



Greetings from Club President Phill Dravitski

Hi members

There has been a lot going on behind the scenes by the committee, and we hope you will be as excited with the season as we are.

www.gtrnz.co.nz

Firstly, I take it most if you would have seen our awesome new website. I am sure you will agree it is a huge improvement on the last one, and when everyone pays for their membership they get sent their own log in details, and can surf the treasures for sale, post something slightly used for sale, upload your own photos and driver profile, post on forums, and keep up to date with the latest news and points. We have Kerry Suter from Dynaweb to thank for the website.



Trademark Issues Resolved

The second bit of good news is that our saga with the trademark of our GT1 and GTRNZ name is over, and this was a problem with us getting on with the season planning – but now we own the names and we truly have our own identity in the racing fraternity, and we are the envy of many other classes. We owe Tony Stewart a big thanks for sorting this out for the club.

Membership Forms and Series Articles now online

I know you have all been anxious to rejoin your membership, but we had a hold up with the Series Articles and Regulations until the trademark dispute was settled. I am happy to report that these have now passed through the Motorsport NZ approvals, and all are posted on the website and ready for you to rejoin for the current year. When you sign your membership form, make sure you have read all the Series Articles, Rules and regulations so you know what you are agreeing to. Keith has written a bit about these later in this newsletter.

Now is the time to get your membership in - remember that GTNZ class was full on the first race at Taupo last season so don't delay.

Entries

Entries for each individual round has to be paid in full by the due date on the IRC entry form, or it can be paid in advance. Also a note that the Taupo track does not have Credit Card facilities, so those meetings will have to be paid to GTRNZ by either check or direct credit.

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2010-2011 Season

We have an action-packed series this year, with not only the normal NZGT, GT2 and GT1 series championships – but also a combined overall GT1/GT2 Championship as well, so let's see if a GT2 car can beat the faster GT1 cars with the help of the handicap races.

We also have a non-championship Practice Race meeting at Manfield early October for those of you who have their cars ready, and want to get back into the driving seat before the race for points begins.

And as if that is not enough fun for all, we also have a possible opportunity of being part of one or two Tier 1 meetings – but we have not got confirmation of that yet – so we will keep you updated when we know more details if it comes to fruition. The opportunity will only be accepted if all NZGT, GT1 & GT2 classes are involved. It would be good if we have an idea of how many people may be keen on being involved with a Tier 1 meeting if it goes ahead - so anyone interested please contact me.

Other cool things we have planned are Saturday evening eats and drinks with prizegiving from the previous meeting and other good things that you will miss out on if you are not there – so keep the Saturday after racing free and come and mingle with everyone.

Series Sponsors

To date we have one confirmed sponsor for the series, with the committee working on more options. If anyone has any company or business that could be interested in sponsoring the class, please contact me (Phill Dravitski) for details. The sponsorship starts at \$5,000 for a single sticker on each side of all GTRNZ vehicles, right through to different values of sponsorship packages right up to window banners.

Car Numbers

The car number is related to paid membership, and we get requests all the time for car numbers (some of which do not race), and it is hard to explain why someone can't have a number when the number is not in use the previous season.

The car number is directly related to a paid membership – therefore to be fair to everyone, only a paid membership can secure a number for each season.

This means, however, that if anyone is intending not to race this season, then a minimum of an Associate membership is required to secure the race number for that season – and if the member decides to start racing again part way through the season, the Associate membership fee shall be deducted from the Full Competing membership fee.

Any number that has not been secured with a paid membership of any sort cannot be reserved, and if requested by another competitor, may be issued to the request.

Rain Lights, Wipers and Demisters

These are all items that are not negotiable with MotorsportNZ. All cars wanting to compete have to have operational windscreen wipers and demister (even if you don't use them on your windows), and a rain light that complies with Schedule A. We have a rain light that we (committee) think is really good, and suggest if anyone is going to buy a rain light, that they consider the one in our series Technical Regulations.

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Gate Passes

This year the IRC are issuing each competitor with a total of 3 gate passes, and the passes will be clipped at the entry to the Sunday of each meeting, and can't be used for other people to get in the gates. So if any of you wish to order more gate passes, please let Phill know and we will find out for you what is involved to get more pass cards for your crew, etc.

Other Events of Interest

Keith Finnerty has offered GTRNZ members a chance to join in with the Taranaki Car Club Dual Sprint event at Hampton Downs on 16th October. It could be a cheap run on the Hampton Downs circuit to get used to the track before the GTRNZ runs there in November.

We also have a total of 6 cars that are over in Thailand competing on the Super Car Thailand Championships. Craig Corless organized the team to compete over there, and although it is not a GTRNZ venture, we wish them all well, and have no doubt they will put on a great show for NZ racing, and in particular GTRNZ. Anyone who wants to keep an eye on the racing can watch on <http://www.truevisionstv.com>

So keep checking the website for updates, get your Membership and Series Entry up to date, and upload your own details and photos on the website when you have your log in details.

Thanks for all your support in the past, and any support or input you may have for the upcoming season.

Phill Dravitski
GTRNZ President

Hi everyone,

I am happy to be your series coordinator for another season and I'm looking forward to more fun behind the scenes this year. Over the break, and following on from some of the recommendations at the AGM, I had a chance to look at some of the things that made my life more interesting last season.



Breakout Rule

It's fair to say that the breakout rule created the most havoc. For most of you it meant very little but for those on the fringe of the breakout times it had the potential to ruin your season. This time round we have added a little flexibility to the times. We did this for several reasons.

For those cars close to breaking out, it was often only at one circuit. Maybe it was their home patch or just their favourite but some cars would go very close to breaking out at say Taupo but no where near breaking out at the other locations.

Everyone now can breakout of their class times **no more than** six times but **no more than** three times at any one event. This is more "generous" than last season and it will not please everybody of course but I think the extra flexibility will be fairer. We'll know at the end of the season if we have gone too far the other way.

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Penalties

We have also tweaked the penalties to be much clearer, especially when it comes to qualifying. This is pretty simple. If you breakout of your class time during qualifying then we take your fastest lap time and add ten seconds. All other times are disregarded. This resolves the issues last season where our regulations allowed for a car breaking out in qualifying to maintain their fast time which others felt should be deemed void and a penalty applied.

During racing we add 10 seconds each time you breakout. Handicap is the same. All your positions during the weekend are determined by your single fastest (legal) lap. Some people didn't realise this last season and would ask me why they were so high up the grid...well, you can blame that blinding good lap you did in race one but I wouldn't complain, after all, that's why we race, right?

Hampton Downs

While most of us have had a blast around this circuit by now, we don't have any "official" times to calculate class eligibility yet. You will see that we wrote into the Articles that the committee will meet at the end of qualifying on the 13 November and decide what the breakout time will be. You simply qualify in the same class as the previous round.

The Taranaki Car Club has a club day on October 16 at Hampton Downs which you are welcome to come to (entry is only \$100). I'll be the organiser and CoC and if enough GTRNZ cars come we can set aside some time for you to test. Otherwise we run a relaxed day dual car sprinting. If you want to come, email me catandmousetv@gmail.com or keep an eye on our website for details: www.taranakicarclub.org.nz.

That's all from me for now. Feel free to send through any questions you have about the new Articles. If there are things we can clarify to the whole group prior to racing then that is a good thing (I can't wait for the GT1/GT2 handicap!!)

Regards

Keith Finnerty
Series Coordinator

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