

Welcome to the 73rd 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.

Please make sure that if you are the contact receiving this information for your organisation that you pass the information on to the rest of your committee as to keep them in the loop. You are also encouraged to distribute this newsletter to your members. Feel free to get in touch if you have any questions or require a copy of one of the previous editions.

SPEEDWAY AUSTRALIA WELCOMES RUSHWORTH



The newest member of the Speedway Australia family is Rushworth Speedway in Victoria, the home of the Goulburn Valley Auto Club.

The new committee led by President Pat Bourke have made the decision to affiliate for the 2019/20 season, and we welcome the opportunity to work again with one of the long-standing speedway venues in the state.

Centrally located around 2 hours north of Melbourne and half an hour southwest of Shepparton, the club is a hotbed of Sedan racing while also establishing themselves as a venue of choice for Open Wheel classes such as Compact Speedcars and GP Midgets.

Rushworth's 2019/20 season calendar comprises 10 race dates, with the final touches to the calendar being applied now. They've also made the decision to cap spectator pricing at \$20 for adults, and success has come early this season with the club recently winning \$5000 from Triple M Shepparton to assist with the refurbishment of their clubhouse.

We wish the Goulburn Valley Auto Club all the best for the season ahead and look forward to seeing their progress as the year unfolds.

You can check out the GVAC Facebook page by clicking [here](#).

NOTE TO TRACKS – RENEWAL TIME IS APPROACHING



You're probably well across the fact that Speedway Australia was able to negotiate a considerable reduction in track public liability insurance in 2017, agreeing on a fixed term with QBE. The average reduction was 38% on 2016/17 levels for RS to AAA meeting permit fees.

No matter how well we are tracking as a sport, the external insurance environment often comes into play and for 2019/20 a small increase in insurance premiums is inevitable.

After considerable negotiation with insurers, the increase has been limited to 5% across all meeting categories from AAA to RS.

The good news is that meeting permit categories LR to JQMA including Karts remain unchanged, and practices are still free.

Mark Holmes from our brokers Marsh Advantage commented that "In the current global insurance market, the increase is modest when considering most renewals are at a 10-20% increase for this year without adverse claims. In the circumstances, we commend the insurers for their continued support for Speedway Australia."

To ensure premiums remain as competitive as possible Speedway Australia will continue to be at the forefront of minimising risk across the sport. We do this by regularly inspecting venues and rolling out other initiatives to make sure every track understands that what occurs at their facility has an impact on the entire sport. Speedway Australia tracks are still paying far less for insurance than 2, 5 or 10 years ago, but this is a timely reminder that we all need to work together to ensure that speedway stays sustainable.

Tracks will receive renewal paperwork in the next day or so, and we appreciate making this a priority so the 2019/20 can start smoothly for everyone.



STRONGER COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME



We've been made aware of a new Federal Government grant initiative that we think could benefit speedway tracks across Australia. Called "Stronger Communities Programme", the funding will be distributed equally across all 151 Federal electorates. Applicants can seek between \$2,500 and \$20,000 for their project, be that a new project or existing one. We know there are any number tracks of who could benefit from a fully enclosed concrete wall, or a safety fence upgrade, lighting improvements etc.

To be eligible, venues/clubs must be an incorporated not-for-profit, with an ABN. You must be invited to apply by your Federal MP – you can however email or call them and ask for an invitation. Applications close on October 10.

Speedway Australia have been successful in getting tracks shortlisted for many State and Federal government grants in recent times, and we are happy to assist venues with putting together an application. More detail of the program can be found [here](#):- If you'd like to talk to someone about the program, or require assistance to put forward an application, contact Sport Development Officer Adam Brook for NSW, QLD VIC, or Ross Kirby for WA, SA, NT and TAS.

SPEEDWAY AUSTRALIA CONTACTS

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

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