



Castrol BMW Race Series

Driver Newsletter 4 – December 2008

TV Coverage: As mentioned previously, the TV coverage from Round 2 (Manfeild) will be on-air just a few weeks after the actual race meeting. With only one E30 race group, the first programme from the MG Classic meeting will also feature the BMW Open Class as well as the E30s. That programme will screen no fewer than six times on the *Metalman Classic Motorsport Show*, starting tomorrow.

Monday 8th	7:30 pm	Sky Sport 1
Tuesday 9th	2:00 am	Sky Sport 2
	2:00 pm	Sky Sport 1
	8:30 pm	Sky Sport 2
Thursday 11th	2:00 pm	Sky Sport 3
Saturday 13th	5:00 am	Sky Sport 1

For those interested in the other classes from Manfeild, they will be screening in the following weeks with further details at: <http://www.skytv.co.nz/Default.aspx?tabid=211&Search=BMW+Racing>

PS: Only three of you (out of more than 70) sent in your personal details for the Round 2 coverage, so if the commentary says the wrong things about you or your car, you had your chance. Of course, there are still plenty of rounds to come, so take the time to send us some information soon.

BMW Race Series administration: The BMW Race Series is now an incorporated society, and as a result we are registered for GST, and don't have to pay income tax. On the surface, this formation won't mean too much for the competitors, but it is part of the process as we continue to develop our rules for membership and for operating the race series in a more professional manner. Finances will now be run independently of the BMW Car Club, but it doesn't mean, however, that our ties are broken. As before, all race series entrants will have to be financial members of BMWCCNZ. Part of our application for incorporation involved the drafting of a new constitution that, among other things, will help to ensure the Race Series is run for the benefit of its members, and not for the personal gain of any individuals. Copies of the constitution are expected to be available on-line shortly. We now have our own postal address, and members are asked to send all written communications for the BMW Race Series to: **P O Box 8184, Symonds St, Auckland 1150**. Of course, emails are still ok, as well.

Series Finale: As advised previously, we are now unlikely to race at Hampton Downs this season. As it stands now, the 2008/09 season will end up with five rounds . the same as last season. In the last newsletter, we advised of some one-day, non-competition rounds in April and May that might be of interest to BMW racers. Now, we are in discussions with the MG Classic racing group about another visit to Manfeild in May, for a two-day meeting featuring most of the race groups from last month. At this stage, we are seeking your feedback, and in particular, want to gauge your opinion on these topics:

- Should this become the 6th round for the BMW Race Series and become our season finale? Should we just make it a non-competition round? Should we just stick to 5 rounds this season?
- What if there was only one 45-car grid each for E30 and Open Class? That was more than enough last month, but by next May, we could be oversubscribed, especially E30. Should it be first-in+, or should preference be given to those who have raced in more rounds in the season?
- Does it make any difference to you if there is TV coverage of this round, or not?

We have made no commitments at this stage, but a decision will be required before Christmas.

Race Grids: So far, we have received only limited feedback on the subject of qualifying and race grids, particularly for the E30 series . not nearly enough to make any firm decisions about changing the format. If you have an opinion on the subject, don't keep it to yourself . send us an e-mail.

Track Day: Paul Mill (#53) is planning a private track day at Pukekohe between Christmas and New Year, tentatively December 29th. Places will be limited to ensure the maximum time on track, with the cost expected to be about \$150 per car. If you're looking to spend some of the festive season training yourself and/or your car, please contact Paul directly on **021 654-315** or paul@webbing.co.nz