



IN THE PITS

www.pdnracing.org.au

OCTOBER 2007

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

THE MOUNTAIN MONTH!

Welcome again to another edition of *In The Pits*. It is great to see that this newsletter is becoming more frequent. Not only does this help the PDNR Management Committee communicate news and events with members and drivers, but it promotes club sponsors and supporters.

Over the past few weeks of Tuesday night's we have seen some great racing in the 2007 Spring Championship. The competition has been extremely close in many divisions and we have a summary of the highlights so far along with the latest championship point score (which if you weren't aware is updated every week on the PDNR website).

October is motor sport heaven for many petrol heads, and nitro radio control is pretty much the same. Most of you would probably have read or heard that the 2007 RC Bathurst 1000 is on again this year, and PDNR are extremely pleased that it is back where it belongs – Bathurst! The event will have been run by the time this issue is released and we hope to have a race report on the 2007 RC Bathurst 1000 next issue.

Another event that has been held since the last issue include the 2007 Lithgow Grand Prix which was on September 29 & 30 forming Round 2 of the Nitro Interclub Series. This was well attended by PDNR members and once again our representing drivers did our club proud taking line honours at the event.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Well another month has been and gone and the weeks just keep flying by. The warmer weather is amongst us and this has been highlighted in the increased entries on Tuesday nights and bigger crowds surrounding the track.

I would like to thank all the spectators that come down to watch, we hope you enjoy your night out and we hope to one day see you driving an RC car around our track!

There is lots of news and race reports this issue and you can see it has been a very busy time for RC lately. The next major event on the horizon is the Australian On Road National Championships. This year they are at the Lillydale circuit in Melbourne and I would like to wish all PDNR members making the trip the best of luck. It is only a small team from PDNR this year but I know you will do us and yourselves proud.

I trust you will enjoy this issue of *In The Pits* and hope to see you next time you are at racing.

El Pres

Kevin



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2008 EVENT CALENDAR

The PDNR event calendar for 2008 has been finalised. You can download a full colour version from the website – www.pdnracing.org.au

PDNR 2008 Racing Calendar

Last Updated - 09/10/2007

Summer		Autumn		Spring	
Tue 8-Jan-08	Registration & Practice 1 (Bunt)	Tue 6-May-08	Registration & Practice 1	Tue 2-Sep-08	Registration & Practice 1
Tue 15-Jan-08	Registration & Practice 2	Tue 13-May-08	Registration & Practice 2	Tue 9-Sep-08	Registration & Practice 2
Sat 19-Jan-08	Team Onon - Summer Mile (TBA)	Sat 17-May-08	Tamworth Cup (Tamworth)	Tue 16-Sep-08	R1
Sun 20-Jan-08	-- Round 3 - 2007/2008 Nitro Interclub Series --	Sun 18-May-08	-- Round 6 - 2007/2008 Nitro Interclub Series --	Tue 23-Sep-08	R2
Tue 22-Jan-08	R1 (Bunt)	Tue 20-May-08	R1	Tue 30-Sep-08	R3
Sat 26-Jan-08	Australia Day 2008	Tue 27-May-08	R2	Tue 7-Oct-08	R4
Tue 29-Jan-08	R2	Tue 3-Jun-08	R3	Sat 11-Oct-08	PDNR RC Bathurst 1000 (Bathurst)
Tue 5-Feb-08	R3	Tue 10-Jun-08	R4	Tue 14-Oct-08	R5
Fri 8-Feb-08	PDNR Drag Night - Round 1	Sat 14-Jun-08	PDNR Drag Night - Round 3	Tue 21-Oct-08	R6
Tue 12-Feb-08	R4 (South Bank)	Tue 17-Jun-08	R5	Tue 28-Oct-08	R7
Tue 19-Feb-08	R5 (South Bank)	Tue 24-Jun-08	R6	Tue 4-Nov-08	R8
Sat 23-Feb-08	Sydney Grand Prix - GP (SORM/CC - Whalan)	Sat 28-Jun-08	HPI Winter Champs (TBA)	Sat 8-Nov-08	2007 Mingara Cup (Mingara)
Sun 24-Feb-08	-- Round 4 - 2007/2008 Nitro Interclub Series --	Sun 29-Jun-08	-- Round 7 - 2007/2008 Nitro Interclub Series --	Sun 9-Nov-08	-- Round 2 - 2008/2009 Nitro Interclub Series --
Tue 26-Feb-08	R6	Tue 1-Jul-08	R7	Tue 11-Nov-08	R9
Tue 4-Mar-08	R7 (South Bank - TBC)	Tue 8-Jul-08	R8	Tue 18-Nov-08	R10
Tue 11-Mar-08	R8 (Bunt)	Sat 12-Jul-08	PDNR Drag Night - Round 4	Tue 25-Nov-08	R11
Tue 18-Mar-08	R9 (Bunt)	Tue 15-Jul-08	R9	Sat 29-Nov-08	PDNR 3 Hour Classic
Fri 21-Mar-08	NSW State Title (Moorebank)	Sat 19-Jul-08	PDNR Times Night - Pending	Tue 2-Dec-08	R12
Sat 22-Mar-08	-- Round 5 - 2007/2008 Nitro Interclub Series --	Tue 22-Jul-08	R10	Tue 9-Dec-08	R13
Sun 23-Mar-08	R10 (South Bank)	Tue 29-Jul-08	R11	Tue 16-Dec-08	R14
Tue 25-Mar-08	R11	Sat 3-Aug-08	PDNR Challenge (SIRC - Penrith)	Sun 21-Dec-08	PDNR Charity Challenge (Oran Park)
Fri 4-Apr-08	PDNR Drag Night - Round 2	Sun 9-Aug-08	-- Round 1 - 2008/2009 Nitro Interclub Series --	Tue 23-Dec-08	AGM & Presentation Night & Santa!
Tue 8-Apr-08	R12	Tue 12-Aug-08	R12		
Tue 15-Apr-08	R13 (Bunt)	Tue 19-Aug-08	R13		
Tue 22-Apr-08	R14	Tue 26-Aug-08	Autumn Presentation Night		
Sat 26-Apr-08	PDNR - Prelim 2.4 Hour Le Mans	Sat 30-Aug-08	PDNR Drag Night - Round 5		
Tue 29-Apr-08	Summer Presentation Night				

	Tuesday Night - Championship Race Meetings
	Presentation Nights
	PDNR Special & Major Events
	Other Nitro Interclub Series Events
	Social Events
	SIRC Events
	Events not held at SIRC
	Note: Racing starts after 10:00am

RAFFLES & FUNDRAISING

CAR RAFFLE

Generously donated by
GRAHAM'S HOBBY CENTRE

Tickets are a \$1 each

The car raffle will be drawn on
the Spring Presentation Night on
December 4, 2007.

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

Raffle Tickets are available from Race Control or wandering sales representatives

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



< Left: Graham presenting the
winner of the Kyosho Inferno
MP 7.5 Raffle Car.

This Championship's Raffle Car
is the awesome belt drive
Kyosho V-One SIII – the most
popular chassis in Pull Start!

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

- **NOVEMBER 10th & 11th** MINGARA CUP (Wyang)
– Nitro Interclub Series Round 3
- **NOVEMBER 17th** PDNR 3 HOUR CLASSIC (SIRC)
- **NOVEMBER 27th** END PDNR 2007 SPRING CHAMPIONSHIP
- **DECEMBER 4th** SPRING PRESENTATION NIGHT (Sth Bank)
- **SPECIAL GUEST SANTA CLAUS!**
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
- **DECEMBER 11th** SPARE NIGHT (Activity TBA)
- **DECEMBER 16th** PDNR CHARITY CHALLENGE (Oran Park)
- **DECEMBER 18th** SPARE NIGHT (Activity TBA)
- **JANUARY 8th** REGO & PRACTICE 2008 SUMMER
- **JANUARY 19th & 20th** SUMMER NATS (Fairy Meadow)
– Nitro Interclub Series Round 4

For more 2008 events, see the calendar in this edition of *In The Pits* or visit www.pdnracing.org.au to download and print out a copy for the fridge!

PDNR **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Tuesday Night - December 4
(After Spring Presentation - SIRC South Bank)

ALL MEMBERS WELCOME

CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

The Spring Championship kicked off on September 4 and the racing so far has been outstanding. The closeness of the competition and the variety of winners in most classes is making for some great entertainment. For any drivers unsure of how the championship points are calculated, here is a quick overview on the maths behind the madness!

Points are awarded after each race to positions 1 through 10, with drivers needing to complete at least 1 lap to be awarded points. In cases where there are two heats of the same division, the results for the two races are merged together to give overall positions, and then the points are awarded.

At the end of the championship, each driver's WORST round result is dropped. This does not include nights where racing was cancelled before racing has started. This was introduced a few years ago and is another factor in keeping the racing close all the way to the end, as drivers that happen to have a shocker on one night (and lets face it, it happens to all of us – unless you're Tony Firth) are kept in the hunt for the number one spot.

The other fun thing we often do is hide the championship points score during the last few weeks of the championship. This is a bit of tradition that started many years ago when we were looking for ways to encourage drivers to attend the presentation nights. Now days, it just builds the suspense as drivers calculate in their heads where they THINK they are. It makes for an entertaining presentation night watching drivers react to the final placings!

The exact breakdown on the championship points is as follows:

1 st	20pts	6 th	9pts
2 nd	16pts	7 th	8pts
3 rd	14pts	8 th	7pts
4 th	12pts	9 th	6pts
5 th	10pts	10 th	5pts

And finally, if racing is cancelled after registrations are taken or after racing has commenced, points will only count for completed rounds, and drivers registered receive 10 points for races not run on that night.

Here is the 2007 Spring Championship point score as of Round 5. Round 6 was rained out (so add 20 points if you were registered for that night to update the total)

Division Sponsor JPM RACING : RB : ATS : CASTER		
OFF ROAD BUGGY		
P	Name	Pts
1	Ray Azzopardi	165
2	Chris Abela	135
3	Chris Young	97
4	Allan Crane	89
5	Ron Sant	87
6	Greg Rossiter	77
7	Darrell Knight	73
8	Charles Pilloto	71
9	Matt Oxford	63
10	Gary Webster	41
11	Nathan Egan	39
12	Flavio Cataldo	35
13	Jamie Fellowes	30
14	Barry Gavin	26
15	Don Bishop	17
16	Andrew Thackary	16
17	Graham Fletcher	15
18	Michael Fellowes	12
19	Kurt Seychell	10
19	Darrell Bennett	10
21	Daniel Trouve	5
22	David Troitsin	0
22	Joel Casey	0
22	Nathan Johnstone	0
22	Mark Falconer	0
22	Dean Webster	0
22	Dean Micallef	0
22	Darren Bennett	0
22	Leigh Naylor	0
22	Stewart Kaysmith	0
22	Brad Parker	0

Division Sponsor AUSWIDE HOBBIES		
OFF ROAD TRUCK		
P	Name	Pts
1	Jonathan Freund	156
2	Graham Fisher	137
3	David Bush	120
4	Roy Hanmore	119
5	Darrel Knight	54
6	Charles Pilotto	28
7	Fabiano Ruffo	24
8	Daryl Kaltenbacher	22
8	Andrew Thackary	22
10	Mark Russell	20
11	Justin Caruana	19
11	Darrel Bennett	19
13	Justin Page	18
14	Iain Miller	10

Division Sponsor GRAHAM'S HOBBY CENTRE		
NITRO KIT		
P	Name	Pts
1	Paul Checuti	145
2	Jonathon Lo Iacano	138
3	Darrel Knight	128
4	Graham Mc Millan	127
5	Graham Fisher	117
6	Greg Rossiter	112
7	Steve Earl	70
8	Ron Clare Snr	41
9	Chris Pett	34
10	Daryl Kaltenbacher	17
10	Joel Casey	17
12	Graham Fletcher	14
13	Kris Albronda	11
14	Dennis Mitchell	10
15	Josh Freund	6

Division Sponsor TOOL AUS		
OPEN PAN		
P	Name	Pts
1	Michael Turner	186
2	Steve Valletta	124
3	Michael Stone	94
4	Rod Albronda	89
5	Steve O'Connor	74
6	Kevin Maton	72
7	John Reilly	63
8	Chris Abela	56
9	Darrell Thompson	54
10	Ronald Clare	49
11	Scott Van Der Dray	48
12	Roy Hanmore	46
13	Phil Northey	36
14	Graham Fraser	32
15	Dennis Mitchell	24
16	John Trotter	21
17	Grahame Jones	20
17	Ron Clare Snr	20

Division Sponsor PIRTEK AUSTRALIA		
PULL START		
P	Name	Pts
1	Matt Russell	170
2	Nathan Ryan	128
3	John Bates	123
4	Chris Stanley	101
5	Rod Albronda	86
6	Joe Patane	82
7	Chris Earl	79
8	Steve Valletta	68
9	Shaun Kaltenbacher	62
10	Wayne Thomas	46
10	Michael Turner	46
12	Frank Deek	24
13	Nathan Johnstone	17
14	Grahame Jones	16
15	Charles Pilotto	9
16	David Ricketts	6
16	Joel Casey	6
18	Luke Sutton	0

Division Sponsor FREESTYLE BARBER SHOP		
OUTLAW		
P	Name	Pts
1	Jonathan Freund	152
2	Rod Morgan	133
3	John Reilly	112
4	Chris Stanley	108
5	Scott Van Der Dray	85
6	Scott Marks	72
7	David Bush	69
8	Shane Middlemass	63
9	Barry Gavin	59
10	David Lo Iacono	42
11	John Trotter	40
12	Charles Pilotto	38
13	Ronald Clare	28
14	Sam Grima	19
15	Grahame Jones	17
16	Joel Casey	16
17	Laurie Grima	15
18	Brad Parker	10

Division Sponsor GRAHAM'S HOBBY CENTRE		
PRO TOURER		
P	Name	Pts
1	Matt Russell	142
2	Tony Firth	138
3	Nathan Ryan (S1 - R1r1)	126
4	Ray Azzopardi	98
5	Steve Valletta	88
6	Brett Quarm	84
7	Shaun Kaltenbacher	78
8	John Bates	70
9	Steve O'Connor	58
10	Wayne Thomas	52
11	Ray Wallace	49
12	Philip Woodbury	40
13	Shane Middlemass	37
14	Rod Morgan	16
15	Kevin maton	15
16	Mark Mitchell	10
17	Sam Grima	9
18	Laurie Grima	5
19	Charles Pilotto	0
19	Brad Stuart	0
19	Mark Oconnor	0

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."

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.



The advertisement features a stylized map of Australia in the background. The text is arranged as follows:

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

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)

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

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RACING AROUND TOWN

PDNR 2007 SPRING CHAMPIONSHIP

The next instalment of *Racing Around Town* focuses on the 2007 Spring Championship. The Spring Championship started on September 4 and runs over 13 weekly rounds. The current championship point score is available elsewhere in this newsletter, and as reflected in the points, the racing has been fast and furious and we aren't even half way through.

The prediction was that one of the divisions to watch would be Pull Start – and this has certainly been the case. With a mix of fairly experienced drivers and very fast but evenly matched machinery the Pull Start races have been exciting to watch. One of the highlights so far would have to be Matt Russell's drive from virtually last to first, taking the win with the narrowest of margins. Matt was issued a stop/go penalty for not starting in the correct grid box. He attempted to pull in the pit lane exit for his penalty but that is not permitted so on the next lap he came in and performed his stop/go. It was early in the race so the field was still bunched together meaning that Matt would rejoin the race in 7th place, almost a whole lap behind the leaders.

Driving like a demon he slowly clawed his way back to 4th and then with luck on his side slotted into 3rd with less than 90 seconds remaining. It was a thrilling final minute as Matt was right on the limit every apex. With less than 45 seconds to go he passed John Bates for 2nd place and set out to try and catch Rod Albronda who had been leading comfortably for the second half of the race. Rod looked to have it in the bag as he held about a 5 second margin but a costly mistake on the last lap where he clipped a street pizza allowed Matt and John to pass. Matt taking the win by less than 2 seconds from John, with Rod coming home in 3rd. In an amazing finish, Nathan Ryan finished 4th, 1 second ahead of the early race leader Wayne Thomas in 5th and Chris Earl finished 6th. The top 6 were separated by less than 17 seconds after the 5 minute race.

Unfortunately the second race was cancelled due to rain but this race set the scene for a great championship. As you can see in the points, the championship is not even half way through but the competition is very close, although Matt has opened a slight lead 2nd to 9th are separated by less than 50 points. So if you're at the track on a Tuesday night, take time out to watch a Pull Start race and you won't be disappointed!

RACE REPORT – LITHGOW GRAND PRIX

PDNR remain undefeated after winning Round 2 of the Nitro Interclub Series held at Lithgow on September 29 & 30. Another great turn out by PDNR members ensured victory would be possible and the result confirmed PDNR's dominance of the series. Good support from NSWRCRCC (Moorebank) and LRCCC (Lithgow) came close to challenging PDNR, but the depth of PDNR's talent shone through.

The 2007 Lithgow Grand Prix was well attended as many drivers made the trip over the Great Dividing Range to the country town of Lithgow. The Lithgow Radio Control Car Club (LRCCC) had prepared a great event and did a great job throughout the weekend. A total of 57 entries were received across four divisions. There were a few stand out performances by PDNR members and they should be congratulated for their great results.

Matt Russell – 1st in Pull Start
Nathan Ryan – 2nd in Pull Start and TQ
John Bates – 3rd in Pull Start
Michael Turner – 1st in 1/8 Scale & TQ
Steve O'Connor – 3rd in 1/8 Scale
Graham McMillan – 3rd in Nitro Sport

Along with the above podium finishers there were many PDNR members that scored points for PDNR in the Nitro Interclub Series. The NIS rewards results, but also clubs that support events with the top 10 results from each club counting. PDNR continue to be the best represented club and all PDNR members should be proud to be part of Team PDNR.

If you haven't been away to an event outside PDNR, it is well worth it. You will learn heaps and have a great time as all PDNR members get behind each other with help and support – it's the best way to improve your skills and knowledge of RC.

The next round of the Nitro Interclub Series is the Mingara Cup on November 10 & 11, so add it to your calendar and ask you mates to come along too!

More information on the race results from the Lithgow Grand Prix, along with the latest NIS point score and entry form is available from www.interclub.org.au

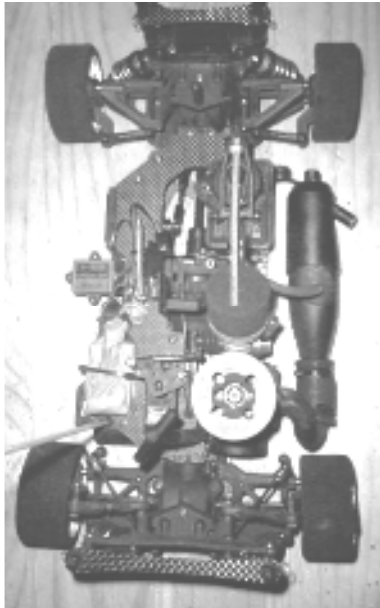
RC WORKSHOP

For something different, we thought we would include an activity. The task is to match the description up with the parts on the car...some of you might need to get your kids help with this, it's fairly tricky!

The chassis is an ex-Michael Turner Kyosho FW05 RR, and all you need to do is draw a line from the description to the corresponding part on the car!

The first 5 correct entries handed in to Race Control will win a prize!

Name: _____ Email: _____

		Shock Absorbers	Front Differential	
Front Wheels 26mm wide			Fuel Tank	
Steering Servo			Disc Brake	
Transponder			Exhaust Pipe	
Radio Receiver			Air Filter	
Throttle Servo			Glow Plug	
Aerial			Motor	
Rear Wheels 26 or 30mm wide				Rear Sway Bay
			Rear Differential	

HOW TO BLOW IT – PART 2

We started this article in a previous edition of *In The Pits* and here are a few more ways we crash and burn in the race, and some handy advice on how not to blow it next time.

4. HOW TO BLOW IT » Flat receiver and/or transmitter batteries. Do we really need to explain this? Bum batteries = no control = you lose.

HOW TO WIN » Please, don't be that guy whose radio beeps during the entire race. Buy, borrow, or steal 8 AAs before you hit the stand, or at least disable your low-battery alarm so the rest of us can race in peace. As for your receiver battery, it's really just a question of habit. Peak your pack (or install four fresh alkalines) before the Main, no matter what condition you think the pack is in.

5. HOW TO BLOW IT » Improperly tuned engine. "But it ran great in the last qualifier!" That was more than two hours ago. Now your mill is running silly rich and you're down a lap just one minute in, or it's red-hot and lean and your piston and sleeve are getting ready to turn into magma. No way you're gonna win this Main.

HOW TO WIN » Always, always use the warm-up time before the Main to get your engine up to full operating temperature, and tune it properly. Getting that job done requires good communication with your pit man, and that brings us to the next way to blow it.

6. HOW TO BLOW IT » Poor communication with your pit man. Nitro races can be won and lost in the pits, and communication is key. If your plan is to yell instructions, you need a better plan. And if you do have the lung power to out-shout a field of nitro engines, you should be working as a carnival barker and not racing RC.

HOW TO WIN » Make sure that your pit man knows the intervals at which you want to refuel, and get your tuning codes down in advance. You can devise your own code, but here's a proven system of signals:

- Top of head = high-end needle
- Stomach = low-end needle
- "L" = lean
- Wrench twist = rich
- Number of fingers = number of "hours" to turn the needle, as though the needle were the face of a clock. A 1/4 turn would be three hours.
- Neck slash = kill the engine



www.pdnracing.org.au

The PDNR website is updated regularly with news and results.
You can also download entry forms and event calendars.

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