

WTCC

FIA World Touring Car
Championship

FIA WTCC NEWSLETTER

12 – 30 March 2007

THE RUSSIANS ARE COMING...

For the first time ever a Russian racing team will take part in an FIA World Championship.

Russian Bears Motorsport entered three BMW 320i cars in the second meeting of the World Touring Car Championship that will take place at Zandvoort, Netherlands, on May 6th. Their drivers are regular competitors of the Russian Touring Car Championship in which they achieved important results.

Lev Fridman, 37-years old from Sverdlovsk, joined RTCC in 2000 claiming three victories since and making the top-five in the latest five seasons; last year he classified 3rd in the drivers' championship, his best result ever. After gaining experience in the Russian Touring Light Championship, 42-year old Viktor Shapovalov from Sterlitamak joined RTCC in 2006 and finished an outstanding 4th in the points. Also in 2006, Evgeny Zelenov, 41-years old from Vladivostok, ranked 8th in his fourth RTCC season.

The team is due to race again in Valencia, on May 27th, for the third WTCC meeting.

FRIDAY PRACTICE IN ZANDVOORT

FIA World Touring Car Championship competitors will hit the track twice on Friday May 4th, for the second meeting of the season at Zandvoort, Netherlands.

In addition to the extra 30-minute test session that was authorized by the Touring Car Bureau (at 2.00 pm), the first 30-minute free practice that is regularly held on Saturday morning, has been moved to Friday afternoon (at 4.30 pm).

This to comply with the noise restrictions that Zandvoort's Circuit Park is bound to observe and that limit Touring Car track activities to one hour per day. The second 30-minute free practice and the 30-minute qualifying will be held on Saturday (at 11.00 am and 3.00 pm respectively).

The usual timetable, with both free practices and the qualifying on Saturday, will be resumed from the following meeting at Valencia, Spain.

SUPER 2000 CARS IN PORTUGAL

Last Sunday at Estoril a new era started for Portuguese motor sport. The circuit near Lisbon hosted the inaugural meeting of the new PTCC (Portuguese Touring Car Championship) that features Super 2000 cars alongside Super Productions and former one-make trophy machines such as SEAT León and Renault Clio.

The 20-car field took part in two 50-km races that were won by Francisco Carvalho in a SEAT León Cópia and César Campaniço in a former WTCC BMW 320si. The 2007 PTCC calendar is composed of eight event, including the FIA WTCC meeting at Porto on July 8th.

OFFICIAL PARTNERS

Canon

ADVAN
YOKOHAMA

COURTYARD
MARRIOTT

MONROE

BERU

BMW DRIVERS FIT FOR THE SEASON

BMW drivers had little time to catch their breath following the start to the FIA WTCC in Curitiba. Andy Priaulx, Jörg Müller, Augusto Farfus and Félix Porteiro were back in action for a “fitness and teambuilding week” in Munich.

They took part in an intensive programme of activities over six days, picking up some valuable tips from experienced trainers on how to maintain and further improve their physical fitness. In addition to a health check, a daily early morning work-out in Munich’s Englischer Garten and fitness training, the drivers also had the opportunity to get to know each other better and prepare for the rest of the season.

“The week in Munich brought me bang up-to-date as far as fitness and diet are concerned,” said WTCC champion Priaulx. *“But I also had a lot of fun with my teammates. We normally only meet up at the races, but here we were working alongside each other in different situations, which strengthened team spirit.”*

The week began with a seminar on maintaining the right diet and a performance test to determine their current fitness levels. A check-up from the BMW health service in the Project House at the Research and Innovation Centre on Monday was followed by a fitness session in the “BMW Backup Center”, which is also used by BMW employees to keep in trim.

MEDIA ACCREDITATION FOR THE SECOND MEETING

Rounds 3 and 4 of the 2007 FIA World Touring Car Championship will take place at Zandvoort, Netherlands, 5th and 6th May.

The deadline to apply for media credentials is Tuesday, 24th April.

The Accreditation Form may be downloaded from the websites www.fia.com and www.fiawtcc.com.

International Press must send applications to:

Fabio Ravaioli – FIA WTCC Media Delegate

tel +39 06 39729497, fax +39 06 39729470, email: media@fiawtcc.com

Dutch Press must send applications to:

Kees Koning – Circuit Park Zandvoort

tel: 023 5740760, fax: 023 5740761, email: media@circuit-zandvoort.nl

TV and Radio must send applications to:

Antonios Argyropoulos – Eurosport

tel +33 1 40938517, fax +33 1 40938002; email: antonios@eurosport.com

COUNTDOWN: - 37 DAYS



to the 2007 FIA WTCC Race of Netherlands – 5th/6th May, in Zandvoort

more information and pictures: www.fiawtcc.com