

SPEEDREAD

FEBRUARY 2025

A PUBLICATION OF
MOTORSPORT AUSTRALIA



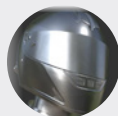
TEAM WRT TRIUMPHS AT 12 HOUR

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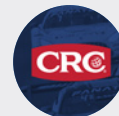
CELEBRATING OUR STATE CHAMPIONS

The Motorsport Australia State Awards have begun, with New South Wales, Northern Territory and Queensland all celebrating their champions of 2024.



UPDATED CONCUSSION GUIDELINES

As with all sports, the understanding of concussion and its long-term effects continues to evolve, and it is essential that safety measures evolve with it.



CRC PARTNERS WITH MOTORSPORT AUSTRALIA

CRC Industries Australia has signed as an Official Partner of Motorsport Australia as part of a new two-year partnership.



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Photo by
Edge Photographics

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TEAM WRT TRIUMPHS AT 12 HOUR

Team WRT has claimed victory in the 2025 Meguiar's Bathurst 12 Hour, with Kelvin van der Linde, brother Sheldon van der Linde and Augusto Farfus taking home first place.

The #32 BMW M4 GT3 completed a total of 306 laps, with the team's second car driven by Valentino Rossi, Charles Weerts and Raffaele Marciello finishing in second.

This result for Team WRT is the third ever 1-2 result in history, making it a memorable Bathurst 12 Hour.

This is even more impressive since this was Team WRT's first time back at the mountain since 2018 and was BMW's first in the 12 Hour's GT3 era.

The winning #32 BMW led 175 laps, the second most in race history,



however the race boiled down to the final hour, with worries over fuel strategy across each team.

In the final hour, van der Linde led in front of Chaz Mostert by six seconds, however, Mostert forced van der Linde to defend on lap 286 and on the following lap, Mostert took the lead

With Mostert building a 3.5 second lead, Arise Racing brought him in with 23 minutes remaining, handing the lead back to van der Linde.



The #26 Arise Racing GT finished the 12-hour enduro in fourth, with Mostert taking the fastest lap of the race, a 2:02.2740s on lap 299.

Arise Racing GT, Absolute Racing and pole-sitters Craft-Bamboo Racing, all stopped to refuel in the final half hour, resulting in Kelvin van der Linde finishing 10.2 seconds ahead of the rest of the grid.

Also in the Pro class, #75 Energy Mercedes-AMG combination of Jules Counon, Luca Stolz and Kenny Habul secured a remarkable fourth consecutive podium with 306 laps, adding to wins in 2022, 2023, and a second place finish in 2024.



Photos: Edge Photographics



In the Bronze class, #27 Heart of Racing by SPS in a Mercedes-AMG GT3 EVO, placed highest in its division, finishing seventh with a total of 305 laps.

The #36 Arise Racing Ferrari, driven by Jaxon Evans, Alessio Rovera, Elliott Schutte, and Brad Schumacher, took Pro-Am class victory and finishing in

eight place outright. Meanwhile, the #93 Wall Racing Lamborghini, secured the Silver class win and ninth overall.

GT4 honours went to the #24 Method Motorsport McLaren, driven by Jake Santalucia, Anthony Levitt, and Josh Buchan, while the only Invitational entry, the #50 KTM, finished 15th overall.



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FIA GIRLS ON TRACK LAUNCHES EMPOWER PROGRAM IN SYDNEY

FIA Girls on Track announces the launch of the Race Of Champions Empower Program, offering young women aged 18-22 a unique opportunity to gain hands-on experience at one of the world's most prestigious motorsport events.

For the first time ever, the Race Of Champions (ROC) will take place at Accor Stadium in Sydney from 6-8 March 2025, bringing together top drivers and motorsport enthusiasts from around the globe.

In partnership with Motorsport Australia's FIA Girls on Track initiative, the Empower Program will immerse participants into world of motorsport. The program will offer invaluable behind-the-scenes access, allowing young women to work alongside industry professionals and gain insights into the dynamic processes that drive a global motorsport event.

This is more than just an opportunity – it's a gateway for young women



They'll not only witness the inner workings of a major global event but also unlock a world of possibilities for their future careers in motorsport

to step directly into the heart of the motorsport industry," said Charlie Barlow, Development Manager at Motorsport Australia.

"Through hands-on experience and direct mentorship from industry professionals, they'll not only witness the inner workings of a major global event but also unlock a world of possibilities for their future careers in motorsport."

"We're delighted to partner with FIA Girls on Track and Motorsport Australia to create this empowering initiative," says Jessie Johnson, Commercial Director of the Race Of Champions.

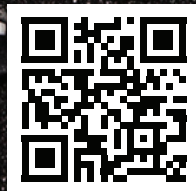
"The Race Of Champions has always celebrated excellence and collaboration in motorsport, and this program extends that spirit by fostering the next generation of talent. We can't wait to see these young women bring their enthusiasm and fresh perspectives to the event." ■



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INDUSTRY EXPERTS JOIN RISK AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Dr Sam Shahin and Paul Morris join Motorsport Australia's Motorsport Risk and Safety Committee (MRSC) in 2025 as the organisation continues to build industry-wide support in growing and protecting the future of motorsport in Australia.

Formed in 2022, the MRSC works to identify and mitigate the risks inherent in motorsport with a strong focus on continuing to improve safety for participants, officials, and spectators.

Shahin and Morris join a committee comprising some of motorsport's most experienced figures across diverse disciplines and skills, including Ian Gillespie AM (Chair), Garry Connelly AM, Roland Dane, Coral Taylor, Kristen Bailey and Adam Berryman.

"We are pleased to welcome Sam and Paul to the Motorsport Risk and Safety Committee.

They bring formidable credentials and recognise the value Motorsport Australia's MRSC brings to building a safer sport for all," Motorsport Australia CEO, Sunil Vohra said.

"As part of Motorsport Australia's role in governing all parts of the sport, the MRSC brings a powerhouse of

industry knowledge together to actively work to improve safety."

Shahin and Morris' appointments reflect the continued recalibration at Motorsport Australia with focus on building the structures to protect and grow the sport.

Morris' vast experience as a multi-discipline competitor in Australia and internationally, provides a deep knowledge of the challenging landscape.

Owner of the Norwell Motorplex, the Bathurst 1000 winner and four-time Australian Super Touring Champion is a leader and mentor to many, while shaping future generations of the sport through the Norwell Racing School.

"Because we operate our own circuit, it's essentially a race meeting every day for us," Morris said.

"Motorsport is much safer compared to when I started, but you can't take anything for granted. You need to be at the cutting edge, always looking to improve and I look forward to drawing on my experience to add value to this committee and the motorsport community."

Motorsport is much safer compared to when I started, but you can't take anything for granted

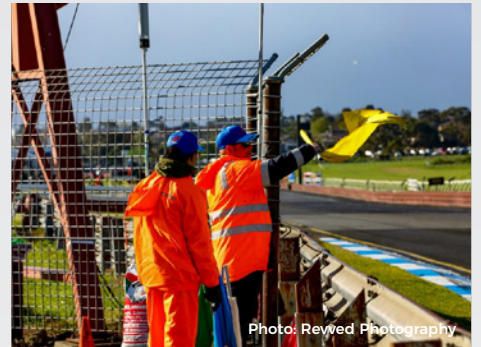


Photo: Rewved Photography

A qualified medical practitioner and founder of Australia's largest motorsport facility The Bend Motorsport Park, Shahin's motivation to join the committee is underpinned by his firsthand knowledge of racing risks as a competitor, and his desire to contribute to the continual evolution of sporting safety.

"Motorsport is a sport built on passion, skill, and the relentless pursuit of excellence, and safety must always be at the forefront of that pursuit," Shahin said.

"Having experienced the sport from multiple perspectives - as a competitor, circuit owner, and medical professional - I understand the importance of continually refining our approach to risk management.

"I look forward to working with my fellow committee members to ensure motorsport remains as safe as possible while preserving the thrill and spirit that makes it so special." ■

AUSTRALIAN OFFICIALS PARTICIPATE IN THE 2025 FIA OFFICIALS SUMMIT



The 2025 FIA Officials Summit united over 230 officials from 50 countries across six global regions, marking the largest gathering since 2020.

Held at Circuito de Madrid Jarama – RACE, the summit featured 124 stewards, 28 race directors, and 12 High Performance Program (HPP) candidates, with nearly 44 percent of attendees in their first five years as officials.

Australia was well-represented, with eight officials attending, including Race Directors David Stuart and David Mori, Stewards Chris McMahon, Matt Selley, and Colin Trinder, and Senior Trainers Tim Schenken and Garry Connelly. Nigel Faull also participated as an HPP Race Director candidate.

The FIA generously funded the Australian representatives to attend the summit.

The three-day event focused on emerging technologies, legislative updates and decision-making processes, with 55 tailored sessions covering topics such as personal performance, intercultural skills, conflict resolution, and future technologies.

Expert speakers and educators provided intensive training, fostering knowledge-sharing and networking to support world-class officiating across all levels of motorsport.

David Mori, Australian Race Director, reflected on his experience.

“To be given the opportunity of learning alongside a diverse group of FIA Appointed Officials was fantastic and gave me a better understanding of the skills I require to build on to develop myself further,” Mori said.

“The topics and group discussions really resonated with me and were relevant to the role I play in motorsport. I’m looking forward to sharing these learnings with our fantastic group of Motorsport Australia Appointed officials.”

A key focus was the use of emerging technologies to enhance decision-making, efficiency, and fairness in race control.

I'm looking forward to sharing these learnings with our fantastic group of Motorsport Australia Appointed officials

Officials were trained in AI-assisted incident detection, automated track limit enforcement, and predictive analytics, alongside high-speed video analysis and advanced data

dashboards to streamline real-time decision-making.

The summit also marked the launch of the new FIA Officials Department, led by FIA Sport Officials Manager, Matteo Perini. This

centralised approach aims to improve recruitment, training, and support for officials at regional and global levels, ensuring cohesive operational processes and greater visibility.

Additionally, the FIA HPP launched its second cycle, welcoming 12 new participants from 11 countries across five continents, including Australian Nigel Faull.

The 2025 FIA Officials Summit represents a significant step in the FIA's ongoing investment in officiating talent, preparing the next generation of officials to excel on a global level. ■



Photo: Adrian Coppin

NOTABLE NATHAN ENSURES BURNIE SUCCESS

This month's Supercheap Auto Official Superstar is Nathan Newton, recognised for his outstanding contributions during Rally Tasmania in November - the first time the event was held in Burnie.

From the initial planning stages, Nathan's dedication and initiative were evident. He played a key role in scoping out locations, engaging with local businesses, and handling much of the pre-event organisation. His local knowledge and strong connections proved invaluable in recruiting a team of officials to assist, ensuring the event ran smoothly.

Described as approachable and dependable, Nathan went above and

beyond, taking on numerous tasks with enthusiasm and professionalism. Balancing his volunteer efforts with a full-time job and a young family, he devoted his personal time to ensuring the rally's success.

While many officials contributed to this memorable event, Nathan's exceptional efforts stood out.

His hard work, initiative, and commitment were integral to making Rally Tasmania a huge success, particularly in its debut in Burnie.

To thank Nathan for his incredible contribution, he will receive a \$100 Supercheap Auto gift card, commemorative pin, and certificate.



NATHAN NEWTON

Do you know someone like Nathan; a Motorsport Australia official who deserves to be recognised for going above and beyond their duty?

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Photos by:
Ray Filetti (NSW/ACT)
Tim Nicol (NT)
Cameron Bell (QLD)



CELEBRATING OUR STATE CHAMPIONS

The Motorsport Australia State Awards have begun, with New South Wales, Northern Territory and Queensland all celebrating their champions of 2024.

NEW SOUTH WALES

The New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory motorsport community came together to celebrate the outstanding achievements of 2024 at the Motorsport Australia NSW/ACT State Awards, proudly presented by Shannons.

Held at Sydney Motorsport Park on Saturday, 8 February, the night welcomed over 160 attendees from across all motorsport disciplines.

The event featured special guest speaker Coral Taylor, a legend of Australian rallying, who shared insights and experiences from her motorsport journey. Darren Barlow, Motorsport Australia State Council Chair, and NSW/ACT Elected Director Jon Thompson also addressed the audience, acknowledging the achievements of the region's competitors, officials, and clubs.

The night saw the 2024 State Champions recognised for their outstanding performances across



a variety of disciplines, as well as a range of special awards for to individuals who demonstrated exceptional commitment and contributions to the sport.

Notable recipients include Maisie Place who was awarded the Coral Taylor Award. Sarah Gawen, a young rally driver, received the NSW/ACT Future Star Award.

Motorsport Australia also celebrated 15 club milestones, recognising the vital role that these passionate collectives play in the sport's growth and development.

Some of the more notable milestones were the 75th anniversary of the Fiat Club of NSW's, and the 50 year anniversary of the 1949-1962 Ford V/8 Club of NSW, Alfa Romeo Owners Club of Australia (NSW), Aston Martin Owners Club (NSW) and the Peugeot Car Club of NSW.

NORTHERN TERRITORY

The 2024 MotorSports NT Awards took centre stage in Darwin, recognising the outstanding achievements of competitors, officials, and volunteers who have contributed to the success of motorsport in the Northern Territory.

Held at Rydges Palmerston the event was well attended with 180 guests, including the Honourable Lia Finocchiaro, Chief Minister of the Northern Territory, and Deputy Chief Minister Gerard Maley, whose presence highlighted the government's ongoing commitment to motorsport.

The evening recognised sporting champions as well as administrators, officials, and MotorSports NT Life Members.

Special thanks were extended to clubs including the Alice Springs Off Road Race Club, Central Australian Rally





Sports Club, Darwin Commodore Club, Finke Desert Race Incorporated, North Australian Motor Sports Club, and the Top End Mud Racing Association.

Motorsport relies heavily on the efforts of volunteers, and the awards night provided an opportunity to acknowledge the hundreds of volunteer officials in the NT who contribute to the sport's growth and success.

The evening also served as an opportunity for the motorsport community to come together, reflecting on the achievements of 2024 and looking ahead to another exciting year of racing.

QUEENSLAND

Queensland has honoured last year's state champions and recognised many dedicated individuals at the 2024 Queensland State Awards, held at the Brisbane Motor Museum and proudly presented by Shannons Insurance.

A standout winner of the night was Porsche Carrera Cup driver Harri Jones, who took home the Will Power Trophy. Jones won seven races in a row in the 2024 Porsche Carrera Cup Australia Championship, totalling up 12 victories, 18 podiums and multiple lap records, an incredible effort that ultimately crowned him Carrera Cup Champion.



Photos by:
Ray Filetti (NSW/ACT)
Tim Nicol (NT)
Cameron Bell (QLD)

Dylan Furche was awarded Queensland's Future Star Award, after taking the title of Club Champion of the Douglas Shire Motor Sports Association.

Ian Mayberry, a well-recognised Queensland official, picked up the Ann Thomson Trophy, an award celebrating outstanding contributions to motorsport.

Officials are integral to every motorsport event, which is why volunteer officials were honoured during the night, including State Official of the Year, Kevin Hunter.

The night also congratulated three Service Award winners, including Craig Bourke, John Tupicoff and David Rowe.



Motorsport Australia also acknowledged significant club milestones. The Triumph Sports Owners Association (Qld) and Porsche Club Queensland were both recognised for 50 years as a motorsport club.

The 2024 Historic Leyburn Sprints, which celebrated the 75th anniversary of Leyburn's Australian Grand Prix, was named Queensland Event of the Year. The annual historic event in Darling Downs was the most successful on record with almost 18,000 attendees witnessing 230 cars on track.

The evening served as a heartfelt celebration of the passion and commitment that fuels motorsport in Queensland.

Motorsport Australia extends its congratulations to all award recipients and expresses deep gratitude to the officials, volunteers, and supporters whose efforts make motorsport thrive in all our Australian states and territories. ■

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CRC PARTNERS WITH MOTORSPORT AUSTRALIA

CRC Industries Australia has signed as an Official Partner of Motorsport Australia as part of a new two-year partnership.

CRC Industries is a global leader in the production of specialty formulations and products for maintenance, repair and operations professionals and do-it-yourselfers.

Trans-Tasman Head of Marketing at CRC Industries, Kieran Chapman, is excited about the new partnership, which will further ingrain CRC in local motorsport.

“CRC is thrilled to join forces with Motorsport Australia in a partnership that reflects of our shared values of delivering world-class solutions to the local market,” Chapman said.

We're excited to partner with an organisation that prides itself on innovative research and development

Motorsport Australia CEO Sunil Vohra welcomes CRC Industries to the organisation's growing number of loyal partners.

“We're excited to partner with an organisation that prides itself on innovative research and development,” Vohra said.

“It's great to welcome the CRC Industries team on board and we look forward to our shared partnership now and into the future.”

CRC service a range of industries; automotive, industrial, electrical, marine, heavy truck, hardware, and food manufacture markets. CRC Industries Australia commenced in 1969, introducing several innovative products for the local market. ■

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Photo: Speed Shots Photography

RYCO EXTENDS MOTORSPORT PARTNERSHIP

Industry leaders in automotive filtration across Australia and New Zealand, Ryco specialises in oil filters, air filters, fuel filters and similar products for passenger vehicles, commercial vehicles, 4X4 and Supercars.

In addition to its renewed partnership with Motorsport Australia, Ryco will also continue their partnership with both the Shannons SpeedSeries and the EROAD Australian Rally Championship.

Motorsport Australia General Manager of Partnerships, Scott Tabe-Lewis, welcomes Ryco's continuation as a Motorsport Australia Partner.

"It has been fantastic having Ryco come on board with Motorsport Australia in 2024, and to have them further extend across 2025 is a true testament of the strong partnership we have formed," Tabe-Lewis said.

"Ryco's passion for all forms of motorsport and automotive, whilst having a wide range of exceptional products that deliver against this, ensures they are an ideal partner for our motorsport community.

"The commitment shown by Ryco in supporting all forms of motorsport to date has been outstanding, and we look forward to further building on this in the year ahead."

It's a natural fit for us to further support motorsport in Australia through this partnership



Photo: Dakar Press Team - Australia

Ryco General Manager Sales and Marketing, Tony Sullivan, expressed his enthusiasm for the extended collaboration with Motorsport Australia.

"We are excited to continue our partnership with Motorsport Australia for another year," Sullivan said.

"As a leader in the automotive industry and with our ongoing role as the Official Filtration Partner of Supercars, it's a natural fit for us to further support motorsport in Australia through this partnership.

"Motorsport Australia remains a pivotal force in the national motorsport landscape, and we look forward to building on the successes we've achieved together while also continuing to explore opportunities with ARC and the SpeedSeries.

"We are confident that Motorsport Australia members will continue to benefit from this partnership, and we remain Ryco ready to support their filtration needs."

ABOUT RYCO

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AU3 AND AU4 CHAMPIONSHIPS LAUNCH IN 2025

AU3

The debut series of Formula Regional racecars will be officially known as the AU3 Championship ahead of its inaugural season starting in May at Phillip Island.

The rebrand marks an exciting new chapter for the series with a renewed focus on delivering an affordable, competitive platform for aspiring drivers in Australia, as well as providing genuine pathways to European teams, with new series partner, Hillspeed, also being announced.

The rebrand is a collaborative effort between the promoters Tim Macrow Racing and Motorsport Australia, designed to both keep the category cost-effective and also align it with other prestigious series like GB3 in England, a series responsible for producing F1 drivers such as Lando Norris, George Russell and most recently Oliver Bearman.

"It's really exciting to provide a proper pathway locally and to give drivers relevant experience at the fraction of the cost," Tim Macrow said.

"The rebranding is an effort to streamline that pathway and to make Australian motorsport as cohesive as possible."

AU3 will feature the current generation of FIA certified Tatuus Formula Regional cars, enabling all current spec cars including Toyota and Alfa Romeo variants available in Australia to compete.

AU4

This year brings the launch of the Motorsport Australia AU4 Championship, a rebranded open-wheel racing series designed to provide young talent with a clear pathway to the pinnacle of Formula car racing.

This category replaces the Formula 4 Australian Championship, offering a fresh approach to nurturing the next generation of drivers.

2025 introduces a split-grid format that caters to drivers as young as 14, dividing the drivers into two classes.

Drivers aged 14 and above will race in first-generation 2015 Mygale-Ford F4 cars, previously driven by F1 stars like Oscar Piastri, Lando Norris, Liam Lawson and Jack Doohan.

Drivers aged 15 and above will race in the second-Generation 2022 Tatuus-Abarth F4 Cars, the same Formula 4 cars driven in Europe.

Adam Gotch, AU4 Championship series manager and founder of AU4 series promoter AGI Sport, explains

how this change addresses a critical gap in Australian motorsport.

"AGI Sport has been focused on developing young Australian and New Zealand drivers on local circuits before taking them overseas to compete in Europe and the USA," Gotch said.

"But it's not the same as competing in a national-level championship. Our best talent has had to leave the country at a young age to gain this experience. The AU4 Championship changes that."

"With drivers such as Oliver Bearman and Kimi Antonelli progressing from the Tatuus-Abarth to seats in 2025 Formula 1, the Formula 4 pathway is vital for young Australian drivers aspiring to the world stage, and the earlier they can gain experience in competition, the better," Gotch said.

The 2025 Motorsport Australia AU4 Championship begins with pre-season testing on March 6, followed by Round 1 on March 22-23, both at Sydney Motorsport Park. ■



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TAYLOR GILL AND DANIEL BRKIC TRIUMPH IN JUNIOR WRC SEASON OPENER AT RALLY SWEDEN

Taylor Gill and co-driver Daniel Brkic have won the first round of the Junior WRC 2025 season at Rally Sweden, completing the run mistake-free.

This marks the duo's second win in the premier junior rally competition, following their debut victory at Rally Finland in 2024.

Like the 2024 season, Gill's speed was top class, but it was the pair's consistent, mistake-free driving that confirmed their triumph.

This proved valuable when rally leader, Mille Johansson, was caught out by a corner midway through Saturday's second leg.

Johansson's mistake and subsequent time loss meant Gill and Brkic rocketed to a lead of more than a minute.

Gill and Brkic had also been chasing Leevi Lassila throughout Saturday, but the Finn's Renault Clio Rally3 gave out on SS17, handing the Australians a golden opportunity.

"To win the first round of the year is amazing and it sets off the momentum in the right direction for the long year ahead," Gill said.

"We set our expectations high this weekend, but winning the opening round of the year is better than we could ask for.

"Conditions were fantastic throughout the weekend and Dan and the FIA Rally Star team did an awesome job and were on song all rally. It was a pleasure to drive on these stages. Snow driving is not so bad!"

With both Johansson and Lassila faltering over the weekend, Gill and Brkic's mistake-free performance on studded tyres in the fast and slippery conditions proved decisive.

Looking ahead, Gill and co-driver Brkic will shift their focus to the gravel stages of Rallye de Portugal, set to take place on May 15-18.

Gill's final winning margin of 22 seconds was ahead of the recovering Johansson and Irish driver, Eamonn Kelly, in third.

Both rivals are likely to appear regularly at the top all season long, which it could pose as a challenge for the Aussies to maintain this outstanding performance.

"As soon as Mille (Johansson) had his issue, we understood the task at hand and measured our driving to ensure we could take this victory," Gill added.

"Any win in the WRC is hard fought and this is no different, so we're rapt." ■

Winning the opening round of the year is better than we could ask for

ONE RACEWAY ACCREDITED FOR BI-DIRECTIONAL TRACK

One Raceway, at Tirrannaville near Goulburn, has achieved the major milestone of getting accreditation from Motorsport Australia for the traditional clock-wise and now also anti clockwise race directions.

One Raceway is the re-imagined version of the old Wakefield Park Raceway, which sat idle after its abrupt closure, until motoring enthusiast, Steve Shelley purchased it in 2023.

"I have been a motoring enthusiast for many years, and saw this as the opportunity to give back to the sport I love," Steve Shelley said.

"I am very appreciative to all who contributed to this major achievement,

especially my brothers Greg and Cameron and our generous wives and families who have also contributed and supported this project greatly.

Receiving accreditation from Motorsport Australia of our revitalized and revamped circuit is a goal that we have had since the very start of our journey

humanly practical," Shelley added.

Steve Shelley is a driven visionary and this is one milestone in a longer plan.

"Receiving accreditation from Motorsport Australia of our revitalised and revamped circuit is a goal that we have had since the very start of our journey. We understood the importance of this accreditation, because standards are vital; so we have done everything we could to make the circuit as safe as



Photo: One Raceway

"I always saw this as an opportunity to give a boost to the Goulburn-Mulwaree region, and I have been very encouraged by the input of experts and a keen workforce from the region to get the facility to the state it has now achieved.

"To truly appreciate the efforts we've made, you have to see it in person. Photos or videos don't do it justice. When you visit, you'll understand what we've accomplished." ■

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MOTORSPORT SAFETY STRENGTHENED WITH UPDATED CONCUSSION GUIDELINES



Motorsport is an exhilarating, high-performance sport that demands the very best from competitors, officials, and support teams.

As with all sports, the understanding of concussion and its long-term effects continues to evolve, and it is essential that safety measures evolve with it. Motorsport Australia is committed to ensuring the wellbeing of everyone involved in the sport by implementing the latest evidence-based concussion protocols.

Across all levels of sport, there is growing recognition of how concussions impact athletes, and motorsport is no exception. By continually improving our understanding of concussion and refining safety measures, Motorsport Australia is ensuring that competitors, officials, and spectators benefit from world-class medical advice and best-practice protocols. This commitment is driven by Motorsport Australia's dedicated National Medical Advisory Committee (NMAC).

With this in mind, Motorsport Australia has now published the 2025 Concussion Management Guidelines. These revisions, first announced in December 2024,

have been endorsed by the Motorsport Australia Board following recommendations from NMAC.

The updated guidelines align with globally recognised best practices, incorporating the latest Concussion Recognition Tool (CRT6) and Sport Concussion Assessment Tool (SCAT6). These tools provide healthcare professionals at motorsport events with the most up-to-date methods for recognising and assessing concussion, ensuring that affected individuals receive the appropriate care and follow-up procedures.

Motorsport Australia's NMAC consists of leading medical and industry experts dedicated to enhancing safety in the sport. The revisions were led by Dr Brent May, an esteemed motorsport trauma specialist, brought invaluable experience as Chief Medical Officer for Formula 1, Medical Advisor to Supercars, and FIA Doctor of the Year 2016. His contributions reflect Motorsport Australia's ongoing commitment to safety, risk mitigation, and governance in motorsport. Dr May was assisted by fellow committee members including Dr Matthew Croxford, Dr Matthew MacPartlin, Dr Jennifer Devine, Mr Greg Gibson, and

Dr Karyn Lun, all of whom contributed extensive expertise to improving motorsport medical protocols.

The 2025 Concussion Management Guidelines are now published ensuring that motorsport participants, officials, and medical personnel have access to the latest concussion assessment and management protocols.

By continually refining our understanding of concussion and ensuring best-practice management, Motorsport Australia remains committed to making motorsport as safe as possible for all involved.

FAQ: UPDATED CONCUSSION GUIDELINES

What this means for competitors:

- **Improved Safety Measures:** The latest concussion assessment tools (CRT6 and SCAT6) will help medical professionals quickly and accurately diagnose concussions, ensuring safer competition conditions.
- **Clearer Return-to-Competition Protocols:** If a competitor is suspected of having a concussion,

1 Recognise
Assess competitor for any symptoms or signs of concussion after a head-based injury.

2 Reduce
Use/implement Motorsport Australia homologated safety equipment, to reduce the risk of injury.

3 Remove
If in doubt, sit them out. Anyone suspected of concussion should be removed from activity until they have been evaluated.

4 Refer
All cases of suspected concussion should be referred to a healthcare provider.

5 Re-evaluate
Re-evaluate by a specialist or healthcare provider after the initial 72 hours.



there will be structured and medically supervised steps for returning to racing, reducing the risk of premature participation.

- **Clear Exclusion periods:** Adults (18yrs and over) – a minimum exclusion period of 14 days from date of incident, and clearance by a medical practitioner (medical doctor). Under 18 years – a minimum exclusion period of 21 days from date of incident, and clearance by a medical practitioner (medical doctor).
- **Greater Awareness and Education:** Competitors will benefit from increased understanding of concussion risks, symptoms,

and necessary precautions, helping them make informed decisions about their health.

- **Consistent Medical Evaluations:** The guidelines will standardise concussion assessments across all Motorsport Australia-sanctioned events, ensuring fairness and consistency in medical evaluations.

What this means for medical staff:

- **Enhanced Assessment Tools:** The introduction of CRT6 and SCAT6 provides a more structured and reliable approach to evaluating potential concussions, allowing for faster and more accurate diagnoses.

- **Standardised Protocols:** Medical teams will follow a uniform process across all Motorsport Australia-sanctioned events, ensuring consistency in how concussions are identified and managed.
- **Clearer Return-to-Participation Criteria:** The guidelines outline definitive steps for determining when a competitor is fit to return, reducing the risk of premature clearance.
- **Improved Medical Preparedness:** On-site medical teams will be better equipped with up-to-date knowledge and best practices, strengthening their ability to handle concussion cases efficiently. ■

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BRINGING BACK THE GOLD STAR

Motorsport Australia is pleased to announce the reinstatement of the prestigious Gold Star Award, with support from the Australian Motorsport Racing Commission (AMRC) and V8 Sleuth.

The Gold Star Award aims to recognise the best-performing circuit driver in Australia each calendar year, awarding points through a new four-tiered structure, highlighting achievements across both national and international motorsport categories.

"The Gold Star Award is an important recognition of Australian motorsport excellence. Its return not only honours our current champions but also inspires the next generation of drivers to achieve greatness on the global

stage," said Lisa Crampton, Sporting & Technical Director Motorsport Australia.

The award will adopt a comprehensive tiered points system to evaluate driver performance, with a live leaderboard updated monthly by V8 Sleuth, providing an up-to-date view of driver standings as the season progresses.

"We're excited to partner with Motorsport Australia to showcase the Gold Star leaderboard. This initiative will engage fans like never before and highlight the exceptional achievements of our Australian drivers," said Aaron Noonan, Managing Director, V8 Sleuth.

Points will be allocated based on finishing positions in each series, with additional points awarded for

participation. Drivers will only accrue participation points for their highest-ranked category, provided they achieve a top-10 finish. Bonus points will be granted for victories in globally iconic races, including: Bathurst 1000, Indy 500, Le Mans, Daytona 500, Daytona 24 Hours, and the Monaco Grand Prix. ■



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MOTORSPORT AUSTRALIA CONTINUES PARTNERSHIP WITH NEXT LEVEL RACING

Motorsport Australia is pleased to announce that Next Level Racing is renewing its Esports partnership for another season.

The leading Simulator brand has been a key supporter since Motorsport Australia Esports launched in 2023. Under the renewed agreement, Next Level Racing will be the Official Esports Racing Cockpit Partner.

Next Level Racing will continue to provide Motorsport Australia with simulator hardware for the continued expansion into the Esports space and provide special offers for members.

“We are pleased to extend our partnership with Motorsport Australia and continue supporting the development of Esports in Australia,” said Kam Khadem, Chief Marketing Officer at Next Level Racing.

“Providing competitors with access to high-quality racing simulation equipment is something we are passionate about, and we look forward to seeing the continued growth of the programme.”

Motorsport Australia has seen significant growth in Esports participation, hosting a variety of national-level competitions with exciting prizes up for grabs, thanks to the continued support of Next Level Racing.



Photo: MM Focus Photography

As part of this continued partnership, Motorsport Australia and Next Level Racing will activate an Esports experience at the 2025 Formula 1 Louis Vuitton Australian Grand Prix, giving fans the opportunity to get behind the wheel of high-quality racing simulators and test their skills against the clock.

“Next Level Racing has been a valued partner of Motorsport Australia since the Esports inception, and we are grateful for their ongoing support,” said Scott Tabe-Lewis, General Manager of Partnerships at Motorsport Australia.

“Their expertise and commitment to innovation have played an important role in the success of our esports programme, and we look forward to continuing this collaboration.”

ABOUT NEXT LEVEL RACING

Founded in 2009, Next Level Racing provides customers with the most realistic and immersive racing and flight simulation experiences.

Its track record of delivering market-leading products and technology has fostered global partnerships with esteemed organisations such as Ferrari, Ford Motor Company, Sony Playstation, G2 Esports, Boeing and iRacing.

The Next Level Racing ecosystem caters to a diverse user base, ranging from casual gamers and simulation enthusiasts to professional applications for advanced virtual training and development. ■

Looking at getting into sim racing, check out Pagnian Imports, Australia's largest simulation store for sim racing and flight.

Providing competitors with access to high-quality racing simulation equipment is something we are passionate about





Photos: MM Focus Photography

ESPORTS TO CONTINUE WITH MOZA RACING

Motorsport Australia is proud to continue its Esports partnership with MOZA Racing in 2025, with the leading sim racing brand renewing its support as the Official Racing Steering Wheels and Pedals Partner.

The extension of this partnership will see a great benefit to the Motorsport Australia Esports' community, with MOZA Racing to bring their extensive knowledge, support and premium products to the community.

Motorsport Australia General Manager Partnerships Scott Tabe-Lewis welcomed MOZA Racing's continued support for this year.

"We are thrilled to extend our partnership with the team at MOZA Racing as we continue to grow together and build a bespoke offering for the Esports community," Tabe-Lewis said.

"Motorsport fans and enthusiasts will also have the opportunity to sample MOZA Racing's premium simulator wheels and pedals at in-



person events this year, and MOZA Racing will continue to extend their support to Esports licence holders with online community events."

MOZA Racing Marketing Manager Wendy Wen is excited to continue their support to motorsport and the Esports community in 2025.

"Motorsport Australia has seen significant growth in Esports participation within a short period, and we're excited to continue to be part of this exciting journey," Wen said.

"MOZA Racing understands how passionate Aussies are about their sim racing and as more people participate and join the Motorsport Australia Esports program, we'll be able to provide them with the right equipment so they can make the most out of their sim racing experience.

"We look forward to working with the Motorsport Australia team as we further support their events both online and in-person."

Racing fans and competitors will be able to sample MOZA

Racing's products at Motorsport Australia Esports' activation at the upcoming Formula 1 Louis Vuitton Australian Grand Prix 2025.

ABOUT MOZA RACING

Established in 2012 by a team of automotive engineers and seasoned sim racing drivers, MOZA Racing stands as a pioneering force in the automotive and sim racing sector.

With over a decade of dedicated research and development, their comprehensive understanding of automotive powertrain, electric motor, and chassis control, coupled with an impressive 8-year track record in designing, manufacturing, and delivering camera gimbals to millions of users globally, MOZA Racing officially ventured into the Sim Racing world in September 2021.

The company's product line, spanning from entry-level to pro-level, is meticulously crafted to meet the varied requirements of racing enthusiasts worldwide. As the user base continues to grow, expanding to over 50 countries and witnessing exponential growth, MOZA Racing has emerged as the preferred brand for esports events, professional racers, and racing enthusiasts alike. ■



[Click here to learn more about MOZA Racing.](#)



Photos: Dan Thompson

OFF ROAD SEASON OPENER ACCEPTING ENTRIES

Entries for the 2025 Motorsport Australia Off Road Championship (AORC) season opener are now being accepted.

The Wentworth Shire Pooncarie Desert Dash will set the scene and open the AORC campaign for the second time in as many years on 4-6 April. With the event now a solid feature on the calendar, the rural New South Wales town is set to enjoy its fourth running on the national stage.



As the success of the event continues, a few changes have been made to the running of the event, the main change being the reversal of the course and the revision of the pit entry and exit. Beyond a few operational tweaks, the event will remain largely unchanged this year.

The [Supplementary Regulations](#) for this event are now available, in addition to the [2025 AORC/SXS Sporting Regulations](#), which all competitors are strongly recommended to read and understand ahead of the season.

As with previous years, the event will consist of Prologue and two sections over two days, with more than 440 competitive kilometres available to Australia's best crews.

Entries for this event will be open until 11:59pm AEDT on Friday 21

March, with interested crews able to enter the event via the Motorsport Australia Member Portal.

A fantastic part of the Pooncarie Desert Dash is the Show N Shine on the Friday evening ahead of the event, competitors will line up their vehicles and celebrate the start of the season and event, with a prize awarded to the Best Presented Vehicle.

The Wentworth Shire Pooncarie Desert Dash kicks off the 2025 AORC season in Pooncarie on 4-6 April. ■

Enter the Wentworth Shire Pooncarie Desert Dash at Motorsport Australia's Event Entry



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SHANNONS



SPEEDSERIES

NEXT CHAPTER OF THE SHANNONS SPEEDSERIES

In partnership with SRO Motorsports Australia, Motorsport Australia is proud to announce the launch of the revamped Shannons SpeedSeries in 2025. With a fresh look and an action-packed calendar.

With SRO Motorsports Australia now taking the reins as the principal promoter, the decision to retain the SpeedSeries name reflects its enduring popularity and significance.

Adding to the celebration, Shannons Insurance will remain the naming rights partner, with the platform will continue be known as the Shannons SpeedSeries, carrying forward its legacy with a fresh, innovative logo.

Headlining the Shannons SpeedSeries series are two powerhouse categories:

- GT World Challenge Australia powered by AWS
- Monochrome GT4 Australia

Supporting these will be fan-favorite national series, including:

- Porsche Michelin Sprint Challenge Australia
- Radical Cup Australia
- Ferrari Challenge Australasia

The 2025 season will feature six rounds across iconic circuits in Australia and New Zealand, with the first round kicking off at Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit on 4-6 April. ■

2025 SHANNONS SPEEDSERIES CALENDAR

1. Round 1: Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit, VIC - 4-6 April
2. Round 2: Sydney Motorsport Park, NSW - 2-4 May
3. Round 3: Queensland Raceway, QLD - 30 May - 1 June
4. Round 4: Sandown Raceway, VIC - 25-27 July
5. Round 5: Shell V-Power Motorsport Park, SA - 5-7 September
6. Round 6: Hampton Downs, NZ - 31 October - 2 November



RALLY OF CANBERRA STAGE NAMED IN HONOUR OF FOUNDER

VALE TED FAULDS

An exciting new stage for the 2025 Rally of Canberra has been named "Mr Grumbles" in honour of one of the founding members of the event, Ted Faulds, who sadly lost his battle with cancer on 25 January.

Ted was involved in the Canberra rally scene for over 40 years as a competitor in his trusty Reliance Automotive Mazda RX2, and then as an event organiser and official. Ted was known as Mr Grumbles or Grumble Bum, for his sometimes-gruff no-nonsense approach to rallying and organising events, that masked his fun-loving, hard-working and loyal true character.

As a driver, he was always competitive in his own way, but knew his limits, aiming to beat only those crews around him and never aiming for an outright win. His theory was that "he who has the most fun wins" and he "won" many events with that philosophy.

Ted was told where to go by many of the great navigators in the Canberra region, with the likes of Mick Gentleman, Lyndall Drake, Andrew York and the last number of years Adrian Dudok.

Ted's contributions to the Rally of Canberra can be traced back to driving the sweep car in all the Mike Bell era ROCs. This was a job that Ted took to new heights, and resulted in many classic yarns about some of the international drivers who had DNF'd.

Ted started organising events like the Wanniasa Valley Rally, and then joined up with Adrian Dudok to resurrect the National Capital Rally as a NSW state round. Ted and Adrian's event grew in popularity and professionalism, and in 2013 the event stepped up to Australian Championship status, and for two years as a round of the Asia Pacific Championship. Ted was the road director for all those years, and was always out the front in the course car.

When Ted had his shoulders replaced, he handed his car to Rod Kilby, but Ted was always there to service and offer advice. Ted typically took on control duties if not competing himself, even though he didn't totally understand how the paperwork worked.

Ted finally hung up his helmet six years ago, sold his trusty RX2 and handed the NatCap road director role over to Phil Thornburn.

Ted was diagnosed with cancer about three years ago, and after a long battle, he ran out of time on Friday 25 January. He will be deeply missed by many in the rally community.

ROC organisers hope that while checking into the control at "Mr Grumbles" on 23 March, competitors take a moment to think about the decades of work and dedication from the hundreds of officials, like Ted, that have provided the foundations for all events we now enjoy. ■

VALE GLENIS LINDLEY

Motorsport Australia is saddened to hear that Glenis Lindley passed away on 16 February at the age of 83.

Glenis was a passionate contributor to Australian motorsport and a proud member of the motorsport community.

Glenis' involvement in motorsport spanned more than 50 years, starting in the early 1970s when she began writing a weekly motor racing column, *Circuit Revs*, for *The Gladstone Observer*. She also wrote *Fast Lane* for *Lismore's Northern Star* and later contributed features to the *Gold Coast Bulletin's Drive* section.

By 2018, she was regularly contributing to *Motor Sport Legends*, and her photography featured in *V8X/Supercar Extra Magazine* and the *Supercars Event Programs*. Glenis had an incredible ability to blend her love of photography and storytelling, which made her such a respected voice in Australian motorsport media.

In 2016, she received the Motorsport Australia Media Service Award, recognising her dedication and influence in the sport. In 2018, she was inducted into the Supercars Media Association Hall of Fame, solidifying her place as a trailblazer in the industry.

Throughout her career, Glenis worked closely with some of motorsport's biggest names including Peter Brock, Sir Jack Brabham, Larry Perkins, Dick Johnson, Tony Longhurst, John French, and Colin Bond. Her photos and stories captured their legendary moments and helped tell the history of Australian motorsport.

Her legacy is one of dedication, creativity, and an absolute love for motorsport.

On behalf of the entire motorsport community, Motorsport Australia extends our heartfelt condolences to Glenis' family, friends, and all those inspired by her significant contributions to the sport.



VALE WARWICK AUGUSTIN

Motorsport Australia is saddened to hear that Warwick Augustin passed away on 11 December 2024.

Warwick was a long time passionate longtime member, competitor and official engaged in almost all assets that motorsport has to offer, including circuit racing, hill climbs, rallies and autotest events.

A dedicated member, Warwick was heavily involved in every car club he was a part of, including the Bathurst Light Car Club, Mini Car Club of NSW, Western District Car, Appendix J Association, Super Mini Club, Cowra Antique Motor Club, Midwest Motor Club and Lachlan Social Club.

For many years Warwick conducted a specialist Mini business in Riverstone on the outskirts of Sydney.

He possessed a wonderful knowledge of these vehicles and was always happy to share all he knew - helping many people in their racing journeys.

Serving as an official with his wife, he and Marea were known to many competitors for his duties as Dummy Grid Marshall at many hill climb and supersprint events.

Outside of motorsport Warwick was a dedicated husband, as well as a loving father to his two children Patrick and Gabrielle.

Motorsport Australia sends our sincere respects to the Augustin family, and all those connected to Warwick through his passion-filled life. ■



Photo: Ron McDonnell via Facebook

CONTACT US

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