Welcome to the 152nd edition of Speedway Australia's Speed eNews.

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.

CULLEN BULLEN REACH FOR THE STARS

One of the most successful venues in the country at securing grant funding has struck it big in the last week, with Cullen Bullen Raceway in NSW obtaining $596,052 to fully upgrade the venue to a Speedway Australia 4-star rating.

The funding will be used to remove the 30-year-old armco safety fence, widen the track, and build a new concrete wall and safety fence.

Local MP Paul Toole was present at last Saturday's race meeting to personally announce the good news to club members, competitors, and stakeholders, who are still in shock days later.

Secretary/Treasurer Sue Healey was the recipient of Speedway Australia's Volunteer of the Year award in 2017 and believes their success is due to a number of factors. "We have a great relationship with Paul our MP, and we don't hesitate to apply for any grants that we may be eligible for, no matter how big or small".

The aim is to finish off the current season in May, and then commence work immediately with the aim of starting the new season with a fully upgraded facility.

Congratulations to Sue and the rest of the team at the Portland District Motor Sports Club, who should be justifiably proud of their achievements in recent times.

UPDATE FROM MARSH INSURANCE

Late last year our insurance brokers transferred responsibility for the speedway portfolio from Adelaide to Melbourne, and we bid farewell to our contact Mark Holmes who had fulfilled the role for 12 years. It was only natural that the transition would be a little bumpy, but the last two months have seen Marsh work through the issues and start to make some changes that should provide long term benefits for us all. One of those is a constant contact point, which will result in a seamless service even when people are away on leave, or if the query needs to be redirected elsewhere in the organisation.

The new contact point is live as of now: **speedway@marsh.com**

There are more exciting changes in the wind, which will be advised in the coming weeks.

SMOKING IN THE PITS

From time to time we're asked by both clubs and competitor groups what is and isn't permitted when it comes to smoking and the use of cigarettes in the pit area.

Whilst smoking isn't encouraged by any means (unless it's smoking tyres), Speedway Australia Rules and Regulations are clear in regard to smoking in pits, banning the practice unless it's conducted in a designated smoking area; -

Rule 3.7.1(b)
Smoking is not permitted in the Pits with the exception of designated areas.

With fuel, and other flammable objects present in the pits, it's important competitors and crew stick to these guidelines to prevent an avoidable incident taking place. Most Speedway venues have a designated smoking area, with signposting to that effect.

As ever, if you're unsure where you can and can't smoke, be sure to ask before lighting up.

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