

Welcome to the 130th edition of Speedway Australia's Speed eNews.

*This weekly communication serves to keep 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.*

## THE LONG READ: KIMBERLEY FEATURE



The historic and picturesque Kimberley region of Western Australia is home to three proud speedway venues who are each in their own way laying the foundations for a bright future. On the "must do" list for any serious speedway fan, Broome, Derby and Kununurra all run during the winter dry season and are the most northern tracks in WA, being thousands of kilometres from Perth.

Broome is the largest population centre in the region, and the Speedway has been operational on the edge of town for over 50 years. It was due to host its first ever national title in any division (Modlites) a couple of weeks ago, but this has been delayed to 2022 due to COVID-19. The club has had plenty of experience with major events through the hosting of numerous state titles and their signature race meeting, the Shinju Matsuri which was held last weekend when Speedway Australia visited.

The club has an excellent and hard working committee and volunteers that make it all possible. They also enjoy excellent support from the local businesses that didn't even shy away this season with everything going on in the world. Biggest supporters of the club are McCorry Brown Earthmoving. Not only do they sponsor the club with cash to run the season and prize money for blue ribbon events, but they also prepare the track with their own machines every meeting.



Other valued sponsors include Roadline Civil Construction, MG Tyres, BK Signs, Whattnow Electrical, Webcrete, and a huge list of other sponsors for whom the club are so grateful as gate entry alone doesn't keep the doors open.

Future plans include repairs and maintenance to the wall and catch fence, replacing and upgrading the P.A system and lighting in the pit area, and winning the Broome vs Derby Shield for the first time!

Derby is a couple of hours to the east of Broome, and about 2000km from Perth. The Speedway Club is located on the outskirts of town and has an entrenched history dating back to well before 1986, when there were no lights - just daytime racing! The Club is extremely grateful to, and benefits hugely from, all of the Volunteers and Sponsors over the years that have helped the club grow into the success it is today.

In recent years the Club has had to rebuild the safety wall along the back straight due to extensive damage caused in the wet season. Other projects that the club hopes to undertake in the near

## KIMBERLEY FEATURE CONTINUED...



future include replacing the track lighting and refurbishment of the canteen facilities. Infrastructure upgrades are years in the making for non-profit organisations, and they want to continue to move forward and improve our grounds as much as they can.

The club are extremely fortunate this year to have received Stronger Communities Program grant funding through their federal Member of Parliament, the Hon Melissa Price. So far they've been able to fit out the canteen with all new appliances and hope to have the refurbishment completed by the end of 2020.

The committee are proud to have a strong focus on youth participation and encourage an all-inclusive environment. With some of the best SSA Junior Sedan numbers in Western Australia, and the growing entry level Junior divisions, the club is in a strong position to build on the foundation set by the wonderful support of their members, volunteers, spectators and sponsors.

A volunteer Club such as Derby can't run without the input of the whole Community and the strength of the Club, especially with the challenges encountered this year, is a testament of not only the great people involved but of the fantastic Community as a whole.

This weekend Derby host the Donny Archer Memorial event (Sept 11 and 12) which attracts drivers and spectators from all over the state to honour the late Kelvin 'Don' Archer, who was a pivotal part of Derby Speedway Club History. They have another two points meets occurring on the 26th September and the 10th October, with the season ending on our Yakka Munga Stampede event on the 23rd & 24th October.

Nine hours and 900km further to the northeast of Derby is the town of Kununurra, built in the 1960's to service the Ord River Irrigation Scheme. 45km from the border with Northern Territory and 3000km by road from Perth, the first speedway was built in about 1971 by a small group of volunteers. Shortly after, the current track was built in an old gravel pit on the other side of the dam.

When the COVID-19 crisis struck earlier this year, the club made the gutsy (and unanimous) decision to cancel the 2020 season in order to progress some much-needed major maintenance and improvements, particularly to the concrete wall.

Volunteers and sponsors are always appreciated, and thanks to JSW for the continued support over the decades with donations and sponsorship, including donating all the concrete required to build new panels to re-align and repair the wall. Metal Land are also due a huge round of applause for donating the mesh.

Congratulations to all three speedway tracks in the Kimberley, who are ignoring the difficulties of COVID and the tyranny of distance, and moving forward into the future. Speedway should be proud of venues such as these who are continuing to represent their communities with pride and passion.





## WHY DOES SPEEDWAY AUSTRALIA DO SO MUCH FOR NOTHING?



As a not-for-profit organisation, Speedway Australia exists to meet the needs of our stakeholders in our favourite sport. We are passionate about and committed to the entire speedway community, and the vast majority of our staff are speedway people who have got lucky by being able to enjoy their hobby on a full-time basis. Similarly, our governance team is reflective of the speedway community with a broad range of experienced leaders who represent the entire country through geographic spread and representation of the groups who make up the sport.

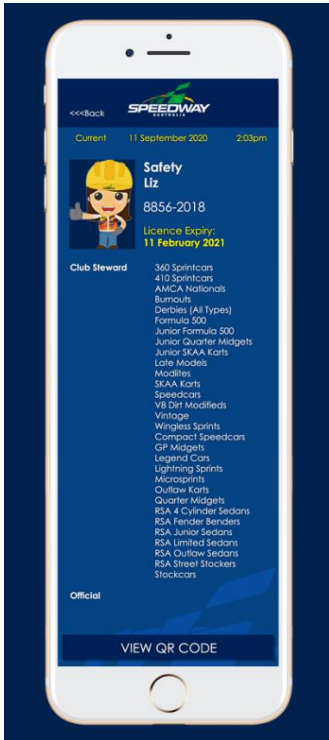
Speedway Australia doesn't charge an affiliation fee, and works hard to which to offer most of our products and services at no cost to venue operators, clubs and divisional bodies. This are just some of the services we offer at no cost:-

- *Track Inspections – ensuring venues are suitable for requirements, every 24 months*
- *Officials Training – the only Stewards and Scrutineers training recognised by all divisions*
- *Rulebook – safety and racing rules, issued electronically*
- *National Speedway Awards and Forum – celebrating the success of the sport and building to the future*
- *Sport Development Assistance – two fulltime Sport Development Officers, a Track & Safety Development Officer and Youth Development Officer.*
- *COVID-19 Advice – working with State Governments on behalf of all affiliated tracks*
- *Electronic Paperwork – removing red tape and upfront costs*
- *National Office Support – eight staff across three locations (SA, NSW and WA)*
- *Free Practices – tracks have as many complimentary practices as they do race meetings in a season*
- *Track Operators Manual = the "how to" guide for venue operators*
- *Track Safety and Operational Grants – over \$170,000 distributed in the last 12 months*
- *Rising Star Program – talented youth learning the fundamentals of high-performance sport*
- *iRacing – the world leaders in electronic speedway administration*
- *Fantasy Speedway – battle your friends and family to pick the results of major events*
- *National Title Support – two staff and the Speedway Australia truck where possible, and an operational grant for the host division*

Want to know more? Contact the office to be directed to the right person who can assist you.



## CLARIFYING OFFICIALS CARDS



We are often asked if a specific official is able to Steward or Scrutineer a particular division at an upcoming race meeting. Essentially, that is a decision for the relevant racing division because under Speedway Australia rules all Stewards and Scrutineers are appointed by the divisional body.

Speedway Australia's part in the process is to administer the relevant cards that indicate the level of duties that an Official has been approved to undertake.

**Level 1** – Can officiate State and National titles.

**Level 2** – Can officiate all other race meetings

**Level 3** – Can officiate under supervision

**Level 4** – Can assist at race meetings

The requirement to receive a card is for one divisional body to sign off the official. This doesn't indicate that the official can only adjudicate for that body, but merely the group who originally approved them. In some places, a local fulfils the role of Steward for multiple divisions. This is perfectly acceptable too, as the divisions provide their consent by agreeing to race at the venue.

It's not practical to issue cards for every division, nor is it feasible to put all potential divisions on the phone app. For example, our sample Club Steward Safety Liz would need 30 separate cards to officiate in New South Wales.... or a very long phone! So there does need to be a bit of interplay between divisions and officials, but essentially if a division wishes to utilise an official and they are already approved to the correct level for the race meeting then they are good to go.

Note: Speedway Sedans Australia have their own cards and approval process, so you do need approval from them to officiate their divisions (e.g Street Stocks, Junior Sedans).

## SPEEDWAY AUSTRALIA CONTACTS



Please see below for the relevant contacts for all your Speedway Australia requirements.

<b>Office</b>	<b>General Enquiries</b>	<b>08 8139 0777</b>	<b>admin@speedwayaustralia.net.au</b>
Tim Savell	General Manager	0424 923 494	tim@speedwayaustralia.net.au
James Hadley	Youth Development Officer	08 8139 0706	james@speedwayaustralia.net.au
Liz Weaver	Track & Safety Dev. Officer	08 8139 0705	liz@speedwayaustralia.net.au
Adam Brook	Sport Development Officer	0429 333 528	adam@speedwayaustralia.net.au
Ross Kirby	Sport Development Officer	0436 375 938	ross@speedwayaustralia.net.au
Kirsten Knox	Licensing & Operations Admin.	08 8139 0703	kirsten@speedwayaustralia.net.au
Robin Pearce	Accounts	08 8139 0704	accounts@speedwayaustralia.net.au
Angela Warren	Office Administrator	08 8139 0701	angela@speedwayaustralia.net.au







## WE ARE THE ONLY NATIONAL LICENCING BODY DEDICATED SOLELY TO AUSTRALIAN SPEEDWAY



# 91

Venues Licenced



The most comprehensive and value for money competitor and track licensing in the country

# \$25

Officials Licence Fee (down from \$140)

# 6

Years without a Licence Fee Increase



\$100,000 in Grants to Tracks in 2020

## ALL SPEEDWAY AUSTRALIA TRACKS RECEIVE



Access to Kids to Grids - a world first junior development programme



A Dedicated Sport Development Officer to assist with funding, regulatory and administration requirements



Eligibility to host SSA National Title Events



Access to 8 full time staff



Australian Speedway Awards Eligibility to recognise your Venue, Officials and Competitors



Rising Star Program Access for your Competitors and Officials



- **FREE** Track Operators Manual
- **FREE** Venue signage
- **FREE** Track Inspections
- **FREE** Practice Permits
- **REFUNDS** in the event a race meeting is cancelled



Access to our grant programmes over \$400,000 per year across tracks and divisions



Pay as you go Public Liability Insurance 24/7, 365 day cover to the value of \$50,000,000