

SPAIN TO HOST FINAL WTCC MEETING IN EUROPE

The 2006 FIA World Touring Car Championship's European season will come to an end next week in Valencia, Spain, where rounds 17 and 18 will be raced before the long trip to Macau that will host the final race meeting on November 18.

The Drivers' Championship is closer than ever, with 11 different race winners so far and nine men covered by only 14 points – from Andy Priaulx (1st with 58) to Peter Terting (9th with 44).

In the Manufacturers' Championship SEAT edge BMW by 9 points, while Chevrolet threaten Alfa Romeo's third position.

TOP HANDICAPS FOR TOP DRIVERS

Andy Priaulx, Gabriele Tarquini, Rickard Rydell and Dirk Müller occupy the top-four places in the Drivers' Championship, but also in the handicap weight list. Priaulx and Tarquini, who are only separated by one point, will both be carrying 65 extra kilos in Valencia, ten more than Rydell and Dirk.

All the other title contenders also have ballast on board; the lightest of them being James Thompson and Yvan Muller with 30 kg.

As newcomer to the championship, local competitors Oscar Nogués and María De Villota will be given an automatic 20 kg handicap.

| Driver | handicap for results in the previous meetings | handicap for the championship points | total handicap |
|-------------------|---|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Andy Priaulx | 60 kg – 20 kg = 40 kg | 25 kg | 65 kg |
| Gabriele Tarquini | 0 kg + 40 kg = 40 kg | 25 kg | 65 kg |
| Rickard Rydell | 0 kg + 30 kg = 30 kg | 25 kg | 55 kg |
| Dirk Müller | 35 kg – 5 kg = 30 kg | 25 kg | 55 kg |
| Jörg Müller | 50 kg – 20 kg = 30 kg | 20 kg | 50 kg |
| Peter Terting | 0 kg + 20 kg = 20 kg | 20 kg | 40 kg |
| Augusto Farfus | 40 kg – 20 kg = 20 kg | 20 kg | 40 kg |
| James Thompson | 30 kg – 20 kg = 10 kg | 20 kg | 30 kg |
| Yvan Muller | 30 kg – 20 kg = 10 kg | 20 kg | 30 kg |
| Gianni Morbidelli | 30 kg – 20 kg = 10 kg | 10 kg | 20 kg |
| Alex Zanardi | 0 kg + 10 kg = 10 kg | 10 kg | 20 kg |
| Oscar Nogués | 0 kg | 0 kg | 20 kg ° |
| María de Villota | 0 kg | 0 kg | 20 kg ° |
| Jordi Gené | 0 kg – 10 kg = 0 kg | 15 kg | 15 kg |
| Robert Huff | 10 kg – 20 kg = 0 kg | 10 kg | 10 kg |
| Alain Menu | 0 kg – 20 kg = 0 kg | 10 kg | 10 kg |
| Salvatore Tavano | 10 kg – 20 kg = 0 kg | 5 kg | 5 kg |
| Tom Coronel | 0 kg – 20 kg = 0 kg | 5 kg | 5 kg |
| Nicola Larini | 0 kg + 0 kg = 0 kg | 5 kg | 5 kg |

° Newcomer to the championship

CORONEL CLOSSES ON THE INDEPENDENTS CROWN

With a victory and a second place in Istanbul, GR Asia's Tom Coronel claimed a serious stake on the 2006 WTCC Independents' Trophy. With his closest competitor Ryan Sharp who is unlikely to rejoin the series, the Dutchman boasts an impressive 53-point margin ahead of Proteam Motorsport's Stefano D'Aste, who is currently third in the classification.

Although the final meeting in Macau will award double points for the Independents' Trophy, Coronel might clinch the crown in Valencia.

SUSPENDED PENALTY FOR JÖRG, MENU AND TAVANO

Three drivers will run under a suspended penalty in Valencia: Jörg Müller, Alain Menu and Salvatore Tavano. They all were considered guilty for causing avoidable collisions in Istanbul's Race 1 (Jörg with Menu, Menu with Rangoni and Tavano with Gené) and, should they again be involved in similar incidents in Valencia, risk a drop of ten positions on the starting grid for Macau's Race 1.

EUROSPORT COVERAGE FROM VALENCIA (CET)

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Saturday, 7th:</i> | FIA WTCC Magazine | EUROSPORT, 08.30/09.00 |
| | Qualifying – LIVE | EUROSPORT 2, 14.50/15.40 |
| <i>Sunday, 8th:</i> | Warm Up – LIVE | EUROSPORT, 10.00/10.45 |
| | Race 1 and Race 2 – LIVE | EUROSPORT, 15.00/17.00 |
| | Race 1 and Race 2 – repeat | EUROSPORT 2, 19.00/20.00 |
| <i>Monday, 9th:</i> | Race 1 and Race 2 – repeat | EUROSPORT, 08.45/09.45 |
| | FIA WTCC Magazine | EUROSPORT 2, 19.00/19.30 |
| <i>Tuesday, 10th:</i> | FIA WTCC Magazine | EUROSPORT, 18.45/19.15 |

MEDIA ACCREDITATION FOR THE TENTH MEETING

Media accreditation for rounds 19 and 20 of the 2006 FIA World Touring Car Championship that will take place at Macau, 16th / 19th November are now open.

IMPORTANT: The deadline to apply for media credentials is Friday, 20 October.

Accreditation 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
- **Macau, Hong Kong and Chinese media, including TV and Radio** must apply on line at: http://gp.macau.grandprix.gov.mo/mgpc/public_html/gp53/en/mediareg/
- **International TV and Radio** must send applications to:
Julien Boinet – Eurosport
tel +33 1 40938213, fax +33 1 40938169; email: jboinet@eurosport.com

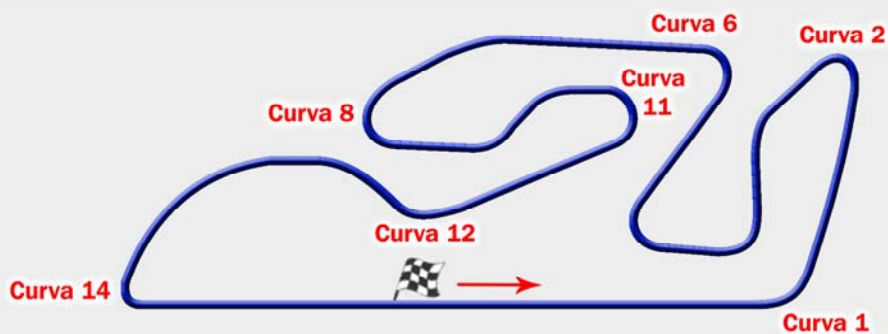
COUNTDOWN: - 9 DAYS



to the 2006 FIA WTCC Beru Race of Spain – 7th/8th October, in Valencia



VALENCIA - Rounds 17 & 18
8 October 2006



Circuito Ricardo Tormo
Lap distance - 4.00 km
Race distance - 13 laps x 2

- Contacts:** Circuito de la Comunidad Valenciana – Autovía A3 Madrid-Valencia, Salidas 332/334, Apartado de Correos 101, 46380 Cheste
Tel: +34 96 2525220, fax: +34 96 2525224, email: info@circuitvalencia.com
- Official website:** www.circuitvalencia.com
- Press officer:** Pablo Pernia – tel: +34 96 2525220, fax: +34 96 2525224, email: media@circuitvalencia.com
- Airports:** Valencia-Manises (15 km), Alicante-El Altet (200 km); Madrid-Barajas (350 km)
- S2000 lap records:** Qualifying - 1:40.819/143.00 kph, Augusto Farfus (Alfa Romeo 156), 17 Apr 2004
Race - 1:42.438/140.74 kph, Augusto Farfus (Alfa Romeo 156), 18 Apr 2004
- Previous winners:** 2004 FIA ETCC Race 1: Gabriele Tarquini (Alfa Romeo 156)
2004 FIA ETCC Race 2: Fabrizio Giovanardi (Alfa Romeo 156)
2005 FIA WTCC Race 1: Jordi Gené (SEAT León)
2005 FIA WTCC Race 2: Jörg Müller (BMW 320i)

2006 FIA WORLD TOURING CAR CHAMPIONSHIP



ROUNDS 17 & 18 - VALENCIA, OCTOBER 7/8 - 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 León |
| 20 | I | GR Asia | Tom Coronel (NED) | SEAT León |
| 21 | | SEAT Sport España | Oscar Nogués Farré (ESP) | SEAT León |
| 23 | I | JAS Motorsport | Pierre-Yves Corthals (BEL) | Honda Accord Euro R |
| 30 | I | Proteam Motorsport | Luca Rangoni (ITA) | BMW 320si |
| 31 | I | Proteam Motorsport | Stefano D'Aste (ITA) | BMW 320i |
| 34 | I | Wiechers-Sport | Diego Romanini (ITA) | BMW 320i |
| 38 | I | Maurer Motorsport | Vincent Radermecker (BEL) | Chevrolet Lacetti |
| 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 |
| 48 | I | Maurer Motorsport | María De Villota (ESP) | Chevrolet Lacetti |

I = Yokohama Independents' Trophy



Rounds 17 & 18 – Valencia (ESP)

Friday, October 6

| | | |
|---------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 09.00 – 09.35 | Spanish Formula 3 Championship | Free Practice 1 |
| 09.45 – 10.15 | Copa Hyundai Getz | Free Practice |
| 10.25 – 11.05 | Supercópa SEAT León | Free Practice 1 |
| 11.15 – 12.00 | International GT Open | Free Practice 1 |
| 12.15 – 12.50 | Spanish Formula 3 Championship | Free Practice 2 |
| 13.00 – 13.30 | Copa Hyundai Getz | Qualifying |
| 13.40 – 14.20 | Supercópa SEAT León | Free Practice 2 |
| 14.30 – 15.15 | International GT Open | Free Practice 2 |
| 15.25 – 16.25 | Trofeo Maserati | Free Practice |
| 16.35 – 17.05 | Spanish Formula 3 Championship | Qualifying |
| 17.15 – 17.45 | Supercópa SEAT León | Qualifying |
| 18.20 | Copa Hyundai Getz | Race 1 (9 laps / max 25 min.) |

Saturday, October 7

| | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 09.00 – 09.30 | FIA WTCC | Free Practice 1 |
| 09.40 – 10.15 | International GT Open | Qualifying 1 |
| 10.25 – 11.25 | Trofeo Maserati | Qualifying |
| 11.35 – 12.10 | International GT Open | Qualifying 2 |
| 12.20 – 12.50 | FIA WTCC | Free Practice 2 |
| 13.10 – 13.45 | International GT Open | Qualifying 2 |
| 13.15 | Supercópa SEAT León | Race 1 (14 laps / max 40 min.) |
| 14.20 | Copa Hyundai Getz | Race 2 (11 laps / max 30 min.) |
| 15.00 – 15.30 | FIA WTCC | Qualifying |
| 16.05 | Spanish Formula 3 Championship | Race 1 (16 laps / max 35 min.) |
| 17.10 | International GT Open | Race 1 (28 laps / max 60 min.) |

Sunday, October 8

| | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 08.30 – 08.45 | International GT Open | Warm up |
| 09.10 | Trofeo Maserati | Race (max 50 min.) |
| 10.15 – 10.30 | FIA WTCC | Warm up |
| 11.00 | Spanish Formula 3 Championship | Race 2 (16 laps / max 35 min.) |
| 11.55 | Supercópa SEAT León | Race 2 (7 laps / max 20 min.) |
| 12.35 | Supercópa SEAT León | Race 3 (7 laps / max 20 min.) |
| 13.25 | International GT Open | Race 2 (28 laps / max 60 min.) |
| 15.15 | FIA WTCC | Race 1 (13 laps) |
| 15.50 | FIA WTCC | Podium Race 1 |
| 15.55 – 16.10 | FIA WTCC | Repair Time |
| 16.25 | FIA WTCC | Race 2 (13 laps) |
| 17.00 | FIA WTCC | Podium Race 2 |
| 17.20 | Copa Hyundai Getz | Race 3 (15 laps / max 40 min.) |