



GT4 EUROPEAN CUP NEWSLETTER #1

LOOKING GOOD FOR 2008 !

The inaugural season of the GT4 European Cup was noted for its varied grids and close, exciting racing. From Silverstone to Oschersleben, Spa to Nogaro, with a season finale run along with the spectacular GT 90's cars at Magny-Cours, the short sprint races provided exceptionally close races, ideal for the spectators.

The objective for 2007, which was to encourage manufacturers, constructors or tuners to prepare cars for the GT4 category, has been fulfilled, and the second year is looking extremely promising. Given the interest and growing demand from smaller manufacturer for this access formula to GT racing, it has been decided to create the Sports Light category, reserved for cars under 1000kg, adding a welcome diversity to the grid while competing for their own podium and classification.

It has become clear that GT4 is a perfect compliment to the GT3 cars now competing in many national championships, as an entry-level category. In coming years, it will likely become a series in its own right in the UK, France, Belgium and possibly Germany. In 2008, it has been integrated into a number of the National GT Championship as a class, in order to promote the concept.

For 2008, the GT4 European Cup season has been expanded to include six race meetings, all held within the prestigious surroundings of the FIA GT Championship. The race format will include a combination of longer races with a mandatory pit stop and optional driver change, as well as shorter sprint races with no pit stops. At most events, there will be two 25-minute sprints and one 50-minute race. The weekends will also include two 50-minute free practice sessions and two 20-minute qualifying sessions. Due to timetable constraints, however, Silverstone will only have two 30-minute races.

Drivers are limited to the Silver and Bronze classes according to the classification used in the FIA GT3 European Championship – and a trophy will be awarded to the best Bronze and best Silver driver over the weekend.

As for the provisional grid for 2008, it is looking extremely healthy, with around 20 full-season entrants in the GT4 category and 6 Sports Light cars, with more likely to compete on a race-by-race basis. The biggest group is likely to be the Aston Martin N24 Vantage, with up to seven cars announced, including four entered by leading FIA GT team Jetalliance. With two each of the BMW Z4, Nissan 350Z, Maserati Trofeo, Porsche Cayman, Ford Mustang and Lotus Exige, as well as an Opel GT, variety is guaranteed. And as 2007 proved how closely balanced these cars could be, close competition is assured. In the Sports Light class, two Ginetta G50 cars are likely to be joined by the KTM X-Bow, the Donkervoort D8 GT, and the Lotus 2/Eleven, with other cars possibly joining the class, which will have a separate classification.

See you at Silverstone for the first round of the exciting new season !

2008 Calendar

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|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| 1. 19th - 20th April | Silverstone | Great Britain |
| 2. 17th - 18th May | Monza | Italy |
| 3. 5th - 6th July | Oschersleben | Germany |
| 4. 31st July / 3rd August | Total 24 Hours Of Spa | Belgium |
| 5. 13th - 14th September | Brno | Czech Republic |
| 6. 4th - 5th October | Nogaro | France |



GT4 TEAM NEWS



JETALLIANCE TO ENTER FOUR ASTON MARTIN N24

Jetalliance Racing, the Austrian team whose drivers Wendlinger and Sharp finished second in the 2007 FIA GT Championship, has acquired 4 Aston Martin Vantage V8 N24 which will be driven by a number of Austrian drivers during the 2008 season. The car shown, with the now-familiar Jetalliance livery, should be driven by Vitus Eckert. Other drivers include Alexander Schütz and Leo Willert in the second car, Niki Mayr-Melnhof, Philip König and Thomas Jakoubek in the third, and Klaus Engelhorn, Richard Karner and Andreas Grünzweig in the fourth.

MASERATI TROFEO FOR ASP COMPETITION

French team ASP/ Competition has announced that it plans to enter two Maserati Trofeo cars in the 2008 season of the GT4 European Cup. The cars will be prepared by French tuner Gemo Sport.

Some places are still available for the 2008 season, at a price of 90,000 euros per driver, with two drivers sharing a car. Anyone interested should contact Mr Philippe Ullmann via www.asp-competition.fr



MALLOCK TO RACE AN ASTON MARTIN N24

Talented sportscar racer Michael Mallock has announced his plans to compete in a full season in the up-and-coming GT4 European Cup. He will contest the 2008 series at the wheel of an Aston Martin N24 entered and run by RS Williams Limited of Cobham, the celebrated Aston Martin specialists. "This will be my first full season of racing since 2001," said an enthusiastic Michael Mallock. "I can't wait – it's brilliant! It's fantastic to be given this opportunity to race a full season again, and with such a fantastic team. I think we're in for a good year. The GT4 Cup is very competitive but we've had such excellent results in testing that I'd be very surprised if we're not winning races and fighting hard for the title."



DE DONCKER DEFENDS HIS TITLE

The inaugural GT4 winner, Eric de Doncker of Belgium, is preparing to contest the 2008 season of the GT4 European Cup, and will be aiming to defend his crown against allcomers! "I can't wait to be in Silverstone to see the 2008 grid, and I'll do everything I can to retain my title!", he said. "I am rather worried about the Aston Martin N24, as they are very competitive and I think there will be a lot of them on the grid. I hope we will have some excellent fights on the track, that the teams will show plenty of fair play, and that we can give the spectators a really good show. I can't wait for the season to start!"



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