



www.pdnracing.org.au

IN THE PITS

AUGUST 2007

THE NEWSLETTER OF PENRITH DISTRICT NITRO RACING INC. (PDNR)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

THE CHILLING EDITION!

Welcome again to another edition of *In The Pits*, the (once upon a time) monthly newsletter of PDNR! Thanks to all the drivers who have continued to support us during the Autumn Championship, it clearly shows we are absolutely mad, have no brains and are just plain stupid. (It was the coldest Tuesday in over 20 years a few weeks ago and we still had a huge attendance by drivers and spectators) PDNR drivers must have one of the worst addictions to turn up week after week at near sub zero temperatures to race our cars trucks and buggies!

Tonight (Tuesday 7th August) is the final round of the 2007 Autumn Championship. Next week we will be holding our Presentation Night. For something different it will not be held at SIRC, but at the Nepean Rowing Club (See more details later in this newsletter). All drivers and their families are welcome and the bistro and bar will be open if you want to make it a night out! We encourage all drivers to come along and have a chat and de-brief on the past championship, you might even be lucky enough to take home a trophy. We will also try and organise an informal meeting/discussion after the trophy presentations so if you have any ideas, suggestions or comments this is a good opportunity to share them with the committee and fellow drivers.

Graham's
HOBBY CENTRE
67A Queen Street St Marys NSW 2760
02 9833 9044
Open 7 Days
www.grahamshobbies.com.au

President's Report Continued...

It has also been great to see more and more drivers from PDNR attending other race meets and events. It makes me proud to see that the best represented club at most major events is PDNR. You should all be proud to represent your club and I look forward to travelling away with you on the next PDNR road trip!

On behalf of the Committee I would also like to thank all the people who have helped in either setting up or pulling down the track each week. A huge amount of work is required for our race meetings to run effectively and start on time, and your assistance with equipment set up is greatly appreciated. Although we can't enforce drivers to help (we appreciate some of you are just there to pay your fees and race), we do thank drivers who find the time to help by allowing them priority at registration, so if you can arrive a bit earlier on Tuesday nights please get out and lend a hand. We have also adopted a system where the last two divisions each night are required to stay back and help. This works okay, but you can never have enough help! Moral of the story – We need your help all the time!

While I'm on the subject of thankyou's, a big thanks must go to those who have helped in organising and running the race meetings. Although most of these people are on the committee, they continue to do a tireless and often thankless job to keep things moving behind the scenes. Most of you will never appreciate the time and effort that goes in, and it is for this reason I would like to thank them now. Keep up the hard work!

That's about enough rambling from me, please read on as you will find more information on some of the upcoming events, past events, news, updates and technical tips. And don't forget to visit the PDNR website for more up to date news, race results and event information. There are some major events on the horizon so make sure you download a PDNR Event Calendar and stick it on the fridge next time you're online – visit www.pdnracing.org.au

El Pres

Kevin



PDNR SPONSOR UPDATE

One of the reasons for starting the *In The Pits* newsletter all those years ago was to give exposure to PDNR's sponsors. This regrettably has been a bit slack in recent times, but hopefully we can make amends in the coming months.

PDNR owe a great deal to their sponsors, as without their support PDNR would not have been able to grow to what we are today. To show our appreciation to our current sponsors, we would like to introduce them to you again. In addition to our very generous and loyal long term sponsors, the great news is we now have some fantastic new sponsors. Please welcome our new sponsors aboard by giving them your support. Our new sponsors may be names you already know and love but I hope the others will move to the top of your shopping lists because of their great products and service.

GRAHAM'S HOBBY CENTRE

Our longest serving sponsor is Graham's Hobby Centre who have been the club's main sponsor since 2003. Graham's Hobby Centre are located at 67A Queen St, St Marys. Graham's support for the club has been fantastic and it is from his continued donation of the raffle car for every PDNR championship, plus support of other events like the Kids Race Day / PDNR Charity Challenge that the club is able to raise much needed funding.

AUSWIDE HOBBIES & COLLECTABLES

Auswide Hobbies & Collectables is a local hobby shop that was actually opened by a few drivers who once raced at PDNR. This trend has continued right up to today since its opening over three years ago. Auswide Hobbies & Collectables are located at 199 High Street, Penrith (next door to Jaycar). They are another great supporter of the club who are always there to help when the need arises.

AUTUMN PRESENTATION NIGHT

Tuesday August 14

Bistro 6:30pm Presentation 8:30pm

NEPEAN ROWING CLUB

PIRTEK AUSTRALIA

Pirtek Australia have been with us now for quite a while (which is evident in the number of Pirtek caps getting around our pits – we still have a stack of them to give away! Pirtek are a division sponsor of PDNR and not only offer financial support to PDNR, but are often generously donating motor sport memorabilia and merchandise for the club to either give away or raffle.

TOOL AUS

Tool Aus are the first new sponsor we would like to welcome aboard. Tool Aus have all you tools you need with a huge range from the humble hand tool right through to winches, water pumps and machinery. You can meet the team and find out more about their products at www.toolaus.com.au Tool Aus are also a division sponsor of PDNR and I'm sure you'll be seeing more of their products in pit boxes trackside in the future.

JPM RACING

A fantastic addition to our sponsor list is JPM Racing. Although only just recently becoming an official sponsor, Joe Patane and JPM Racing have been a regular fixture at all PDNR events over the last few years. JPM Racing are a distributor of a huge and ever growing range RC products such as RB Concept Racing Engines, ATS Tyres, Blitz Bodies, Team Titan Accessories, Meccamo Racing Fuel and Caster Racing just to name a few. All their products are available from your local hobby shop, if not...find a new hobby shop! Or ask them to contact either Joe or Matt from JPM Racing. JPM Racing have exhibited outstanding support of their products over the years (just ask anyone at PDNR who has used their products) so make sure you check out their full range at your local hobby shop or visit www.jpmracing.com.au

FREESTYLE BARBER SHOP

The latest PDNR sponsor is another local business who has serviced the local community for many years. PDNR are proud to welcome Freestyle Barber Shop to the team. Hairdressing isn't usually associated with Nitro Car Racing, but with a presentation night coming up soon, PDNR members have no excuse not to look presentable! Freestyle Barber Shop is located at shop 4, 429 High Street, Penrith and in addition to financial support have come up with something different to offer PDNR members, all you need to do is mention PDNR at your next haircut and you will receive a \$5 discount fuel voucher – full details available in store.

RAFFLES & FUNDRAISING

CAR RAFFLE

Generously donated by
GRAHAM'S HOBBY CENTRE

Tickets are a \$1 each

The car raffle will be drawn on
the Autumn Presentation Night
on August 14, 2007.

*If the winner is not present, they
will be notified to claim prize.*

MEAT TRAY

Purchased from quality meats at
IVAN'S BUTCHERY

Tickets are a 3 for \$1

The raffle will be drawn each
Tuesday night at half time break.

*If the winner is not present, prize
will be re-drawn until a winner is
found.*

Raffle Tickets are available from Race Control or wandering sales representatives



www.auswidehobbies.com.au
AUSWIDE
HOBBIES AND COLLECTABLES

199 High Street Penrith
(next door to Jaycar)
02 4732 5133
www.auswidehobbies.com.au

UPCOMING EVENTS

Here are some of the upcoming events you may be interested in attending. More information and entry forms are available from the PDNR website – www.pdnracing.org.au but in the meantime, add these to your diary.

- **AUGUST 14** 2007 AUTUMN PRESENTATION NIGHT
- **AUGUST 18 & 19** 2007 PDNR CHALLENGE (SIRC)
- **AUGUST 25** PDNR DRAG NIGHT (SIRC)
- **SEPTEMBER 4** START SPRING CHAMPIONSHIP (SIRC)
- **SEPTEMBER 20** 1/5 SCALE WORLDS (Brisbane)
- **OCTOBER 6** RC BATHURST 1000 (Bathurst)
- **NOVEMBER 10 & 11** MINGARA CUP (Wyang)
- **NOVEMBER 17** PDNR 3 HOUR CLASSIC (SIRC)
- **DECEMBER 16** PDNR CHARITY CHALLENGE (Oran Park)

LETTERS TO EDITOR

In The Pits invites all drivers, members or spectators with letters, stories or suggestions to send them for inclusion in the newsletter. If you have any thoughts for the PDNR community please e-mail them to publicity@pdnracing.org.au with the subject "Newsletter."



REGATTA CENTRE RULES

To continue the use of the Sydney International Regatta Centre, SIRC, facility, it is important that all PDNR club members, visitors and spectators observe the following rules;

- **All drivers and spectators are required to stay within the area of the island (P1) car park where racing is held.**
- **Drivers and spectators are not allowed to wander around the regatta complex or anywhere near the lakes, bridge, grandstand or ANY pontoon.**
- **ALL children are to be accompanied and supervised by an adult at all times and please no scooters, bikes, rollerblades etc.**
- **The island car park is on an island, ie it is surrounded by deep water with steep banks. The water is dark and cold. Please keep yourself, and any children away from the water and banks. Do NOT let your children play on any of the pontoons.**
- **Place all rubbish in the provided bins.**

If you can not adhere to these rules, you may be asked to leave the venue.

Toilets are located at the centre of the boat sheds. This is found immediately east of the island car park, across the grassed area.

FREESTYLE BARBER SHOP

Shop 4, 429 High St, Penrith

Ph 4722 8884

Mention PDNR when you visit Roger for your next hair appointment and you will receive a **DISCOUNT RACE FUEL VOUCHER TO THE VALUE OF \$5.00**

(See in store for full details)

RUBBISH BINS & WASTE FUEL

PDNR request that all drivers and spectators put all rubbish (and broken parts) in the bins provided. PDNR are guests to the car park, and it must be left in the same state as when we arrived.

Special mention is made of the appropriate disposal of WASTE FUEL. There is a waste fuel drum at the big trailer for any drivers wishing to dispose of waste nitro fuel. Please ensure this is used at all times.

CONTACT DETAILS

Club website: www.pdnracing.org.au

Club mail: The Secretary, PO Box 420 Kingswood NSW 2747

Track: P1 car park, Sydney International Regatta Centre
Old Castlereagh Rd Penrith (Gate A – General Entry)

President: Kevin Maton
0433 410 028
president@pdnracing.org.au

Vice President: Stephen O'Connor
0414 752 461
vicepresident@pdnracing.org.au

Secretary: Michael Turner
0409 258 837
secretary@pdnracing.org.au

Comp Secretary: Rod Albronda
0412 034 923
competition@pdnracing.org.au

RACING AROUND TOWN

2007 PROLINE PDNR 2.4 HOUR LE MANS

We start this new column *Racing Around Town* with our very own 2.4 Hour Le Mans enduro. The event was once again supported by our fantastic sponsor Proline, and once again it is with great thanks that we put our hands together for the incredibly strong bodies they supplied. I for one can vouch for just how strong they are.

The event started with open practice and it was no surprise to see the Ninja Racing team ahead in lap times with a key team member none other than Australian Champion and Factory Mugen team driver Wayne Walker. So it was no surprise to see them take the TQ trophy at the end of qualifying.

It was great to see some new faces at the pointy end of the starting grid with the Auswide Guns only half a second off the pace and all fired up for a big night. The two quick teams were well into the 18sec laps on a track that seemed miles longer than our usual Tuesday night layout. The next three teams were in the 19's with the next 8 teams getting closer and closer the more laps they put in.

The race started in all the splendour of Le Mans with a member from each team positioned across the straight ready for the mad rush to the cars. The flag dropped and by the end of the first lap some of the teams had already done some pretty serious panel beating but Team Ninja was in the lead and that was where they stayed for the first 87 laps. From there it was Graham's Hobby Racing 2 that took control at the front up until the 134th lap when Onsong whisked it away. These two teams swapped the lead many times during the remainder of the event.

Graham's Hobby Racing 2 ended up taking out the event by 15 laps over Onsong with Auswide Guns finishing 3rd. It was another fantastic event run by a fantastic club and I know there are a lot of us that can't wait for the next one.



HOW TO BLOW IT – PART 1

It happens to the best of us. After circulating well feeling great in warm up, you crash and burn in the actual race. We'll assume it isn't because you didn't prepare your car properly (that's the number-one way to blow it), but we bet the reason you did blow it can be found below - along with our sage advice on how not to blow it next time.

1. HOW TO BLOW IT » Trying to win the race in the first turn. When the start buzzer goes off, the urge to clamp the throttle and claw your way to the front is irresistible. If you can get a clean hole shot, go for it, but if you can't, and you try to force your way into the front by the first corner, you'll probably just get tangled in a first-turn pileup while the leaders streak away with a big gap on the wannabes.

HOW TO WIN » Your goal should be to get through the first turn cleanly in any position, even if it means letting off or hitting the brakes. If you can't get the hole shot, any position on the track that puts you in a good position to chase the leaders is better than losing a lap to a crash. If you're fast enough to win the race, you'll have plenty of time to reel in the slower drivers who managed a better start.

2. HOW TO BLOW IT » Rough driving. Rubbin' might be racin', but slamming into the other guy isn't. You might get lucky and move up a position, but you won't make any friends in the pits. (If your reply to that is, "I race to win, not to make friends," then get over yourself. It's a model car race!) If you think RC is a contact sport, it's likely that you'll just take yourself out with your hack moves. And don't be surprised when a marshal doesn't exactly kill themselves to flip your car back over.

HOW TO WIN » If you can't pass cleanly, don't pass. It's that simple. If the driver of the car in front of you never makes a mistake and never opens the door, he deserves to be in front of you. On the other hand, if you keep it clean and stay on his bumper, you'll be right there to strike if they do make a mistake or run too wide on a corner.

3. HOW TO BLOW IT » Over driving. Trying to win in the first corner is bad, but trying to win in every corner is worse. As you drag race from turn to turn, you'll go deeper into the corners than you need to, and as you brake harder and later, you'll have to use more time and power to accelerate, all of which increases your lap times.

HOW TO WIN » As the saying goes, slow is fast. Drive only as fast as the track

will let you. It takes a lot of discipline not to squeeze the trigger to the grip at every opportunity, but a little restraint pays huge dividends. When you stop overshooting apexes, you can get the power back on sooner. When you don't have to brake hard and late, you can maintain speed through the turns. In other words: you'll have faster lap times.

We will have the final part of *How To Blow It* in the next issue of In The Pits, so stay tuned! (Pardon the pun!)

QUICK TIP - If you use foam tires, you'll know that precise camber adjustment are required to ensure long and even tire wear. To properly set the camber on your car, draw a line across the tyres contact patches with a piece of chalk or paint pen. Drive the car around the track for a few minutes, and then pull the car off the track and check the chalk. The chalk will show the contact patch the tires have with the track surface. If the chalk has worn away on the outside of a tire, shorten the camber rod slightly to increase negative camber. Do the opposite if the chalk has worn away on the inside.



www.toolaus.com.au

RACE REPORT – NITRO INTERCLUB SERIES

For many years the relationship between nitro based clubs in NSW has been poor. Each club just went about their business catering for their members and drivers. The brains behind many of PDNR's innovative events felt that something needed to be done to establish a relationship between NSW based RC clubs. Many clubs in NSW share a passion and interest in nitro on-road racing, and it was time someone tried to bring them together. From this thinking, the Nitro Interclub Series was born.

SEASON 1 – 2006/2007

The Nitro Interclub Series started in August 2006 at the PDNR Challenge. This was PDNR's first major two-day event and attracted over sixty entrants across four divisions. The Nitro Interclub Series continued over a total of 7 rounds, being held at 6 venues across NSW. The attendance was excellent, an average just under 60 entrants attended each event. PDNR were dominant in numbers and comfortably secured the overall win in season 1.

SEASON 2 – 2007/2008

The second season has been given the go ahead with clubs agreeing to support the series for another year. There are plans for a few changes to the format and how the points are calculated which is expected to make the competition closer. There may also be the addition of new rounds to expand the series to involve new clubs, and the biggest plan is to try and standardise specifications for classes. The NIS are looking at four classes: NITRO SPORT, PULL START, OPEN TOURER and 1/8 SCALE. Any combination of these can be run at NIS events.

Round 1 will be the PDNR Challenge – August 18 & 19 2007

CONCLUSION

Thanks to all the clubs, drivers and race organiser who supported the inaugural series. Hopefully the support of clubs and drivers will continue and the series can grow bigger and better in years to come.

NITRO INTERCLUB SERIES - SEASON 1 - POINT SCORE

At the conclusion of the first season, the overall points table has PDNR victorious on top, 2nd place NSWRCRCC and 3rd SORMCC.

Pos	Club	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6	Round 7	TOTAL
1	PDNR	20	20	20	20	16	20	16	132
2	NSWRCRCC	16	14	16	14	20	14	20	114
3	SORMCC	10	12	8	16	12	9	14	81
4	MINGARA RC	12	16	12	9		10		59
5	CASTLE HILL			7	12	10		10	39
6	LRCCC	14		3				12	29
=7	SINN			5			12	9	26
=7	TAMWORTH		10				16		26
9	MRCCR			9		14			23
10	SMA			2	10	9			21
11	MAITLAND					7	8		15
12	IMCC			14					14
13	DUBBO			6			7		13
14	QRRCA			4		8			12
15	BENDIGO			10					10
16	GOSFORD		9						9
17	SUGAR VALLEY					6			6
18	TFTR			1					1

More detailed results round by round are available at the NIS webpage at www.pdnracing.org.au/nis

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Tuesday August 14

Bistro 6:30pm Presentation 8:30pm

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Penrith District Nitro Racing



AUTUMN PRESENTATION NIGHT

Tuesday August 14

Bistro 6:30pm Presentation 8:30pm

NEPEAN ROWING CLUB

Bruce Neale Drive, Penrith

Bring the family!

See you there!