



FIA WTCC NEWSLETTER

38 – 27 October 2006

GIOVANARDI IS BACK WITH JAS HONDA

Fabrizio Giovanardi will re-join JAS Motorsport and the FIA World Touring Car Championship at the final meeting in Macau. The Italian – a former FIA European Touring Car champion (in 2001 and 2002 with Alfa Romeo) – has just completed his first season as a Vauxhall works driver in the British Touring Car Championship, claiming two race victories and finishing fifth in the points.

He already took part in this year’s FIA WTCC meeting at Curitiba, Brazil, at the wheel of a JAS Motorsport Honda Accord.

"It's a fantastic opportunity to be back again in WTCC. At Curitiba we were immediately fast and I set the fastest lap in free practice, but then something went wrong with the car and I could not achieve the same performance in qualifying and the races. This time we have a big opportunity to show our real potential," commented Giovanardi.

"We have worked hard in order to offer another opportunity to Fabrizio, after the unlucky race of Curitiba. And hopefully this will help us to achieve important results in such an important event." said team principal Alessandro Mariani.

2007 PROVISIONAL CALENDAR APPROVED

Last week in Barcelona, the FIA World Motor Sport Council approved the 2007 FIA World Touring Car Championship’s provisional calendar.

The calendar comprises of eleven race meetings, three of them outside Europe: Brazil, Mexico and Macau.

Nine of the venues visited in the current season have been confirmed, although Curitiba, Puebla and Valencia have been moved to the beginning of the season, while Oschersleben, Brands Hatch and Monza to the end of the European season, before the traditional finale at Macau.

New to the championship are the street circuits of Pau (France) and Porto (Portugal).

2007 FIA World Touring Car Championship

11 March	Brazil	Curitiba ***
15 April	Mexico	Puebla ***
20 May	Spain	Valencia *
3 June	France	Pau **
17 June	Czech Republic	Brno
8 July	Portugal	Porto **
29 July	Turkey	Istanbul
2 September	Germany	Oschersleben
23 September	Great Britain	Brands Hatch
7 October	Italy	Monza
18 November	Macau	Macau

* Pending the ASN’s confirmation

** Pending the homologation of the circuit

** Pending the homologation of the circuit prior to 31 December 2006



TESTING ON THURSDAY, RESTING ON SATURDAY

The FIA Touring Car Bureau authorized a 30-minute test session for the WTCC competitors in Macau, in order to check their cars after the trip from Europe.

The session will take place on Thursday, 16 November, at 1.20 pm local time.

On Friday 17 November, the WTCC drivers will take part in the usual three 30-minute sessions: Practice 1 at 8.50 am, Practice 2 at 12.30 and Qualifying at 4.25 pm that will determine the grid positions for the first race.

Saturday is a traditional day off for touring cars, while the Guia circuit will host the Macau Motorcycle Grand Prix and the qualifying race for the 53rd Formula 3 Macau Grand Prix. After a Sunday morning 15-minute warm up at 7.30 am, the 2006 WTCC's two final rounds will be raced over 9 laps each. Race 1 will start at 11.10 am and Race 2 at 12.30.

CHEVROLET DRIVERS IN THE BUENOS AIRES 200 KM

Chevrolet's WTCC drivers, Alain Menu, Robert Huff and Nicola Larini are in Buenos Aires, where they will take part on Sunday in the 200 km race, counting as the 12th round of the Argentine TC2000 championship. The three men are at the wheel of identical Chevrolet Astra cars run by Chevrolet Elaion ProRacing, sharing driving duties with the team's regular drivers. Matías Rossi, who is currently placed third in the championship, teams with Alain Menu who took part in the two previous editions of the race, claiming two podium results. Christian Ledesma, who snatched the 2004 TC2000 title for Chevrolet, shares his car with Nicola Larini (whose last visit to Buenos Aires dates back to the 1997 F1 GP). Robert Huff is paired with Marcelo Bugliotti.

Apart from their racing duties, Huff, Menu and Larini will perform at the wheel of three historical Chevrolet Coupe cars that were driven by the five-time F1 world champion Juan Manuel Fangio at the beginning of his career in the Turismo Carretera races between 1939 and 1940. All three cars are part of the Fangio Collection of Balcarce, the late champion's hometown.

MEDIA ACCREDITATION FOR THE 2007 FIA WTCC

Media accreditation for the 2007 FIA World Touring Car Championship season is now open.

IMPORTANT: The deadline to apply for permanent media credentials is Friday, 3 November.

Accreditation Procedure and Accreditation Form may be downloaded from the websites www.fia.com and www.fiawtcc.com.

Applications must be sent by registered mail to:

**FIA - PRESS ACCREDITATION
8, Place de la Concorde
75008 Paris
France**

COUNTDOWN: - 23 DAYS



to the 2006 FIA WTCC Guia Race of Macau – 17th/19th November, in Macau
presented by Sociedade de Jogos de Macau