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February 2022



The late, great, Graham McRae on his way to winning the Lady Wigram Trophy race in his McRae GM1 in January 1972 (50 years ago this year) Photo Terry Marshall

Welcome to the first HRC newsletter of 2022

2022 started for us on a very positive note. On January 8/9th we held the first race meeting at Taupo International Motorsport Park under the new ownership of Tony Quinn. This meeting was held under CPF Orange Setting so we were able to accommodate the requirements easily. A packed schedule, a lot of spectators and some huge grids provided what we all had been missing – some Motorsport.



At the Drivers Briefing, Josie Spillane (Highlands CEO) welcomed everyone to the event and extended a warm welcome to all the competitors before thanking the Volunteers who, as we all know are the lifeblood of motorsport in NZ. We had volunteers from the Taupo Car Club, The Circuit Club and RSQKRU – all coming together with a common goal of seeing the park alive with racing, fans, yarns, and action – thank you!

2022 sees a new chapter for the park, and it marks the start of a new era. There's a brand-new team, who are excited to be part of the legacy that Tony has developed in NZ - it is hard to believe that it was only 8 years ago that Highlands opened! The Taupo team, led by Martin (Marty) Collins are a committed, talented group of people, whose goal is to ensure you feel welcome, are safe and enjoy your time at Taupo.

There are going to have several announcements over the coming months about what you can expect at the park, including a bit of a makeover, the launch of our GT membership and the opportunity to purchase a part of the action in the business park, plus a few other surprises! Yes, HRC will run events under the red traffic light but we will need your support.

Momentum has been a term I have been thinking of lately. As far as Covid is concerned we just "have to play the cards we are dealt". It is important that HRC runs events as per the current regulations. We run events for competitors, so if spectators become a logistical nightmare HRC will run events with no spectators.

HRC want to keep the momentum going as competitors have a large investment in the sport and have to get some return (enjoyment) if not competitors will move to other interests that are allowed and don't involve social interaction.

We have plenty of meetings planned for the rest of the season. There is a full calendar with classes at the end of this newsletter.

Events for February and March are



HRC are proud to announce that our Tasman Revival Meeting at Pukekohe will be named The Jim Palmer Tasman Revival Meeting

Venue and Date Pukekohe 26th 27th February 2022

Jim Palmer totally dominated open-wheeler racing in New Zealand through the 1960s to the extent that he won the coveted 'Gold Star' title four times – 1963/64 in a Cooper, 1964/65 in a Brabham, 1965/66 with an ex-Jim Clark Lotus, and 1967/68 in a Formula 2 McLaren. Arguably his greatest performances were during the Tasman Series where he could be measured against the best of the resident Australians

Classes Racing BMW Enduro, Mini /Pre 65, Improved Production Saturday, Arrows, AES/Trade Zone, 2KCup. Formula Junior/F3, Classic Trial, Pirelli Porsche, Super Laps, Touring Car Masters/Historic Sports Sedans.

Enter on Line www.motorsportenry.com

Due to COVID RED Setting, this meeting will not allow spectators.



This will be a Super Classic and Historic Meeting Hampton Downs

BMW will be the featured marque so expect plenty of BMW's both old and new, racing and on display

Classes racing BMW, F5000, Formula Open, Formula Junior F3, ERC Series, Mini Pre 65, Alfa Trofeo, Pirelli Porsche, NZ Sports Cars, Touring Car Masters/Transam, Historic and Vintage Pre 78, Historic Sports Sedans, Historic Touring Cars South Island, Historic Muscle Cars, Classic Touring Cars

This will be a big meeting so enter early on line <u>www.motorsportentry.com</u>

Legends of Speed Overflow Meeting

Hampton Downs Sat 19th March

Classes racing 2KCUP, Improved Production Cars, Classic Trial



A DISABILITY ACCESS EVENT

On December 18th last year, we ran a disability access event for our friend Raymond Dufton. This event was designed to allow disabled people to experience a race track – either in their own car, in a race car or as a group in the Safety Car.

We were supported by Hampton Downs, Radical Sports Cars, Motorsport Parts and Rentals plus a number of racing drivers who gave their time (and fuel) to support this event.

Matt Smith was there to capture the event for us and our tribute to Racing Ray Williams...



Thanks to Wendy Metcalfe, Mark Rantin, Stephen Armstrong, Alan Greig, Janine Douglas, Peter O'Sullivan, Matt Gibson, Dave Weir, Grant Johnstone, Josie Spillane.

The attendees were so excited by the event that they are in the process of forming an Endurance Race Team – all members of which have a disability. They have already purchased a car and will prepare it for the B&H500 Races at Pukekohe in October.



If you would like to be part of this by either being involved directly or by offering sponsorship, please contact Raymond Dufton on 0274 715154 email: <u>rgdufton@gmail.com</u>



One of New Zealand's leading single seater series

This will be an exciting series as the TRS cars and Atlantic cars do similar lap times but with different characteristics.

2022 Season			
SKOPE Classic	Ruapuna	5 th 6th February	Cancelled
Southern Festival	Teretonga	19th 20th February	Cancelled
Legends of Speed	Hampton Downs	26 th 27 th March	
Manawatu Car Club	Manfield	2 nd 3 rd April	
Great Lakes	Taupo	23 rd 24th April	
Season Finale	Hampton Downs	28 th 29 th May	



News from Chris Watson 0274827542 chris@hrcevents.co.nz

The Tasman Revival Taupo round saw our best ever field, comprising no less than 32 entries! In addition to welcoming back our regular drivers, we were very pleased to be joined by a swathe of new faces.

After being unable to race for so long, many were itching to get back in the driver's seat and turn a few laps. All our classes were well represented; the mix of cars and hard racing providing a great spectacle for all.

We thank you all for coming out and helping make the first event of 2022 such a roaring success and with the first meeting done and dusted, we now look forward to a jam-packed season of racing at all the upper North Island tracks.

In case you've been in hibernation, here are one or two key points we'd like everyone to be aware of:

 Tyres: Discounted pricing is available through Value Tyres Limited who are the importer/distributor for Hankook in NZ. IPC regulations require DOT Rated tyres and we generally use Z214 for dry use, Z221 for wet use and Z232 as an all-rounder. Please refer to the IPC regulations for limitations on tyre sizing and consider forward ordering if you are running an unusual size. To order, please contact Value Tyres on 0800 825 838 and quote HRC Events/Improved Production Race Series. 2. Prize and Sponsorship for next year: Value Tyres Limited has very generously put up one full set of race tyres for the championship winner in 2022. This is a substantial prize and well worth fighting for. The competitors that took out this year's championship prizes did so purely out of consistency. Show up, race hard, and you never know what might be coming your way. Hankook and SAS AutoParts will be providing spot prizes and Driveline will be providing a \$100 fuel voucher at every round for the season. With this in mind, we urge you to support these companies with your business whenever you can.

Well here we are in Red Light status again, unsurprisingly some might say.

There's been a fair bit happening off track since the last round and the take-away for me has been the substantial level of interest in this fledgling series. It's not only the number of people involved that's heartening – it's also the depth of engagement that is truly encouraging.

As a result of all the conversation going backwards and forwards after the last round, we felt it was best to put out a fairly comprehensive communication about the breakout system, how it works and why it's needed. The feedback we received from the membership base as a whole was almost universally positive, confirming that IPC is giving the people what they want.

That said, a few astute observers took the opportunity to let us know where we could improve the clarity of the rules and pointed out that there was some ambiguity in the way that the break-out rule was written. We agreed and with the benefit of hindsight, acknowledge that despite not altering the breakout times for at least 2 years, we as the series organisers have not done enough to make the information readily accessible to competitors. While the times were raised at the driver's briefing ahead of Race 1, the contention was that this was too late to be able to properly set up and test cars to ensure compliance.

In recognition of this, it has been decided that Josh Penny's penalty will be suspended for the next three rounds at which he competes. Should he commit no further breakout offences in those three meetings, we will be more than happy to hand 150 points back to this very diligent and deserving competitor. We feel this approach balances the need to be fair to Josh, all the other competitors who did not break out, and the series as a whole.

We are still undertaking a review of the breakout times for each class and the penalty for committing a breakout offence. As soon as this is complete, we will publish these outcomes on the HRC website. A slightly revised version of the series rules will also be published in order to remove any ambiguity. Please note there will be <u>no changes</u> to any part of the regulations that

- relate to permissible modifications,
- points scoring,
- race dates,
- anything that would require an investment in time or money
- anything that would affect the class you're in

In the meantime we now look forward to the next round which of course is the Jim Palmer meeting at Pukekohe on Sunday the 27th of Feb. We will be using the much-loved long back straight and operating under Red Light conditions. This means we will be unable to move outside of our designated area where there will be limited food/drink stalls and isolated bathroom facilities. The footbridge over the track will be closed and there will be no track crossings except in the case of an emergency so be prepared to be in our zone for the whole day.

We will be looking to ensure that all series entrants are carrying at least one functioning forwardfacing camera. We are also tightening up on in-car telemetry to avoid any ambiguity. Please take this opportunity to ensure that if you are running some kind of data recorder, it must be:

- placed either facing away from the driver <u>or</u> out of sight of the driver <u>or</u> not have a display of any kind
- out of arm's reach of the driver

And now, a note from our sponsors..

Value Tyres has reportedly been very pleased with the level of business being generated by the IPC sponsorship and are looking to maintain this relationship for the benefit of both sides. Competitors have not only enjoyed substantial savings, but also the quality of the Hankook product itself. This really has been a win-win situation and we strongly encourage all our series entrants to make good use of the special IPC pricing.

Updated IPC Calendar

Note change of race date for the Jim Palmer meeting from Saturday 26th to Sunday 27th

Meeting Name	Venue	Race Car Test Day	Race Date	Race Date
		Operated by Circuit	Saturday	Sunday
Jim Palmer				
Tasman Revival	Pukekohe	25-Feb-22		27-Feb-22
	Hampton			
2KCUP / IPC Race	Downs		19-Mar-22	
Great Lake				
Meeting	BMMP Taupo	22-Apr-22	23-Apr-22	
Classic Taupo	BMMP Taupo	13-May-22	14-May-22	
Season Finale	Hampton Downs	27-May-22	28-May-22	
	Downs	27 11107 22	20 1110 22	

Championship Standings

Following are the points awarded at Taupo.

Ben Van Der Werff, Jason Weel and Scott Mills have the top spots in IPC1.

Terry May, Bailey Cruse and Garry Morrell took the honours in IPC2.

Bevin White, Chris Greaney and Phil Page are the men to beat in IPC3.

Note that Josh Penny won all 3 races for IPC1 but broke out on 2 consecutive laps in Race 2 which unfortunately hands him a penalty of no championship points for the weekend. He keeps the race wins but comes away with zero points, handing the championship lead to Bevan White who won all his races in IPC3.



Classic Touring Cars

Classic Touring Cars Meetings as follows

The Big event of the year will be the three day Legends Meeting Hampton Downs 25th to 27th March. This will be a pure classic meeting only open to classic and historic cars. It is a three day meeting because of the large number of classes that want to be part of this meeting. Classic Touring Cars has secured an entry slot and the Heritage Touring Cars from the South Island will join us. We are negotiating a Manfeild round the following weekend to make it worthwhile for our mainland competitors to join us.

A further two rounds are planned, Taupo 23rd 24th April and Hampton Downs 28th 29th May

These events are all HRC events and drivers can cross enter from other classes for \$100 extra and get another 3 races and practice.

Classic Touring cars is a non contact class and is gentleman racing, no ladies have entered yet but they would be welcomed.

The cars that we want to see out racing are pre 94 Touring Cars, makes will include BMW, Porsche, Ferrari ,Commodore, RX7, Corvette, Datsun, Group A and any British touring cars. All cars must be in 1990's spec

No Series fee or Series registration required

Stay safe and we hope we can get back to normal in the new yearRegardsChris Watson0274827542chris@grandprix.org.nz

NEW ZEALAND FORMULA 5000 ASSOCIATION 2021/22 SAS Autoparts MSC NZ F5000 Tasman Cup Revival Series

Revised series calendar announcement 02-02-22

LOCAL F5000 SERIES WILL GO AHEAD – BUT NEW ROUND DATES VERY DIFFERENT TO THOSE ORIGINALLY PLANNED



Grant Martin (Talon MR 1/A left) and Codie Banks (Lola T332 right) lead the SAS Autoparts MSC NZ F5000 Tasman Cup Revival Series away from the rolling start at the final round of the 2020/21 series at Hampton Downs last March.

The good news for Kiwi motor racing fans - starved of world-class historic motor racing action by the New Zealand government's response to the COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic - is that the organising committee of the NZ Formula 5000 Association has confirmed this week that the hitherto cancellation-hit 2021/22 SAS Autoparts MSC NZ Tasman Cup Revival Series will indeed go ahead this season.

"That's right," spokesperson for the NZ F5000 Association," Glenn Richards said this morning. "We knew that we were going to be up against it when we first sat down to nut out the original calendar. But that was when we had only just heard about the Delta strain and Omicron had yet to be identified."

"Since then both these variants have played havoc here, with Delta leading to NZ's longest ever Lockdown and Omicron meaning we are now back in a 'red' operating environment – meaning, incredibly – that all three rounds scheduled so far have had to be cancelled."

In theory the Canterbury Car Club's decision to call off its 32nd annual three-day Skope Classic meeting next weekend (Feb 05-06) could well have been the straw which broke the back of this season's 19th annual SAS Autoparts MSC NZ F5000 Tasman Cup Series. If only because – with an eye on COVID-19 as well as cost, the organising committee – had put together a compact 4 (rather than the more usual 5 or even 6) round series this season.

A good idea had the first three rounds been able to go ahead as planned. Not such a good one however, if the opening round of the 2021/22 SAS Autoparts MSC Series was also the final – as would have been the case had not organising committee member Glenn Richards called a special meeting – via Zoom – last Thursday evening to discuss 'what to do next?'

"One option," Richards explains, "was simply to accept that our season and series had been snookered by COVID-19 and that with the HRC still willing and able to have us at its annual Legends of Speed meeting at Hampton Downs at the end of March, we just run at the one meeting this season and accept it as – if you like – a fait accompli.

"The other (option) was to dig our toes in and say 'hang on a minute, we're all adults here, the reason we own these beautiful old racing cars is actually to race them. So, let's pull our Big Boy Pants on and actively canvas clubs still willing to put on race meetings and try and come up with at least two more chances to run our cars before the 21/22 season morphs into 22/23."

As it turns out it was the second option which received a unanimous vote from the assembled committee members, two of which had already been in touch with meeting organisers in their particular regions and were able to table serious invitations to the race committee for 'replacement' events.

The first was back at Christchurch's Mike Pero Motorsport Park at Ruapuna over the April 9-10 weekend, the second at the now re-named Taupo International Motorsport Park (nee Bruce McLaren Motorsport Park) at Taupo on May 14-15.

There are still 'I's-to-dot-and-t's-to-cross' for all parties involved, particularly with little firm idea of how NZ will be affected by the Omicron variant of the COVD-19 Coronavirus over the next 4-6 weeks. However, Richards believes that with all the proper protocols (access limited to those with a Vaccine Pass, signing in, social distancing, mask-wearing, etc, etc) in place, the chances of catching COVID-19 at any motor race meeting are probably no better or worse than they would be if everyone involved with the SAS Autoparts MSC series parked their cars up and stayed at home.

"And I'm very happy to report, says Richards,' that no one on the committee wanted that!"

The SAS Autoparts MSC NZ F5000 Tasman Cup Revival Series is organised and run with the support of sponsors SAS Autoparts, MSC, NZ Express Transport, Bonney's Specialised Bulk Transport, Mobil Lubricants, Pacifica, Avon Tyres, Webdesign and Exide Batteries.





• Jim Palmer Revival Meeting

Great Lakes Meeting

- $26^{th}\,27^{th}$ February 2023 Long Back Straight Pukekohe
- Legends Of Speed
- 23rd 24th April Taupo

25th 26th 27th March Hampton Downs

Sharon Cuttance Category Manager P: 0276 742 766 E: <u>tcm.nz@xtra.co.nz</u>

The Jim Palmer Tasman Revival Meeting

Venue and Date Pukekohe 26th 27th February 2022



Formula Junior/F3✓ERC Series✓Mini/Pre65✓
Mini/Pre65 ✓ ✓
•
2KCUP ✓
Classic Trial 🗸
BMW Enduro 🗸
Pirelli Porsche 🗸
IPC ✓
Superlaps 🗸 🗸
TCM/Historic Sports
Sedans 🗸 🗸

Legends of Speed Overflow Meeting

Hampton Downs Sat 19th March

Hampton		
EXCEPTIONAL EXPERIENCES	SAT	
2KCUP	$\checkmark\checkmark$	2 Grids
IPC	\checkmark	
Pirelli Porsche	\checkmark	



Legends Of Speed 25/26/27th March

This will be a Super Classic and Historic Meeting at Hampton Downs

BMW will be the featured marque so expect plenty of BMW's both old and new, racing and on display

Classes racing BMW, F5000, Formula Open, Formula Junior F3, ERC Series, Mini Pre 65, Alfa Trofeo, Pirelli Porsche, NZ Sports Cars, Touring Car Masters, Historic and Vintage Pre 78, Historic Sports Sedans, Historic Touring Cars, Historic Muscle Cars, Classic Touring Cars

Great Lakes Meeting Taupo International Motorsport Park

23rd 24th April 2022

	SAT	SUN
Formula Junior/F3	\checkmark	\checkmark
ERC Series		\checkmark
Mini/Pre65	\checkmark	\checkmark
Alfa Trofeo	\checkmark	
2KCUP		$\checkmark\checkmark$
BMW Enduro	\checkmark	
IPC	\checkmark	
Superlaps	\checkmark	\checkmark
NZ Sportscars	\checkmark	
TCM	\checkmark	\checkmark
NZ6	\checkmark	\checkmark
FONZ	\checkmark	

Classic Taupo 14th 15th May 2022

Taupo International Motorsport Park

	SAT	SUN
Superkarts	\checkmark	\checkmark
IPC	\checkmark	
NZ Sportscars	\checkmark	
Historic and Vintage	\checkmark	\checkmark
VCC Hooters		\checkmark
Historic Muscle		
Cars	\checkmark	\checkmark
Historic Sports Sedans	\checkmark	\checkmark
F5000	\checkmark	\checkmark
Classic Touring		
Cars	\checkmark	\checkmark

HRC Season Finale 28th 29th May 2022

Hampton Downs

	SAT	SUN	
Superkarts	\checkmark	\checkmark	
Formula Junior/F3		\checkmark	
Classic Trial	\checkmark		
IPC	\checkmark		
Superlaps	\checkmark	\checkmark	
NZ Sportscars	\checkmark		
VCC Roycroft Trophy			\checkmark
Classic Touring			
Cars	\checkmark	\checkmark	
FONZ	\checkmark		

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At the office here at 44 Stoddard Rd, we can do licence tests and authority cards Monday to Friday 10am to 7pm. Just email <u>chris@hrcevents.co.nz</u> with a time and date and he will confirm by email. My Laps transponders always available on <u>www.hrcevents.co.nz</u> and the courier is part of the price or they can be picked at the office.

HRC Membership Benefits

We have included the following benefits as part of your HRC Membership

Free Entry for current HRC Members to spectate at any of our race meetings (On production of valid Club Membership Card)







ENGINE SPECIALISTS





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