

WTCC

FIA World Touring Car
Championship

FIA WTCC NEWSLETTER

8 – 2 March 2007

CURITIBA HOSTS WTCC OPENING ROUND

The start of the 2007 FIA World Touring Car Championship is just one week away. The series' third season will get underway next weekend at the Autódromo Internacional de Curitiba, Brazil.

This is the second time the 3.7 km circuit hosts the WTCC. Last year the World Championship visited Curitiba for the first time at the beginning of July; a record crowd of 34,000 attended two thrilling races that were won by Jordi Gené (SEAT León) – after an exciting fight with pole sitter and local hero Augusto Farfus – and eventual World Champion Andy Priaulx (BMW 320si).

21 DRIVERS ENTERED IN THE RACE OF BRAZIL

21 drivers from 11 countries and representing four different car Manufacturers – Alfa Romeo, BMW, Chevrolet and SEAT – will compete in the season's opening event, the WTCC Race of Brazil.

Among the newcomers are Mexican ace Michel Jourdain (SEAT Sport) and two young Spaniards coming from the GP2 Championship: Félix Porteiro (BMW Team Italy-Spain) and Sergio Hernández (Proteam Motorsport).

The major changes compared to last year, were Augusto Farfus switching from Alfa Romeo to BMW and James Thompson from SEAT to Alfa Romeo.

SWEDEN REPLACES TURKEY ON THE CALENDAR

The seventh race meeting of the 2007 FIA WTCC, that was scheduled on July 28th and 29th at the Istanbulpark, Turkey, will take place instead at Anderstorp, Sweden, on the same weekend.

Anderstorp's 4.0 km Scandinavian Raceway is not a new venue for the FIA Touring Cars, as it hosted rounds of the FIA European Touring car Championship in 2002 and 2003.

Since then the circuit has undergone major works to improve the facilities, including the construction of a building in which there are located pit garages, administrative offices and the media centre.

ROLLING START FOR THE FIRST RACE

Last Tuesday, during their extraordinary meeting, the FIA World Motor Sport Council approved a proposal coming from the Touring Car Commission to change the start of the first race of each FIA WTCC event from standing to rolling.

The second race will retain the usual standing start as well as the top-eight reverse grid.

This change was agreed by representatives of all the Manufacturers committed to the championship.

OFFICIAL PARTNERS

Canon

ADVAN
YOKOHAMA

AMD

COURTYARD
Aramark

MONROE

BERU

N.TECHNOLOGY SIGN OLIVIER TIELEMANS

N.Technology Alfa Romeo signed Olivier Tielemans as the second driver for their FIA World Touring Car Championship team. He will race alongside James Thompson for the 2007 season.

The 22-year-old from Holland has experience in single-seaters and touring cars with drives in DTM, Mégane Eurocup and Formula 3000 under his belt.

"This is the best drive I have ever been offered so I am really happy," said Tielemans. "DTM is the highest I have ever competed in before this so I hope to use my experience from there to do well in my new team. N.Technology are really good in the WTCC and so is James Thompson, I hope to learn from them. The other exciting thing is that Holland is hosting the second event of the Championship. I live close to Zandvoort and have raced there many times so I hope I can help the team with my knowledge of the track and produce a good result for them."

"With James Thompson we have a great driver," said N.Technology Team Principal, Mauro Sipsz. "It has always been my ambition to team him with a worthy, young driver and we have found that in Olivier. I look forward to continuing N.Technology's success story with both of them."

TEN KILOS OF BALLAST TO START

All the drivers will receive a 10-kg handicap weight for the opening round in Curitiba, according to article 79a of the WTCC Sporting Regulations.

This initial ballast will be adjusted for the following events according to the results obtained in the races and the points scored for the championship classification.

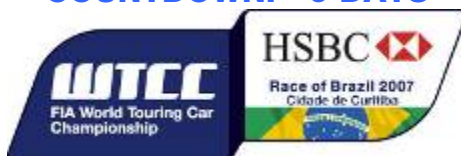
The maximum handicap weight applicable has been set at 60 kg.

EUROSPORT COVERAGE FROM CURITIBA

Tuesday, 6 th :	WTCC Season Preview	Eurosport International, 23.00
Sunday, 11 th :	Race 1 – LIVE	Eurosport International, 16.00/17.00
	Race 2 – LIVE	Eurosport International, 19.00/20.00
Monday, 12 th :	Races 1 & 2 – highlights	Eurosport International, 09.00/10.00
	WTCC Magazine	Eurosport 2, 19.00
Tuesday, 13 th :	WTCC Magazine	Eurosport International, 23.00

Times are CET (Central Europe Time)

COUNTDOWN: - 9 DAYS



to the 2007 FIA WTCC Race of Brazil – 10th/11th March, in Curitiba

more information and pictures: www.fiawtcc.com

2007 FIA WORLD TOURING CAR CHAMPIONSHIP



ROUNDS 1 & 2 - CURITIBA, March 10/11 - ENTRY LIST

#	class	competitor	driver	car
1		BMW Team UK	Andy Priaulx (GBR)	BMW 320si
2		BMW Team Germany	Jörg Müller (GER)	BMW 320si
3		BMW Team Germany	Augusto Farfus (BRA)	BMW 320si
4		BMW Team Italy-Spain	Alessandro Zanardi (ITA)	BMW 320si
5		BMW Team Italy-Spain	Félix Porteiro (ESP)	BMW 320si
6		Chevrolet	Robert Huff (GBR)	Chevrolet Lacetti
7		Chevrolet	Nicola Larini (ITA)	Chevrolet Lacetti
8		Chevrolet	Alain Menu (SUI)	Chevrolet Lacetti
9		SEAT Sport	Jordi Gené (ESP)	SEAT León
10		SEAT Sport	Michel Jourdain (MEX)	SEAT León
11		SEAT Sport	Gabriele Tarquini (ITA)	SEAT León
12		SEAT Sport	Yvan Muller (FRA)	SEAT León
15		N.technology	James Thompson (GBR)	Alfa Romeo 156
16		N.technology	Olivier Tielemans (NED)	Alfa Romeo 156
19	/	SEAT Sport Italia	Roberto Colciago (ITA)	SEAT León
20		GR Asia	Tom Coronel (NED)	SEAT León
21	/	GR Asia	Emmet O'Brien (IRL)	SEAT León
23	/	Exagon Engineering	Pierre-Yves Corthals (BEL)	SEAT León
26	/	Wiechers-Sport	Stefano D'Aste (ITA)	BMW 320si
30	/	Scuderia Proteam Motorsport	Luca Rangoni (ITA)	BMW 320si
31	/	Scuderia Proteam Motorsport	Sergio Hernández (ESP)	BMW 320si

/ = Yokohama Independents' Trophy

www.fiawtcc.com



Rounds 1 & 2 – Curitiba (BRA) TRACK FACTS



Autódromo Internacional de Curitiba - BRAZIL

Lap distance – 3,695 m
Race distance – 2 x 14 laps

- Location:** Eastern outskirts of Curitiba
- Contacts:** Autódromo Internacional de Curitiba
Avenida Iraí 16, 83321-000 Pinhais, Paraná
tel: +55 41 36673636, fax: +55 41 36673636
email: aic@autodromodecuritiba.com.br
- Official website:** www.autodromodecuritiba.com.br
- Press officer:** Pierpaolo Nota
tel: +55 41 32623031, fax +55 41 32623031
email: pier@ciudadesdobrasil.com.br
- Airport:** Curitiba “Afonso Pena” (25 km)
- S2000 lap records:** Qualifying - 1:24.761/156.93 kph, Augusto Farfus (Alfa Romeo 156), 1 Jul 2006
Race - 1:25.604/155.39 kph, Jordi Gené (SEAT León), 2 Jul 2006
- Previous winners:** 2006 FIA WTCC Race 1: Jordi Gené (SEAT León)
2006 FIA WTCC Race 2: Andy Priaulx (BMW 320si)



Rounds 1 & 2 – Curitiba (BRA) EVENT TIMETABLE

Friday 9th March 2007

10.00 – 10.45	Copa Renault Clio Brasil	Free Practice 1
11.00 – 11.45	Brasileiro de Marcas	Free Practice 1
13.00 – 13.45	Copa Renault Clio Brasil	Free Practice 2
14.00 – 14.45	Brasileiro de Marcas	Free Practice 2
15.30 – 16.00	FIA WTCC	Testing
16.15 – 17.15	Copa Renault Clio Brasil	Free Practice 3

Saturday 10th March 2007

09.00 – 09.30	FIA WTCC	Free Practice 1
09.45 – 10.15	Copa Renault Clio Brasil	Free Practice 4
10.30 – 11.00	Brasileiro de Marcas	Free Practice 3
12.00 – 12.30	FIA WTCC	Free Practice 2
13.30 – 14.00	Copa Renault Clio Brasil	Free Practice 5
14.15 – 14.45	Brasileiro de Marcas	Qualifying
15.00 – 15.30	FIA WTCC	Qualifying
15.45 – 16.15	Copa Renault Clio Brasil	Qualifying

Sunday 11th March 2007

09.00 – 09.15	FIA WTCC	Warm Up
09.30 – 09.45	Copa Renault Clio Brasil	Warm up
10.00 – 10.15	Brasileiro de Marcas	Warm up
12.20	FIA WTCC	Race 1 (14 laps)
12.50	<i>FIA WTCC</i>	<i>Podium Race 1</i>
13.00	Copa Renault Clio Brasil	Race
14.00	Brasileiro de Marcas	Race
15.20	FIA WTCC	Race 2 (14 laps)
15.50	<i>FIA WTCC</i>	<i>Podium Race 2</i>