

WTCC

FIA World Touring Car
Championship

FIA WTCC NEWSLETTER

17 – 3 May 2007

DUTCH PRIME MINISTER AND PRINCES VISIT WTCC

Three special VIP guests will visit the FIA WTCC event at Zandvoort this weekend. The Prime-Minister of the Netherlands, Mr Jan Peter Balkenende will come at the track on Saturday afternoon to experience a lap as a passenger in Tom Coronel's SEAT León. Then he will follow the qualifying session in GR Asia's garage. Their Royal Highnesses the Princes Bernhard Junior and Pieter Christiaan van Orange Nassau van Vollenhoven, sons of Queen Beatrix's sister, will also attend the meeting as competitors in the BMW 130i Cup. On Sunday the Princes will have lunch at the Eurosport's table in the WTCC VIP lounge.

CORONEL FACES HOME RACE

Tom Coronel is looking forward to compete in his home race at Zandvoort and is confident to finish in the points again.

"Out of all competitors I drove by far the most laps at Zandvoort. It is my home circuit, which also brings some obligations with it," Coronel said. "On the other hand there are so many other factors that can influence the race. Just imagine the weather. Should there be rain just before the start my chances of a podium finish will be much higher. However whatever the weather will be I know that driving before my home crowd will give a mega boost. I experienced it when I won the Marlboro Masters of Formula 3 here at Zandvoort."

Coronel is hoping for a large Dutch support. *"In the FIA WTCC two races of twelve laps each make up the results. You have to be up there right from the word go, no matter if you have a rolling or a standing start. There is just no way to sit back and wait for your chance to come, because it will be too late then. This also causes some chances to be created, which can end up in tears quite easily. That's part of the game and this also makes the races spectacular and attractive, not only for the crowd, but also for the drivers."*

SEAT SPORT ITALIA TO RUN SECOND CAR

The SEAT Sport Italia team announced that they will run a second SEAT León car in three events of the 2007 FIA World Touring Car Championship. At Valencia, Oschersleben and Brands Hatch, Massimiliano Pedalà will join the team's regular driver Roberto Colciago. Pedalà, 36-year old from Cantù, emerged as a competitive driver in the Italian one-make trophies and finally clinched the title of the Renault Clio Cup twice, in 2005 and 2006. Last year he also had the opportunity to make his maiden appearance at the wheel of a S2000 car in the Italian Supertouring Championship. At Vallelunga he claimed two brilliant second places driving a SEAT Toledo Cupra run by the SEAT Sport Italia team.

OFFICIAL PARTNERS

Canon

ADVAN
YOKOHAMA

COURTYARD
MARRIOTT

MONROE

BERU

CERESOLI'S DEBUT DELAYED TO SPAIN

Maurizio Ceresoli's first appearance in the 2007 FIA WTCC has been delayed to the next event at Valencia, on May 20th.

The Italian driver was due to race in Zandvoort at the wheel of a SEAT León, but the car was not ready in time. Therefore he will join the championship from the Spanish meeting.

Ceresoli's sponsor, the Italian company Metelli, will back Jordi Gené's SEAT Sport car in Zandvoort.

HERNÁNDEZ TO MISS ZANDVOORT

Young Spanish driver Sergio Hernández will miss the Dutch race meeting due to a clashing commitment.

Therefore Proteam Motorsport will race only Luca Rangoni's car at Zandvoort, while Hernández will rejoin for his own race at Valencia.

MEDIA ACCREDITATION FOR THE THIRD MEETING

Rounds 5 and 6 of the 2007 FIA World Touring Car Championship will take place at Valencia, Spain, 19th and 20th May.

The deadline to apply for media credentials is Tuesday, 8th May.

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

Spanish Press must send applications to:

Pablo Pernía – Circuito Ricardo Tormo

tel: 096 2525220, fax: 096 2525224, email: media@circuitvalencia.com

TV and Radio must send applications to:

Antonios Argyropoulos – Eurosport

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

COUNTDOWN: - 3 DAYS



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

more information and pictures: www.fiawtcc.com