

## FIA WTCC NEWSLETTER

# 2 – 18 January 2008

### BUREAU'S DECISION FOR 2008

The members of the FIA Touring Car Bureau defined the directions for the 2008 season within their mission of maintaining the balance of performance among the competitors and ensuring that participation of new competitors is in accordance with the Championship regulations and does not upset the balance.

The following decisions were taken and will be made official after 15 February 2008, which is the closing date for entries in the Championship.

### WAIVERS

The following decisions **will be renewed**:

- **Alfa Romeo 156**: track width (27.07.2006)
- **BMW E46 320i**: engine OV (10.05.2005)
- **BMW E90 320si**: power train OV (30.03.2006); bonnet, exhaust OV (02.02.2007)
- **Chevrolet Lacetti**: suspension, wheel arch, cylinder head OV (30.03.2006); track width (27.07.2006); front axle, cylinder head, oil sump OV (30.04.2007); front subframe OV (23.05.2007)
- **Honda Accord Euro R**: engine OV (30.03.2006)
- **Peugeot 407**: anti-roll bar (21.07.2005)
- **Seat León**: oil pump, shock absorbers, exhaust OV (22.08.2005); flat bottom (30.03.2006)

The following decision **will NOT be renewed**:

- **Chevrolet Lacetti**: engine OV (30.03.2006)

### WEIGHT

The following decisions **will NOT be renewed**:

- **front-wheel drive cars**: - 20 kg (26.07.2007)
- **rear-wheel drive cars**: - 15 kg (03.04.2007)
- **Seat León**: - 25 kg (26.07.2007)

The following **NEW decisions will be taken**:

- **Chevrolet Lacetti**: - 20 kg
- **Seat León 2.0 TFSI**: - 25 kg

### OTHERS

- **engine compression ratio 13:1**: the decision will not be renewed
- **diesel engines**: installation of a control device measuring supercharging pressure, fuel pressure and air/petrol ratio
- **Seat León TDI**: removal of the flat bottom

### **384,000 EUROS FOR THE INDEPENDENTS**

Prize money for the Independent drivers in the 2008 FIA World Touring Car Championship has been raised to euro 384,000.

The prize money will be awarded to the drivers entered in the Yokohama Independents' Trophy. At each of the season's twelve race meetings, a total of euro 32,000 will be awarded to the top six Independent drivers:

- euro 12,000 to the first driver
- euro 8,000 to the second driver
- euro 5,000 to the third driver
- euro 3,000 to the fourth driver
- euro 2,000 to the fifth driver
- euro 2,000 to the sixth driver

The point scoring system will be the same as the FIA WTCC: 10, 8, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 points to the first eight drivers classified; however, double points will be awarded in the two races of the final meeting at Macau.

Due to the narrow gap (2 points) with which Stefano D'Aste won the 2007 trophy, he will be admitted to compete again, but starting with a 2-point handicap in the classification.

### **CHEVROLET LAUNCH IN VIENNA**

Austrian racing fans witnessed the kick-off of Chevrolet's fourth FIA WTCC season, as the 2008 version of the Chevrolet Lacetti was displayed for the first time at the Vienna Auto Show.

After their most successful season yet, Chevrolet will attack the new one with the clear aim of doing even better and for the fourth consecutive season re-signed their three drivers: Alain Menu, Nicola Larini and Rob Huff.

Motorsport Manager, Eric Nève, said: *"Chevrolet's objective for this year is clearly to try and win the drivers' championship."*

### **PROTEAM WITH D'ASTE AND HERNÁNDEZ**

Reigning Independents' champion Stefano D'Aste will rejoin Proteam Motorsport to race alongside Sergio Hernández at the wheel of the team's BMW 320si cars.

D'Aste had already driven for Proteam in the 2005 and 2006 FIA WTCC, with excellent results. The driver classified twice third in the Independents' Trophy, while the outfit directed by Valmiro Presenzini claimed the Teams' Trophy in 2005.

They split for the past season: D'Aste moved to Wiechers-Sport and clinched the title, while Proteam again won the Teams' Trophy with Rangoni and Hernández.

**COUNTDOWN: - 44 DAYS**



to the 2008 FIA WTCC Race of Brazil – 1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> March, in Curitiba