

FIA WTCC NEWSLETTER

22 – 6 June 2008

ROUTE TO: BRNO, CZECH REPUBLIC

The 9th and 10th rounds of the FIA WTCC will take place next week in the Czech Republic, at Brno's Masaryk Circuit.

This is a traditional meeting for the championship, as Brno hosted the European Touring Car Championship from 2002 to 2004, and then the World Touring Car Championship from 2006. BMW notched up seven victories out of the ten races; only Alfa Romeo (Fabrizio Giovanardi's double win in 2002) and Chevrolet (Robert Huff won Race 2 in 2006) have managed to break the German cars' supremacy.

The 2007 meeting saw Félix Porteiro (it was the young Spaniard's maiden WTCC success) and Jörg Müller sharing the glory with a win apiece.

Since last year the circuit has been completely resurfaced during the winter, which may result in fastest lap times.

30,000 WITNESSED BMW'S TRIUMPH IN PAU

The rain did not discourage French spectators; according to Jean-Paul Pasquet, president of the ASAC Basco Béarnais, a crowd of 30,000 attended the 68th Grand Prix de Pau. At the French meeting Augusto Farfus and Andy Priaulx claimed two lights-to-flag wins, putting an end to BMW's abstinence that began after last year's second race in Macau.

The podium of Sunday's Race 2, filled by Priaulx (BMW), Nicola Larini (Chevrolet) and Rickard Rydell (SEAT), was evidence of how competitive the championship is. Statistics say it all: eight different drivers, representing three different manufacturers, have won the eight rounds held so far.

SEAT Sport men retain the top spots in the point table: Gabriele Tarquini leads with 45 points, from team-mates Yvan Muller and Rydell who have gaps of 7 and 8 points respectively. However, Priaulx moved up to fourth, ahead of Robert Huff, 12 points behind the leader.

SAME BALLAST FOR PRIAULX AND MULLER

Andy Priaulx (who won his first race of the season in Pau) and Yvan Muller (who obtained a second and a seventh place in France) will have their cars laden by the same success ballast in Brno: 58 kg. Current championship leader Gabriele Tarquini will be given only three kilos less.

Rickard Rydell, third in the drivers' championship, will carry 47 extra kilos, one more than Augusto Farfus who also claimed one victory last week in Pau.

The heaviest Chevrolet cars will be Nicola Larini's and Robert Huff's with 39 and 37 kg of success ballast respectively. The lightest top drivers will be Jörg Müller (+20), Alain Menu (+14) and Tiago Monteiro (+12).

A total of eighteen drivers will have success ballast in Brno, including the race-by-race entries Alexander Lvov, Andrey Smetsky and Michal Matějovský who will receive 30 kilos according to article 79 c) of the Sporting Regulations.

Success ballast – Czech Republic

58 kg	A. Priaulx, Y. Muller
55 kg	G. Tarquini
47 kg	R. Rydell
46 kg	A. Farfus
39 kg	N. Larini
37 kg	R. Huff
30 kg	J. Gené, A. Lvov, A. Smetsky, M. Matějovský
20 kg	J. Müller
14 kg	A. Menu
12 kg	T. Monteiro
10 kg	T. Coronel
9 kg	F. Porteiro,
1 kg	J. Thompson, O. Tielemans

CZECH DRIVER IN HOME WTCC RACE

Michal Matějovský will join the WTCC for his home event at Brno. The young Czech driver will be at the wheel of SUNRED's second SEAT León TFSI car alongside Tom Coronel, entered under the name of SUNRED-BRT.

Matějovský, 23-year old from Hradec Králové, is currently competing in the SEAT Eurocup; after making his mark in karting when he achieved good results in the national one-make trophies: the Škoda Octavia Cup and the BMW 1 Challenge.

In 2007 he took part in the FIA European Touring Car Cup at Adria, driving a Super 2000 Alfa Romeo 156.

OFFICIAL TEST ON THURSDAY

The WTCC competitors will hit the Brno track on Thursday, during an official test organised by the championship promoter KSO.

The test day will be split into two sessions from 9.00 to 13.00 and from 14.00 to 18.00.

During the lunch break a press conference will be held at the track to present the event to the local media.

FORMER FIA CHAMPION REMEMBERED

Late Czech driver Zdeněk Voítěch will be honoured during the WTCC event with an invitation race.

The 1st Touring Car Cup - Zdeněk Voítěch Memorial, reserved for saloon cars, is made up of two 11-lap races that will close the programme on Saturday and Sunday.

Voítěch was part of the Škoda team that won the 1981 FIA European Touring Car Championship Manufacturers' title and one year later claimed the Drivers' crown in a BMW 328i; he died of cancer in 1998 at the age of 47.

Both his sons Tomáš and Stepan followed his footprints into motor sport competition: Stepan races in the FIA GT Championship, while a tragic twist of fate claimed Tomáš' life with a heart attack in 2005 just before the start of a rally, he was only 32.

EUROSPORT COVERAGE FROM BRNO

Saturday, 14 th :	Qualifying	Eurosport 2, 22.00/22.30
Sunday, 15 th :	Race 1 – LIVE	Eurosport International, 12.00/13.00
	Race 2 – LIVE	Eurosport International, 15.15/16.15

Times are CET (Central European Time)

MEDIA ACCREDITATION FOR ESTORIL

Rounds 11 and 12 of the 2008 FIA World Touring Car Championship will take place at Estoril, Portugal, 12th and 13th July.

The deadline to apply for media credentials is Tuesday, 1st July.

The Accreditation form may be downloaded at 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
- **Portuguese Press** must send applications to:
Pedro Castelo – tel: 021 4135380, fax: 021 4120553
email: p.castelo@talento.pt
- **TV and Radio** must send applications to:
Antonios Argyropoulos – Eurosport Events
tel +33 1 40938517; email: antonios@eurosport.com

COUNTDOWN: - 9 DAYS



to the 2008 FIA WTCC Race of the Czech Republic – 14th / 15th June in Brno

2008 FIA WORLD TOURING CAR CHAMPIONSHIP



ROUNDS 9 & 10 - BRNO, June 14/15 - ENTRY LIST

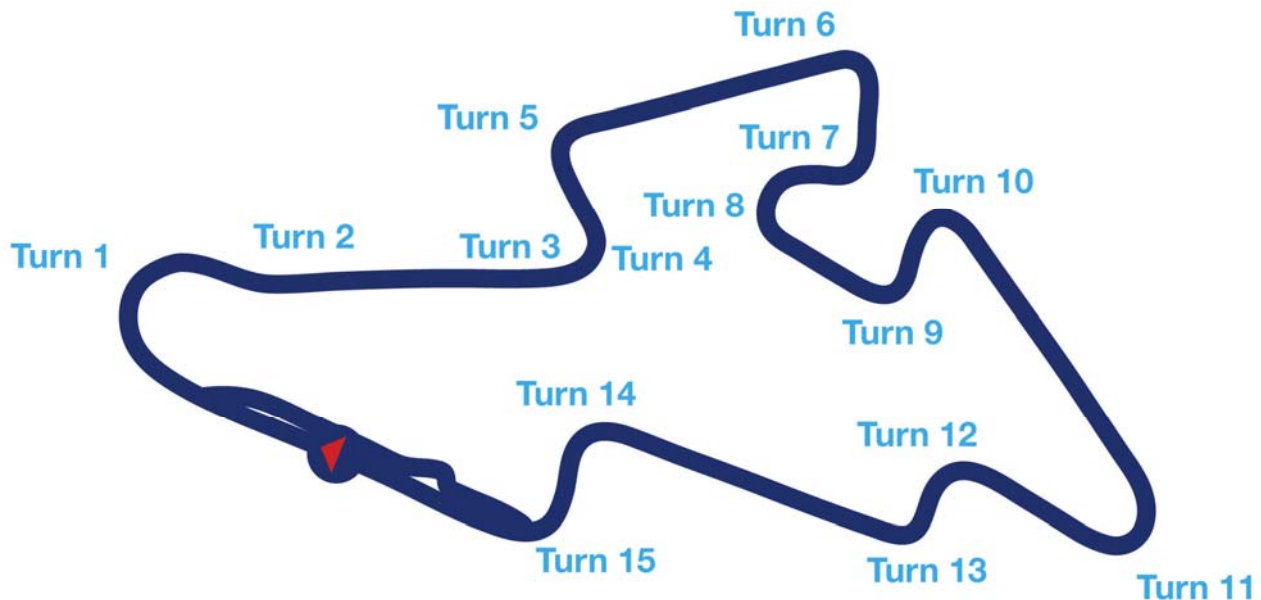
#	class	competitor	driver	car
1		BMW Team UK	Andy Priaulx (GBR)	BMW 320si
2		BMW Team Germany	Jörg Müller (GER)	BMW 320si
3		BMW Team Germany	Augusto Farfus (BRA)	BMW 320si
4		BMW Team Italy-Spain	Alessandro Zanardi (ITA)	BMW 320si
5		BMW Team Italy-Spain	Félix Porteiro (ESP)	BMW 320si
6		Chevrolet	Nicola Larini (ITA)	Chevrolet Lacetti
7		Chevrolet	Robert Huff (GBR)	Chevrolet Lacetti
8		Chevrolet	Alain Menu (SUI)	Chevrolet Lacetti
9		SEAT Sport	Jordi Gené (ESP)	SEAT León 2.0 TDI
10		SEAT Sport	Rickard Rydell (SWE)	SEAT León 2.0 TDI
11		SEAT Sport	Gabriele Tarquini (ITA)	SEAT León 2.0 TDI
12		SEAT Sport	Yvan Muller (FRA)	SEAT León 2.0 TDI
13	/	Borusan Otomotiv Motorsport	Ibrahim Okyay (TUR)	BMW 320si
15		N.technology	James Thompson (GBR)	Honda Accord Euro R
16	/	Wiechers-Sport	Olivier Tielemans (NED)	BMW 320si
18		SEAT Sport	Tiago Monteiro (POR)	SEAT León 2.0 TDI
20		SUNRED Engineering Development	Tom Coronel (NED)	SEAT León 2.0 TFSI
22	/	SUNRED-BRT	Michal Matějovský (CZE)	SEAT León 2.0 TFSI
23	/	Exagon Engineering	Pierre-Yves Corthals (BEL)	SEAT León 2.0 TFSI
26	/	Scuderia Proteam Motorsport	Stefano D'Aste (ITA)	BMW 320si
28	*	Russian Bears Motorsport	Viktor Shapovalov (RUS)	LADA 110 2.0
29	*	Russian Bears Motorsport	Jaap van Lagen (NED)	LADA 110 2.0
31	/	Scuderia Proteam Motorsport	Sergio Hernández (ESP)	BMW 320si
42	/	Liqui Moly Team Engstler	Franz Engstler (GER)	BMW 320si
43	/	Liqui Moly Team Engstler	Andrey Romanov (RUS)	BMW 320si
54	/	Golden Motors	Alexander Lvov (RUS)	Honda Accord Euro R
55	/	Golden Motors	Andrey Smetsky (RUS)	Honda Accord Euro R

/ = Yokohama Independents' Trophy

* = not eligible to score points



Rounds 9 & 10 – TRACK FACTS



Automotodrom Brno / Masaryk Circuit – CZECH REPUBLIC

Lap distance – 5,402 m
Race distance – 2 x 10 laps

- Location:** 10 km West of Brno
- Contacts:** Automotodrom Brno a.s. Ostrova ice 201, 66481 Brno-venkov
Tel: +420 5 46216216, fax +420 5 46216131
email: amd@automotodrombrno.cz
- Official website:** www.automotodrombrno.cz
- Press officer:** Lenka Nestrojilová – tel: +420 546 123320, fax: +420 546 123337
email: nestrojilova@automotodrombrno.cz
- Airports:** Brno-Turany (30 km), Vienna-Schwechat (170 km), Prague-Ruzyne (200 km)
- S2000 lap records:** Qual. - 2:09.913/149.72 kph, Rickard Rydell (SEAT Toledo), 29 May 2004
Race - 2:11.903/147.46 kph, Andy Priaulx (BMW 320i), 30 May 2004
- Previous winners:** 2002 FIA ETCC Race 1: Fabrizio Giovanardi (Alfa Romeo 156 Gta)
2002 FIA ETCC Race 2: Fabrizio Giovanardi (Alfa Romeo 156 Gta)
2003 FIA ETCC Race 1: Dirk Müller (BMW 320i)
2003 FIA ETCC Race 2: Andy Priaulx (BMW 320i)
2004 FIA ETCC Race 1: Andy Priaulx (BMW 320i)
2004 FIA ETCC Race 2: Dirk Müller (BMW 320i)
2006 FIA WTCC Race 1: Jörg Müller (BMW 320si)
2006 FIA WTCC Race 2: Robert Huff (Chevrolet Lacetti)
2007 FIA WTCC Race 1: Félix Porteiro (BMW 320si)
2007 FIA WTCC Race 2: Jörg Müller (BMW 320si)



Rounds 9 & 10 – BRNO (CZE) EVENT TIMETABLE

Friday 13th June 2008

09.30 – 10.15	Formula Master	Free Practice 1
10.30 – 11.15	Porsche Cayman Cup	Free Practice 1
11.30 – 12.00	Zdeněk Vojtěch Memorial Race	Free Practice
12.15 – 13.00	Formula Master	Free Practice 2
13.15 – 13.45	Česká Pojišť'ovna Škoda Octavia Cup	Free Practice
14.15 – 14.45	Porsche Cayman Cup	Free Practice 2
15.00 – 15.30	Zdeněk Vojtěch Memorial Race	Qualifying 1
15.45 – 16.15	Porsche Cayman Cup	Free Practice 3
16.30 – 17.00	Formula Master	Qualifying
17.15 – 17.45	Česká Pojišť'ovna Škoda Octavia Cup	Qualifying

Saturday 14th June 2008

09.00 – 09.30	FIA WTCC	Free Practice 1
09.45 – 10.15	Zdeněk Vojtěch Memorial Race	Qualifying 2
10.30 – 11.00	Porsche Cayman Cup	Free Practice 4
11.30 – 12.00	FIA WTCC	Free Practice 2
12.30	Formula Master	Race 1 (14 laps)
13.40	Česká Pojišť'ovna Škoda Octavia Cup	Race 1 (12 laps)
15.00 – 15.30	FIA WTCC	Qualifying
16.05	Zdeněk Vojtěch Memorial Race	Race 1 (11 laps)
16.50 – 17.40	Porsche Cayman Cup	Qualifying

Sunday 15th June 2008

08.30 – 08.45	FIA WTCC	Warm up
08.55 – 09.05	Česká Pojišť'ovna Škoda Octavia Cup	Warm up
09.35	Porsche Cayman Cup	Race (28 min. + 1 lap)
10.45	Česká Pojišť'ovna Škoda Octavia Cup	Race 2 (12 laps)
12.20	FIA WTCC	Race 1 (10 laps)
12.50	FIA WTCC	Podium Race 1
14.05	Formula Master	Race 2 (max 40 min.)
15.35	FIA WTCC	Race 2 (10 laps)
16.10	FIA WTCC	Podium Race 2
16.35	Zdeněk Vojtěch Memorial Race	Race 2 (11 laps)