

Welcome to the 157th edition of Speedway Australia's Speed eNews.

NEXT GENERATION ON DISPLAY IN NICKOL BAY



Nickol Bay Speedway looks to celebrate almost 50 years of racing through hosting one of Western Australia's most prestigious State Title events. The Speedway Sedans Australia WA Junior Sedan title will take place at the Karratha venue this Easter, April 2nd to 4th – the first time the track has hosted a State Title since 1999.



Standing right in the path of Cyclone Damian in 2020, the Nickol Bay club lost everything including the club house, canteen, toilet block, lap scorers hut and safety fencing around the track and the spectator areas. Since then, led by charismatic president Steve O'Dowd, the club has poured their heart and soul into rebuilding the venue, investing in a brand-new bar and club room, new fencing around the track and the perimeter of the speedway, extending the pit area, and installing new speakers, and lighting.

Nickol Bay Speedway as a result is in pristine condition ahead of its 2021 season launch, signalling a new beginning as the venue approaches 50 years of continuous operation.

Opening its gates in the early 1970s, Nickol Bay initially consisted of Speedway Sidecars, Solo Bikes, and a range of Sedan classes, growing steadily over the years to become one of the premier venues in the Pilbara, and a popular fixture in the Karratha community. Today, the venue regularly hosts Speedway Sedans Australia classes, together with Wingless Sprints and Sprintcars at over a dozen events per season.

Easter's Karratha Earthmoving 2020-21 Junior State Title is a huge step for the club, as they showcase the progress they've made, to the wider WA Speedway community. This event is just the beginning of what the club hopes is a number of major title events to feature at the venue – soon to be accompanied by their recently announced hosting of the Speedway Sedans Australia WA Production Sedan Title in 2022.

Nickol Bay Speedway club wish to thank a host of sponsors who have assisted to make their rebuild possible These include; Globe Construction, EBM Insurance, Shed n Homes, Mitsubishi Motors Pilbara, Karratha Earthmoving, Karratha Machinery Hire, Kennards Hire, Karratha Cabinets, MM Electrical, Cleanaway, North West Waste Alliance, Karratha Signs, Mako Plumbing, Veolia, Karratha Beach tyres, Karratha Smash repairs, ODH Mechanical, Jolly Goods auto electrics, Nielsen's Liquid Waste, Veolia, Prompt Fencing, Asco, and the City of Karratha.

Nickol Bay's season kicks off with open practice on Saturday, March 27th ahead of an action packed 12 event season calendar. For more information, check out their Facebook page by clicking [here](#).

We wish everyone at Nickol Bay Speedway the best ahead of their Junior Sedan title on April 2-4!

CALLING ALL TRACKS NEEDING NEW EQUIPMENT



The Federal Government's Families and Communities Program opened this week, providing up to \$5,000 to assist community organisations to support the efforts of Australia's volunteers.

This non-competitive grant program requires clubs to reach out to their Federal MP in the coming fortnight, as they seek to identify potential projects and organisations that strengthen community functioning by increasing participation in volunteering.

With the vast majority of our venues being community-run, this is a perfect opportunity to obtain funding towards the purchase eligible small equipment items for use by volunteers.

Eligible equipment in this program includes everything from safety items for volunteers, fire extinguishers and flag sets, laptop computers for timing, canteen equipment, gardening tools and lawn mowers.

More information can be found by clicking [here](#). If there's something you feel may benefit the volunteers at your venue, be sure to contact your relevant Sport Development Officer in the coming days to assist with your approach to your Federal Member. (Adam Brook in QLD, NSW and VIC, and Ross Kirby in WA, NT, SA and TAS)

INFIELD REFUELLING ALL STATES (PLUS NSW LEGISLATION)

Long-distance races have witnessed a surge in popularity in recent times, with tracks and divisions spicing up race formats in an attempt to attract competitors and fans. Hosting this style of event is not without its own challenges however, particularly when it comes to refuelling the vehicles.

Whilst infield refuelling isn't permitted under regular circumstances (excluding Sprintcars), Speedway Australia rules provide detail as to how this may be included in your event, with rule 4.8.2 stating.

4.8.2 No Infield refuelling is permitted unless provided for by a supplementary regulation approved pursuant to rule 1.4 and such approval will only be granted for special long-distance Events. The refuelling procedures will be specifically detailed in the supplementary regulations and also reiterated during the Drivers Briefing.

Supplementary regulations may cover such items as pit stops and Infield refuelling and must demonstrate the manner in which existing safety provisions will not be compromised.



NSW tracks take note; the State Government's *Motor Vehicle Sports (Public Safety) Regulation (2015)* has legislation relating to the location of the pit area and where refuelling of cars may take place. This document specifically bans refuelling inside the track, resigning all refuelling to a designated pit area outside the confines of the racing surface, regardless of the division. Hefty fines and penalties are applicable for tracks and competitors who may be in breach of this regulation.



CHECK TWICE BEFORE HITTING SEND



A quick reminder to all tracks to double check the Marsh bank details when settling invoices.

Unfortunately, Marsh have had a few occasions where venues have paid into the old account, causing dramas for their accounts team.

The Marsh bank details were updated in September 2020, and as such all payments are to be made to the new account. If you are unsure as to which details are correct, the latest account details can be found on all current invoices.

If you have any other queries, be sure to contact the team at Marsh on: speedway@marsh.com

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Speed eNews is a weekly communication aimed toward keeping clubs and organisations up to date on current events, handy tips to improve competition and safety, as well as any changes that may be taking place within the sport. Clubs are also encouraged to distribute this newsletter to members. Feel free to get in touch if you have any questions or require a copy of one of the previous editions.

