article 5.4 (3).

- (2) Race Two:** shall be an eight-lap, handicap race.

- (a) The grid for Race Two will be set using “best of meeting” lap times from Qualifying and Race One.

- (3) Race Three:** shall be an eight-lap, handicap race.

- (a) The grid for Race Three will be set using “best of meeting” lap times from Qualifying and Race One, and Race Two.

- 5.4 Subject to the approval of the Clerk of the Course, in the absence of valid Qualifying or Race times for one or more cars, the competitor will start from the back of the grid.
- 5.5 To discourage “foxing” in Qualifying, Race One and Race Two, drivers will be penalized for “breaking out” of their handicap lap time. If their lap time improves by more than 1% per lap, they will be penalised according to the table below for each breakout lap.

Lap	Penalty	Lap	Penalty
1st Lap	-10	5th Lap	-50
2nd Lap	-20	6th Lap	-60
3rd Lap	-30	7th Lap	-70
4th Lap	-40	8th Lap	-80

Note: For the avoidance of doubt, penalty points accumulate throughout the race. I.e, three breakouts will result in a 60-point penalty.

- 5.5.1 To allow for changing track conditions across a meeting, usually because of the weather, this break-out will be measured against the average of the field.
- 5.5.2 Subject to the approval of the Clerk of the Course, if a competitor experiences a mechanical failure or other such issue resulting in an unrepresentative lap time, they may nominate a more accurate lap time. The nomination must be submitted in writing (text or email) to the series coordinator within one hour after the race concludes. Only nominated times faster than any officially recorded time of the race meeting may be submitted.

- 5.6 Being classified as a finisher of each Race will be in accordance with Schedule Z, Article 11.3.

6. Points:

- 6.1 10 bonus points will be awarded for the fastest legitimate lap in Qualifying.
- 6.2 Points shall be allocated based on finishing position in each Race as follows:

Placing	Points	Placing	Points	Placing	Points
1st	200	15th	100	29th	60
2nd	185	16th	96	30th	58
3rd	173	17th	92	31st	56
4th	163	18th	89	32nd	54
5th	154	19th	86	33rd	52
6th	146	20th	83	34th	50
7th	139	21st	80	35th	48
8th	133	22nd	77	36th	46
9th	127	23rd	74	37th	44
10th	122	24th	71	38th	42
11th	117	25th	68	39th	40
12th	112	26th	66	40th	38
13th	108	27th	64	41st	37
14th	104	28th	62	42nd	36

6.3 Point scores from a competitor's two worst competed race results of the Series will be excluded from their final points tally at the end of the season.

- (1) Races not competed in will not count as an exclusion unless the competitor at least entered that race meeting and completed the documentation process at the venue.

Should extenuating circumstances exist then the Committee, at its sole discretion, may select any race result as a drop. All other race results will be counted, including any non-scoring races.

- (2) Any race in which a Competitor receives a penalty from MotorSport NZ officials or the BMW Race Driver Series Committee is not eligible to be dropped.

6.4 Should a driver use more than one vehicle during the season, providing the vehicle they have changed to is eligible for the E30 Challenge Class, points may be carried over.

7. Penalties:

7.1 These shall be considered minimum possible penalties to be applied by the BMW Race Driver Series committee and are not limited to those written below. The BMW Race Driver Series Committee has the right to impose point penalties for any breaches of the technical regulations, these regulations or the Culture Document.

	Item	Penalty
(a)	Car not presented for weigh-in	200-point deduction penalty for Qualifying. No points will be awarded for that Race
(b)	Under the Minimum weight for your class	25-points for each 5 Kilograms under, Example: 0.01kg-5kg under = 25 Points, 5.01kg- 10kg under = 50 points
(c)	Livery/Decals incorrect or missing	25-point deduction per item
(d)	Breach of in-car camera regulations	50-point deduction

Anyone found to have threatened or abused an official, volunteer, competitor, or spectator, or to have shown behaviour that, in the eyes of the BMW Race Driver Series, brings the race series into disrepute, will likely face expulsion from the BMW Race Driver Series.

7.2 Points Penalties

7.2.1 Where a competitor has received a formal Decision from MotorSport NZ personnel, a points deduction shall be automatically applied to the race in which the penalty was issued.

(Note: A competitor's points total for that race may become negative as a result.)

Rule	Description	Point Deduction
A4Z.1	Disregard of red flag or red lights	100 points
A4Z.2	Overtaking and not redressing or failing to maintain position under yellow flag or yellow light(s)	50 points
A4Z.3	Disregarding black flag with number or drive through penalty board, or black flag with orange disc.	50 points
A4Z.5	Breach of Code of Driving Conduct	75 points
A4Z.6	Careless driving causing or likely to cause an incident	100 points
A4Z.7	Dangerous driving causing or likely to cause crash, including driving off the circuit.	200 points
A4Z.10	Breach of Circuit Regulations.	50 points
A4Z.11	Breach of Pit Regulations	50 points
A4Z.12	Breach of pit lane speed limit	50 points
A4Z.13	Crossing blend lines	50 points
A4Z.16	Leaving the circuit, gaining an advantage, and not redressing	50 points
A4Z.18	Failing to stop for red light at Pit Lane exit.	100 points

7.2.2 Points as deducted under Article 7.2.1 shall be publicly recorded and will accumulate over the course of the season.

7.2.3 Where a competitor reaches an accumulated total of 300 deducted points over the course of the season, they shall be automatically stood down from the following round.

7.2.4 Where a competitor reaches an accumulated total of 600 deducted points over the course of the season, they shall be automatically stood down for the remainder of the season.

8. In-Car Cameras

- (a)** All vehicles must be fitted with an onboard camera. At a minimum, must include a forward-facing camera mounted to clearly show the view ahead and, where practicable, the driver's steering input.
- (b)** Footage must be made available when requested by BMW RDS Committee or MotorSport NZ officials. Non-compliance, including failure to supply footage when requested, will result in a penalty being applied.
- (c)** Mount of the onboard cameras must comply with MotorSport NZ Schedule A requirements.
- (d)** Camera footage must be kept for a minimum of 14 days.

Example of recommended angle:



9. Awards:

- 9.1** Round trophies and overall series trophies shall be awarded. However, if there are three or less competitors entered in the class at a race meeting, only a first-place trophy will be awarded.

BMW Race Driver Series

E30 Challenge Class Technical Regulations (Part Two) 2026-2027

1. GENERAL

- 1.1** Factory built racecars are not eligible, this includes Group A, DTM, 2 Litre SuperTourer, WTCC etc. By factory this refers to cars or kits supplied by BMW Motorsport or recognised works teams. NZ built cars (including NZ Touring cars) are eligible to run within this class.
- 1.2** The following regulations provide a basic outline of the technical requirements for cars running in the E30 Challenge class.

Note: Drivers planning to purchase or modify a car to race in the BMW Race Driver Series are strongly advised to contact the BMW Race Driver Series Committee via e-mail bmwraceseries@hotmail.com for confirmation of the car's eligibility before committing to the modification/purchase.

- 1.3** The BMW Race Driver Series Committee and its appointed agents will be judge(s) regarding general vehicle eligibility for the Series and regarding any specific technical details of those cars. Individual Committee Members cannot give you approval or authority. This must be provided in writing from the Series.

2. SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

All vehicles are required to adhere to all current MotorSport New Zealand (MSNZ) regulations in Appendix Two – Safety (Schedule A) and Appendix Four - Races (Schedule Z). You can find the current MotorSport NZ manual online (<https://manual.motorsport.org.nz/>), including any amendments or subsequent versions issued by MSNZ.

2.1 All vehicles must have:

- (a) A current MotorSport NZ Logbook.
- (b) A MSNZ approved competition seat designed for use with a five-point or six-point harness with appropriate mountings must be fitted according to App Two, Sch A, Part 1, Article 4.7.
- (c) A suitable MSNZ approved five-point or six-point harness mounted as detailed in App Two, Sch A, Article 4.4.
- (d) A MSNZ approved multi-point roll cage compliant with App Two, Sch A, Part 2, Article 4.6 with side intrusion bars is mandatory. Alternative roll cages are acceptable provided they meet the following criteria:
 - (i) The roll cage design, construction and installation must satisfy all MSNZ regulations.
 - (ii) Triangulation between the roll cage front legs and front strut towers is permitted.
 - (iii) Safety cage padding must be fitted as required in Article 4.6 (6).
- (e) Headlamps (if installed) covered with protective tape and comply with any current MSNZ requirements.
- (f) Towing eyes fitted in accordance with Appendix Two, Schedule A, Part One, Article 5.15.
- (g) A MSNZ approved handheld fire extinguisher as per App Two, Sch A, Part One, Article 4.8.

2.2 Frontal Head Restraints (FHR) are mandatory.

- (a)** FHR devices must be made to an approved standard and fitted and worn as per Appendix Two, Part One, Article 4.2.
- (b)** All occupants must wear an FHR during all practice, qualifying and races that are part of the BMW Race Driver Series. Failure to do so may result in a penalty or disqualification.

3. TECHNICAL / VEHICLE ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1** This class is generally open to cars with a BMW E30 chassis fitted with a BMW engine (regulated by capacity).
- 3.2** Maximum engine capacity for this class is 2000 cc. The Maximum capacity calculation for this class includes an allowance for a factory over-bore of up to +0.5mm only.
- 3.3** Left or right-hand drive vehicles are eligible including cars that have been converted.
- 3.4 Engines:** Must be a production BMW cylinder block and head casting, all other components are free.
 - (a)** It is permissible to move the engine within the factory engine bay only. It is not permissible to remove, cut or modify the factory firewall/bulkhead in order to move the engine rearwards in the chassis.
- 3.5 Chassis:** Original unit construction body shells must be used. No space-framed or semi space-framed cars will be allowed. The original floor-pan between the firewall and rear bulkhead (behind the rear seat) must remain as per the manufacturer's original specifications. Save for the fitment of the roll protection, pedal box or exhaust system, further modifications to this area of the floor-pan can only be made with the written permission of the BMW Race Driver Series Committee.
- 3.6 Bodywork:** Outer body panels may be replaced with items of a different design or material (including composites) to that used on the original. This includes the addition of front or rear spoilers, wings, splitters, wheel arch extensions and/or after-market body kits.
- 3.7 Drive train:** Gearboxes are free provided they use a non-sequential / "H-Pattern" shift mechanisms. Differentials are free.
- 3.8 Suspension:** As long as the original configuration is retained (eg McPherson strut, trailing arm) the suspension is free in terms of design and materials used.
- 3.9 Brakes:** There is no restriction on type and materials.
- 3.10 Wheels:** Rim diameter must be no greater than 15". Rim widths can be no more than 10 inches, but there are no other restrictions in terms of materials or construction type.
- 3.11 Tyres:** All cars must run on BMW Race Driver Series Committee approved DOT rated tyres. In addition to complying with a DOT standard, tyres must also have New Zealand warrantable tread patterns. Tyres are also required to have a measurable tread depth (excluding any tie bar or tread depth indicator strips) around the whole circumference of the tyre, and across at least 75% of the tyres tread width.

3.12 Weight:

- (a) Minimum post-qualifying & post-race weight including driver for all competing vehicles is 1040kgs. All cars must be presented for weighing as part of the Parc Fermé rules after each qualifying, and race session. Drivers who do not present their cars for weigh-in may receive point penalties and/or be disqualified from the qualifying session or race.
- (b) As long as no other rules are breached regarding vehicle modifications it is at the driver's discretion how and where any additional weight is achieved, subject to App Two, Schedule A, Part 1, Article 6.1 of the MotorSport NZ Manual.

3.13 Parc Fermé

- (a) All cars automatically enter Parc Fermé conditions following any qualifying or race sessions and must proceed immediately to the designated Parc Fermé area, which is the series weighbridge unless specified otherwise. Delayed arrival may be considered an immediate violation of Parc Fermé conditions.
- (b) Only the presence of the driver and one additional team member is permitted alongside their car in the Parc Fermé area.
- (c) Tyre pressures and tyre temperatures may be checked while the car is in line, provided there are no delays.
- (d) Any other checks or alterations to the car are strictly forbidden under Parc Fermé conditions, unless approval is given by a BMWRDS Officials.
- (e) No items are to be added to or removed from the vehicle during Parc Fermé.
- (f) The continuation of Parc Fermé conditions applies until an official notification from a BMWRDS Official or their appointee, and the vehicle, driver and additional team member shall leave the Parc Fermé area immediately following this.

3.14 Fuel: Must be 98 pump fuel.

4. VEHICLE LIVERY

4.1 All decals shall be applied in accordance with the graphic in Appendix One.

4.2 The following **supplied** decals are **mandatory** and shall be fitted as supplied to all race cars at all BMW Race Driver Series Rounds.

- (a) **Pacific Resort Decal**
Applied to both front guards in accordance with Appendix One.
- (b) **E30 Decal:** to be fitted to both rear side windows, as well as the front and rear windscreens, as illustrated. The BMW Race Driver Series Committee may allow variances at their discretion.
- (c) **Novice Sticker:** Must be run in a visible location on the rear of the car. Regardless of previous race experience in other classes, drivers who are new to the E30 Challenge Class must carry this sticker for a minimum of three full BMWRDS rounds.

4.3 The following decals are to be **supplied by the competitor** and are mandatory. These must be fitted to all race cars at all BMW Race Driver Series Rounds.

(a) BMW Race Driver Series Windscreen Banner

Using a minimum 100mm of the banner and up to the full width of the banner.

Note: *To provide sun shading, additional material may be added below the windscreen banner, to a maximum total depth of 200mm at any point, including the windscreen banner. This additional material shall be a single solid colour in black or plain colour.*

(b) Number Box:

- (i) Shall be 480mm high, by 440mm wide, and shall include the BMW Race Driver Series Logo and Competitor's race number (see example below:



(c) Race Numbers

- (i) Must be on both sides of the vehicle and printed onto or included inside the number box.
Minimum of 230mm high, stroke of 38mm, solid black on a white background. Font shall be Helvetica, or similar. Shall be located within 40mm of the front of the door panel, and;
- (ii) Must be on both front and rear screens, on the upper corner of the passenger side.
Minimum of 150mm high, 20mm stroke, in Helvetica or similar font. Numbers should be white. The current championship leader at the start of the round may elect to use fluoro yellow instead for the duration of the round.

(c) Driver Name

The driver surname at a minimum must be shown on both rear side windows, close to lower edge, minimum of 80mm high, 10mm stroke, white or fluoro yellow/green in Helvetica or similar font.

4.4 Personal Signage:

The following restrictions apply to any personal signage or sponsorship carried on race cars at all BMW Race Driver Series Rounds.

- (a) **Front Screen:** This area is reserved exclusively for the series sponsor and apart from screen numbers, no other signage can be carried on the front screen.
- (b) **Rear Screen:** Personal advertising may be fitted to the rear screen, so long as it complies with App Two, Schedule A, Part 1, Article 5.11 (a) of the MSNZ Manual and to Warrant of Fitness regulations (if applicable).
- (c) **Number Boxes:** No personal signage is to be fitted to the front doors in the area immediately above or below the official race number box, or within 50mm either side of the box. It is permissible however to carry personal signage anywhere on the sills provide it complies with all other regulations regarding signage.
- (d) **Competitive Signage:** No signage for any brands that compete with any of the series sponsors can be carried on the front section of the car.

Note: *The front section of the car is defined as being all panels “forward of a line through the rear edge of the number boxes on each door”.*

The Committees decisions on any conflicting advertising are final, as are any decisions to introduce new/additional series sponsors.

SERIES SPONSORS DECAL PLACEMENT

