

FIA WTCC NEWSLETTER

3 – 25 January 2008

YELLOW FEVER ALERT IN BRAZIL

Because of some cases of Yellow Fever that occurred in the last few months, the Brazilian immigration authority strongly recommends that all visitors be vaccinated against that disease.

Therefore it is advisable that all team members and media representatives who are going to Curitiba for the FIA WTCC opening race meeting have the vaccination.

It should be noted that the anti-yellow fever vaccine provides protection only ten days after the inoculation.

It is also advisable that you bring the vaccination certificate with you, as it may be requested by the Brazilian immigration officers.

REMEMBERING ANDERS OLOFSSON

Anders Olofsson passed away last Monday in his house at the age of 55.

In the late 70s Anders emerged as a talented Formula 3 driver, taking two Swedish national titles and winning seven rounds of the FIA European F3 Championship in 1977 and 1978. Later he became a works driver for Nissan winning the Japanese Touring Car Championship three years running and the 1991 24 Hours of Spa.

He spent the last part of his career in GT, driving a Ferrari F40 to an outstanding victory on his home track at Anderstorp in the 1995 BPR series and a Gulf/GTC McLaren to second overall and first in class at the 1997 Le Mans 24 Hours.

Olofsson remained in motor sport over the last few years working as team manager of his Swedish fellow countryman Carl Rosenblad, at the Elgh Motorsport team, in the European, World and Swedish Touring Car championships.

He will be remembered as a real gentleman and will definitely be missed.

All the FIA WTCC personnel express their sympathy to his family, friends and team.

CHEVROLET TESTED AT ESTORIL

The Chevrolet RML team conducted a three-day test at the Portuguese track of Estoril from Monday to Wednesday. Alain Menu, Nicola Larini and Rob Huff tested and evaluated several new components for the 2008-spec Chevrolet Lacetti, which also sports a revised livery for the coming season. Further tests, including those of the 2008 engine, will be conducted in the United Kingdom using the test car, while the race cars will be shipped on February 1st to South America for the WTCC opening event in Curitiba, Brazil on March 2nd.

Technical director Mark Way explained: *“The last two seasons we benefitted from an engine waiver (12:1 compression ratio and increased valve lift). This season the waiver will not be renewed, but we will get a 20kg reduction of our base weight instead. We have been working hard in all areas of the 2008 car to make up this difference and are confident that with the weight reduction and our winter developments we can continue the competitiveness seen last year.”*

Nicola Larini said: *"We were testing brand new cars, albeit still with the '07 engine. However they had everything else of the '08 package installed. We have been mainly busy validating parts, particularly the suspension, differential and overall set-up and we had no reliability issues whatsoever, which makes me feel quite confident for the season."*

SEASON PREVIEW ON EUROSPORT

Eurosport will broadcast a 30-minute preview of the FIA World Touring Car Championship's new season.

The preview will be first aired on February 19th at 11.00 pm on Eurosport International and will be repeated several times on Eurosport International (February 20th at 8.30 am and February 29th at 1.00 am), Eurosport 2 (February 21st at 7.00 pm, February 28th at 10.00 pm, February 29th at 2.30 pm and March 1st at 12.15 pm) and Eurosport World (February 20th at 3.30 am and February 21st at 9.45 am).

All times are Central European Time.

BRAZILIAN RACES LIVE ON TV

The two opening races of the 2008 World Touring Car Championship will be televised live from Curitiba on Sunday, March 2nd.

The first race will start at 1.15 pm local time and will be aired on Eurosport from 5.00 to 6.00 pm Central European Time.

The second race will start at 4.15 pm local time and will be aired on Eurosport from 8.00 to 9.00 pm Central European Time.

COUNTDOWN: - 37 DAYS



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