

GIOVANARDI RETURNS WITH HONDA

Fabrizio Giovanardi will make a one-off return to the FIA WTCC for the Brazilian race meeting in Curitiba. The Italian driver who fought with Andy Priaulx and Dirk Müller for the 2005 world title until the final race in Macau, will replace Pierre-Yves Corthals at the wheel of a JAS Motorsport Honda Accord Euro R. *“It was planned that Pierre-Yves was not racing the overseas rounds,”* explained team manager Alessandro Mariani *“He will rejoin in Brno to finish the season.”*

Unanimously regarded as one of the best Touring Car drivers ever, Giovanardi sports an impressive CV, having won a number of championships, including two FIA European Touring Car titles (2001 and 2002) for Alfa Romeo. In the current season he is taking part in the British Touring Car Championship at the wheel of a VX Racing Vauxhall Astra. *“Although Fabrizio will not have the chance to test the car before Curitiba, I am confident that his skill and experience will take him to the front,”* Mariani commented. Giovanardi added: *“I am delighted. This is a fantastic opportunity for me to be back in the WTCC. The Accord and JAS are certainly competitive and I look forward to fight against my fellow colleagues”.*

With Giovanardi committed to a clashing BTCC meeting, JAS Motorsport have yet to announce the name of the driver who will be racing in the following meeting at Puebla.

AUTOMATIC HANDICAP FOR THE NEW DRIVERS

All the three new drivers who will join the championship at Curitiba – JAS Motorsport’s Fabrizio Giovanardi, BMW Team Italy-Spain’s Duncan Huisman and TekProm’s Lucas Molo – will be imposed a 20-kg automatic handicap weight as per art. 79 a) of the FIA WTCC Sporting Regulations.

EXTRA TEST SESSION FOR WTCC IN CURITIBA

The FIA has authorized a private 30-minute test session on Friday, June 30, at 3.00 PM. The session was approved by the WTCC Bureau in order to give the teams some more time to know the Autódromo Internacional de Curitiba which is new to the championship.

BRAZILIAN RACES ANTICIPATED DUE TO TV COVERAGE

The two WTCC races in Brazil will be held earlier than normal: Race 1 will start at 12.05 local time, followed by Race 2 at 1.15 PM.

This change to the standard timetable has been made in order to enable Eurosport to broadcast the event live in Europe on Sunday afternoon.

SOUTH AMERICAN F3 AND BRAZILIAN TOURING CARS

The WTCC HSBC Race of Brazil will also feature two important support races: the South American Formula 3 and the Brasileiro de Marcas championships.

The former, better known as Formula 3 Sudám, is one of the most popular South America-based international series. Since 1987 it launched a number of talented drivers, including Christian Fittipaldi, Ricardo Zonta and Nelson Piquet jr. The round in Curitiba will be the fourth of the season for the championship which is currently led by Mario Moraes.

WTCC AND THE FOOTBALL FEVER – PART 2

As the group stages of the World Cup draw to an end and the knock-out stages begin, we gained further insight into how members of the WTCC family enjoy the football from across the globe.

Spain: Jordi Gené, SEAT. *“I really enjoy football, especially when Spain win! Usually I watch the matches with friends at someone’s home; that way we can shout as loudly as we like without anyone looking at us.”*

Czech Republic: Miroslav Bartos, deputy race director. *“The World Cup is something special for my country as almost all of us believe we are the best football experts. The atmosphere is changing the whole nation, even those people who are normally not interested in sport at all. A typical Czech goes out to one of the pubs or bars downtown to enjoy the match with his friends and beer. The breweries expect to increase production by 30% during the championship!”*

Germany: Peter Terting, SEAT. *“In March I moved from Germany to Barcelona so it feels as though I am missing out on some big parties at home. But I am still enjoying the football by going to some bars. The German team looks good and if we progress further in the tournament I will definitely make a trip back home to enjoy it there. I have to!”*

EUROSPORT COVERAGE FROM PUEBLA (CET)

Saturday, 1 st :	FIA WTCC Magazine	EUROSPORT, 09.00/09.30
	Qualifying – LIVE	EUROSPORT 2, 19.55/20.45
	Qualifying – highlights	EUROSPORT 2, 23.17/23.45
Sunday, 2 nd :	Race 1 and Race 2 – LIVE	EUROSPORT, 17.45/19.00
	Race 1 and Race 2 – repeat	EUROSPORT 2, 22.00/23.00
Monday, 3 rd :	Race 1 and Race 2 – repeat	EUROSPORT, 10.00/11.00
Tuesday, 4 th :	FIA WTCC Magazine	EUROSPORT 2, 18.00/18.30
	Race 1 and Race 2 – repeat	EUROSPORT 2, 20.00/21.00
Wednesday, 5 th :	FIA WTCC Magazine	EUROSPORT, 18.00/18.30

MEDIA ACCREDITATION FOR THE SIXTH MEETING

Rounds 11 and 12 of the 2006 FIA World Touring Car Championship will take place at Puebla, Mexico, 29th and 30th July.

The deadline to apply for media credentials is Tuesday, 18 July.

Accreditations Procedure and 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
- **Mexican Press** must send applications to:
Rodolfo Sánchez Noya
tel: 055 646697, fax: 055 640786, email: rsancheznoya@yahoo.com.mx
- **TV and Radio** must send applications to:
Julien Boinet – Eurosport
tel +33 1 40938213, fax +33 1 40938169; email: jboinet@eurosport.com

COUNTDOWN: - 9 DAYS



to the 2006 FIA WTCC HSBC Race of Brazil – 1st/2nd July, in Curitiba

2006 FIA WORLD TOURING CAR CHAMPIONSHIP

ROUNDS 9 & 10 - CURITIBA, JULY 1/2 - ENTRY LIST



#	class	team	driver	car
1		BMW Team UK	Andy Priaulx (GBR)	BMW 320si
2		SEAT Sport Italia	Gabriele Tarquini (ITA)	SEAT León
3		SEAT Sport Sverige	Rickard Rydell (SWE)	SEAT León
4		BMW Team Italy-Spain	Alessandro Zanardi (ITA)	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 España	Jordi Gené (ESP)	SEAT León
10		SEAT Sport Deutschland	Peter Terting (GER)	SEAT León
11		SEAT Sport UK	James Thompson (GBR)	SEAT León
12		SEAT Sport France	Yvan Muller (FRA)	SEAT León
15		N.technology	Augusto Farfus (BRA)	Alfa Romeo 156
16		N.technology	Gianni Morbidelli (ITA)	Alfa Romeo 156
18		N.technology	Salvatore Tavano (ITA)	Alfa Romeo 156
19	I	GR Asia	Maurizio Ceresoli (ITA)	SEAT Toledo Cupra
20	I	GR Asia	Tom Coronel (NED)	SEAT León
24	I	JAS Motorsport	Ryan Sharp (GBR)	Honda Accord Euro R
25		JAS Motorsport	Fabrizio Giovanardi (ITA)	Honda Accord Euro R
30	I	Proteam Motorsport	Luca Rangoni (ITA)	BMW 320si
31	I	Proteam Motorsport	Stefano D'Aste (ITA)	BMW 320i
33	I	Wiechers-Sport	Emmet O'Brien (IRL)	BMW 320i
34	I	Wiechers-Sport	Diego Romanini (ITA)	BMW 320i
36	I	Equipo TekProm	Lucas Molo (BRA)	Alfa Romeo 156
41		BMW Team Italy-Spain	Duncan Huisman (NED)	BMW 320si
42		BMW Team Germany	Jörg Müller (GER)	BMW 320si
43		BMW Team Germany	Dirk Müller (GER)	BMW 320si

I = Yokohama Independents' Trophy



CURITIBA - Rounds 9 & 10
2 July 2006



Autódromo Internacional de Curitiba
Lap distance - 3.69 km
Race distance - 14 laps x 2

Contacts: Autódromo Internacional de Curitiba – Avenida Iraí 16, 83321-000 Pinhais, Paraná
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Official website: www.fiawtcccuritiba2006.com.br

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Airport: Curitiba “Afonso Pena” (25 km)

S2000 lap records: none

Previous winners: none



Rounds 9 & 10 – Curitiba (BRA)

Friday, June 30

12.00 – 12.30	Formula 3 Sudamericana	Free Practice 1
12.50 – 13.30	Brasileiro de Marcas	Free Practice 1
13.45 – 14.15	Formula 3 Sudamericana	Free Practice 2
15.00 – 15.30	FIA WTCC	Testing
15.50 – 16.30	Brasileiro de Marcas	Free Practice 2
16.45 – 17.15	Formula 3 Sudamericana	Qualifying 1

Saturday, July 1

09.00 – 09.30	FIA WTCC	Free Practice 1
09.45 – 10.15	Formula 3 Sudamericana	Qualifying 2
10.30 – 11.00	Brasileiro de Marcas	Free Practice 3
11.15 – 11.45	<i>Pit walkabout</i>	
12.00 – 12.30	FIA WTCC	Free Practice 2
13.30	Formula 3 Sudamericana	Race 1 (max 30 min.)
14.15 – 14.45	Brasileiro de Marcas	Qualifying
15.00 – 15.30	FIA WTCC	Qualifying

Sunday, July 2

09.00 – 09.15	FIA WTCC	Warm up
09.30 – 09.45	Formula 3 Sudamericana	Warm up
10.00 – 10.15	Brasileiro de Marcas	Warm up
10.30 – 11.30	<i>Pit walkabout and autograph session</i>	
12.05	FIA WTCC	Race 1 (14 laps)
12.40	<i>FIA WTCC</i>	<i>Podium Race 1</i>
12.45 – 13.00	FIA WTCC	Repair Time
13.15	FIA WTCC	Race 2 (14 laps)
13.50	<i>FIA WTCC</i>	<i>Podium Race 2</i>
14.35	Formula 3 Sudamericana	Race 2 (max 30 min.)
15.45	Brasileiro de Marcas	Race (max 40 min.)