

# FIA WTCC NEWSLETTER

### 2008 FIA WTCC CALENDAR APPROVED

# 42 – 26 October 2007

This Wednesday in Paris the FIA World Motor Sport Council approved the draft for the 2008 World Touring Car Championship.

Eleven meetings are listed, including one in Japan on October 26<sup>th</sup> that will be hosted by the Okayama International Circuit, formerly known as Aida Tanaka International Circuit. The track, located mid-way between Hiroshima and Osaka on the Honshu island, was home to the Formula One Pacific Grand Prix in 1994 and 1995. Like in 2007, the next season will start in Curitiba, Brazil, and end in Macau.

#### 2008 FIA WTCC CALENDAR

Date	Country	Venue
02 March	BRAZIL	Curitiba
18 May	SPAIN	Valencia
01 June	FRANCE	Pau
15 June	CZECH REPUBLIC	Brno
06 July	PORTUGAL	Estoril
27 July	GREAT BRITAIN	Brands Hatch
31 August	GERMANY	Oschersleben
21 September	SWEDEN	Anderstorp *
05 October	ITALY	Monza
26 October	JAPAN	Okayama
16 November	MACAU	Macau

\* subject to the ASN confirmation and the FIA homologation of the circuit

# RYDELL BACK TO SEAT FOR MACAU

Rickard Rydell will drive for SEAT Sport in Macau. It is a comeback for the Swede who drove for the Spanish marque from the 2004 FIA European Touring Car Championship to the 2006 WTCC, claiming four pole positions and two race victories, including SEAT's first ever in an FIA racing championship, at Oschersleben in 2004. At Macau Rydell won the Formula 3 Grand Prix back in 1992 and finished three times on the podium in the Guia Race.

"I'm really looking forward to joining the SEAT Sport team for the race in Macau. I feel right at home with SEAT and it'll be good to work with them again. My main goals of course are to support the team to win the manufacturer's championship and Yvan Muller in the driver's. Macau has always been one of my favourites because I like urban tracks, and coming back to one that saw me win an F3 race brings back fond memories," said the Swedish driver.

During the current season Rydell made a one-off appearance at his home event in Anderstorp, joining Chevrolet and winning the second race.











### A RECORD ENTRY OF 37 FOR THE ETCC

The third edition of the FIA European Touring Car Cup, that takes place this weekend at the Adria Raceway, Italy, has already met with a brilliant result: a new record in terms of participations.

Thirty-seven drivers came from 11 countries and at the wheel of cars from 12 different manufacturers. This equates to a 50 percent increase compared to the two previous editions.

Twenty five of these competitors (again a new record) will fight for the FIA Super 2000 Cup and 7 for the FIA Super Production Cup.

Five other drivers have been accepted to compete in the new Super 1600 class and they will not be eligible for any of the two FIA Cups.

The FIA European Touring Car Cup's first edition, held in Valellunga, Italy, on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2005 was won by Richard Göransson from Sweden in a BMW 320i (Super 2000) and Lorenzo Falessi from Italy in an Alfa Romeo 147 (Super Production).

The second edition took place in Estoril, Portugal, on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2006 and saw victories of Ryan Sharp from Scotland in a SEAT León (Super 2000) and Alexander Lvov from Russia in a Honda Civic (Super Production).

Find news, regulations, drivers' photos and detailed CVs on the official website <u>www.fiaetcc.com</u>.

During the weekend news, results, point classifications and copyright free (for media purposes only) high resolution pictures will also be available for download.

#### 2008 FIA WTCC MEDIA ACCREDITATION

Permanent media accreditation for the 2008 season of the FIA World Touring Car Championship are now open.

Applicants are requested to fill and sign the 2008 WTCC Permanent Form and send it by registered mail, together with the required documents, to:

FIA – PRESS ACCREDITATION

8, Place de la Concorde, 75008 Paris, FRANCE

## The deadline for the application is 9 NOVEMBER 2007.

The application form may be downloaded at the following address: <u>newsletter.fiawtcc.com/download/2008 WTCC Permanent Form.pdf</u>

#### **COUNTDOWN: - 23 DAYS**



to the 2007 FIA WTCC Guia Race of Macau – 16<sup>th</sup> / 17<sup>th</sup> November, in Macau

more information and pictures: www.fiawtcc.com