

Mazda MX-5 Club of NSW Inc.

Competition Report for the Year 2008 - 2009

Introduction

It gives me great pleasure to report on another successful competition year for the Mazda MX-5 Club of NSW. Activities have included our own track days at Wakefield Park, a motorkhana on the Eastern Creek skid-pan and club members competing at open CAMS events either supersprints or race meetings.

Wakefield Park Track Days

On the club scene we have conducted six track days at Wakefield Park in the year 2008-2009. All events were very well supported with an average of 56 competitors at each meeting. A record 72 competitors competed at the June 2009 meeting that was the NSW/ Victorian Challenge for 2009. Three of the events were conducted on Sundays and three on Mondays. Two rounds of the New South Wales Supersprint Championship hosted by our club preceded two of the Monday events, thus allowing some members to compete on consecutive days. To the club members and visitors who continue to support our track days the committee and organisers would like to thank you for your on going support.

The annual NSW/Victoria interstate challenge series was conducted twice in the past year. In December 2008 the Victorian Club played hosts to us at Phillip Island and they were successful in winning the "Cup" for 2008. In June nine Victorian members travelled to Wakefield Park in an effort to defend the "Cup". Once again the home team, in this case the NSW Club, were able to regain the "Cup" scoring a sixty-four to forty points win.

Presentation Night

Our June Track Day brought to a close the 2008/2009 Competition Year. Competitors and Officials who have supported the Wakefield Park Track Days will be presented with their trophies and gifts of appreciation following our Annual General Meeting in October.

Motorkhana

Thirty members competed in a club motorkhana held on the Eastern Creek skid pan in August 2008. Competitors were split into six classes with the first three outright places going to class 1 cars. Congratulations to John Burgess, outright first, and to all the class winners who have been presented with their trophies.

Supersprints

In the 2008 New South Wales Supersprint Championship the Mazda MX-5 Club was the winner of the Club Champions Shield for a record equalling sixth time. Club President, Phil Ashton, receiving the Shield and Trophy at the CAMS Presentation Night held in February of this year. Congratulations to all those who contributed to this fine result. In individual performances Ian Vickers and Stewart Temesvary were first and second in type 1 and class 1B separated by only 1 point. In class 2B David Roden finished second with Mark Hellmund third. Lindsay Burke was third in class 3C driving Robert Kai's Mazda RX 7. Peter Browning won class 4C, yours truly taking third in class SVB and Renny Roden second in SVC. Outright Champion for the second year in a row was club member John Bugh in his PRB. John represents the NSWRRRC in the Championship

The MX-5 club conducted a very successful Round 5 of the Championship at Wakefield Park on 20th July 2008. A near capacity field of eighty-three drivers competed on the day. A big

thank you too all the club members who helped out as officials on the day, many taking advantage of the 50% discounted entry fee for the club's track day on the following day.

The inaugural CAMS Australian Supersprint Championship was conducted at Eastern Creek over two days in late November. Club members John Bugh, Leigh Hemmings, Brian Anderson, Patricia Rooke, Peter Browning, John Burgess and yours truly competed at this historic event. In 2009 the Championship will be conducted at Phillip Island in Victoria.

Seven of the scheduled nine rounds of the 2009 State Championship had been completed at the time of writing this report. Currently the club is in second place in the Club Championship. This year our club played host for round 3 at Wakefield Park on the 3rd of May. An over capacity field of ninety-two drivers had the opportunity to compete in six runs in ideal weather conditions. Once again club members who acted as officials were able to take advantage of the discounted entry fee on the following day's club track day.

By conducting a supersprint round each year the club is able to contribute to motor sport as a return for the enjoyment that many of our members gain in open competition. In addition the club is also rewarded financially.

Race Meetings

In 2008 the CAMS State Race Championship for Production Sports Cars was again won by David Raddatz from MX-5 Mania driving his MX-5 'SP' he was also the winner in class B. Nick Martinenko was fourth outright and third in class B. Brett Morse was the winner of class E and ninth outright. Others MX-5 members who ran spasmodically in the Championship were Matilda Mravicic, Chris Tonna, Pat Rooke and Val Stewart in her RX 7.

There has been little MX-5 activity in the 2009 Championship with most members preferring to compete in Festival of Sporting Car events and the MX-5 Challenge series.

The Festival meetings have been held at Oran Park both the South and G P Circuits and at Bathurst over Easter. These meetings are well supported by MX-5 members competing in both races and regularities.

Over the past year MX-5 Challenge races have been held at Eastern Creek, Oran Park, Wakefield Park and the MX-5 Nationals at Morgan Park at Warwick in Queensland. The latter event featured combined races for type 2A & 2B cars, races for type 2F cars and regularities. MX-5 members of the Queensland Production Sports Car Club organised the event. The NSW Club was represented by nine members in races, three in regularities and Dennis Brady who competed in both. In the final pointscorers over all races Chris Tonna and Brian Anderson were first and second in 2B, Lou Iezzi was second in 2A whilst the Queenslanders took the first three places in 2F and regularities. The meeting was a great success and it is hoped that it will be repeated in New South Wales in 2010.

Safe and exciting MX-5 driving for the balance of 2009 and into the New Year.

Mike Hicks – Competition Secretary

5th August 2009