



For immediate release
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Exciting car race weekend at Calabogie Motorsports Park announced

OTTAWA - Perhaps an indicator that Canada's economy is on the rebound, the Motorsport Club of Ottawa (MCO. www.mco.org)

today announced a fully packed car race weekend for this year's third-annual Ted Powell Memorial Race Weekend, July 24 to 26, 2009, at the new, world-class Calabogie Motorsports Park (CMP).

“We thought fewer Calabogie race racers might be at MCO's weekend this year because of the recession, but that isn't the case,” said MCO President Pat McDermott. “I'm pleased to say we expect as many, or more, than the 169 racers who participated in last year's Ted Powell race weekend, with at least 25 coming from the Ottawa area. Plus we have a more exciting track for racers and a great race program for fans.”



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Dow Honda and Star Motors of Ottawa are back this year sponsoring the race weekend, supporting their products and serving the local performance driving community. Five women raced cars during last year's Ted Powell race weekend.

New this year, admission is half-price for members of the Canadian Forces and accompanying family.

This Ted Powell race weekend attracts well-known racers such as Major-General Lewis MacKenzie, commander of the UN forces in Bosnia, who races a Formula Ford, and the full semi-professional field of the Castrol Canadian Touring Car Championship (www.touringcar.ca). These are race-prepared sedans that the public can identify with, such as BMWs, Audis, Subarus, Cobalts and Civics.

The Mobil 1 GT-1 through -6 cars that race in the Sprints will be at Calabogie with Porsches, Vipers and Corvettes. Formula Libre, F1200 and F1600 represent the “open-wheel” (no fenders) classes and there will be vintage open-wheelers, too. Other vintage racing will feature such well-known and revered marques as Austin-Healey, MG, Alfa Romeo and Triumph (see Notes, below).

Racing takes place all day long from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Admission is a one-time charge of \$20 which provides entry for Friday practice plus Saturday and Sunday race action, including to the paddock (see teams working on cars). Parking is free, as is entry for children 12 and under. Again this year, admission is half price for Calabogie-area residents who provide proof of a K0J 1H0 postal code.

For directions or to buy advance tickets on line, go to www.mco.org or www.calabogiemotorsports.com .

Notes to editors and reporters:

1. For more information, interviews, for an advance run in a race car around the track for reporters and camera operators, and for free access to the track and to race drivers at the track, contact Ron Woltman, (cell.) 613-863-5360 or rxracer@rogers.com. After June 28, you may also contact Craig Lee at 613-226-3952 or craigmdlee@hotmail.com .



2. About the racing, the Castrol Canadian Touring Car Challenge is a semi-pro race series featuring two classes running together, Touring and Touring2. These are late-model sports cars that vie for their championships in true hard-racing fashion. Fields reach as high as 35 cars. Makes such as Subaru, BMW, Corvette, Honda, Dodge are featured.

Formula Libre is open to all single-seaters and lightweight sports racers and provides some of the fastest competition in Ontario. “Libre” commonly sees competition among Formula Mazda, Formula Renault, Radicals, Formula 2000 cars and the Canadian-built Formula Fours. Sometimes you see Toyota Atlantics and other high-power cars with wings and slicks.

GT Sprints cars are scored in GT-1 through -6 according to lap times and run three twenty-minute races per weekend. As in international endurance racing, all six classes run simultaneously while being scored for their respective classes. The Sprints accommodate a wide variety of cars based on series-produced models, including tube-framed 'silhouette' race cars and stockers. Fields reach 40 to 50 cars a race.

Group 70+ and Vintage races feature historic names like Lotus, Alfa, BMW, Fiat, Lola and others. Sanctions on contact are enforced to try not to damage expensive cars.

Formula Fords have been raced in Canada since the 1960s. The Ford-motored open-wheelers run in close packs where “draft passing” happens often. The lightweight cars can range from \$10,000 to \$20,000 in cost. Many are driver-owned, while some teams rent cars to race, such as from Ottawa-based Mortimer Racing www.mortimer-racing.com .

Formula Vees have been raced since the 1960s and the cars remain basically unchanged. Powered by 1200cc Volkswagen engines, large fields of racers run nose to tail all race long. These cars have no ground effects (wings and spoilers) and are a great entry-level machine for racers wanting to enter the exciting world of Formula race cars.

3. About Ted Powell

Ted Powell was an Ottawa-area race legend whose many achievements resulted in the Motorsport Club of Ottawa naming its Lifetime Achievement Award after him. Ted raced Mini Coopers and was fast and consistent. A Canadian national road racing champion in the late 1960s and early '70s in the “Under 2-Litre” class, he rubbed fenders with some of the truly greats, like Peter Revson and Mark Donohue in the popular North American Trans-Am series.

4. About the Motorsport Club of Ottawa (MCO)

MCO is one of the founding member-clubs of the Canadian Automobile Sports Clubs, Canada’s national governing body for motorsports. MCO is a non-profit, all-volunteer organization. Its 300 or so members organize road races, car rallies, lapping (track) days, parking lot slaloms “(autocross” events) at Scotiabank Place as well as Winter Driving Schools, race licence schools and much more for members of the public.

On November 14, 2009, MCO will celebrate the club’s 60th Anniversary of continuous operation. For more information about the celebrations, go to www.mco.org.

5. About Calabogie Motorsports Park

Calabogie Motorsports Park is the first new world-class motorsport race track built in Canada in more than 25 years. It opened in September of 2006 and this year will be its third full season of operation. The Calabogie track is longer than Mosport, near Toronto, or Mont-Tremblant, near St-Jovite, north of Montreal.

Located less than an hour from Ottawa and a little over two hours from Montreal, “Calabogie” is 5 km long, spectacular and very challenging, with lots of opportunities for passing. Spectator viewing takes place from along a high berm that permits unimpeded viewing of more than five turns, which is more than at many tracks.

To get to Calabogie Motorsports Park from Ottawa, take Hwy 417 to Arnprior. Seven km west of Arnprior, turn left onto Calabogie Road (Hwy 508). As you enter Calabogie, turn left on Hwy 511. Go four km and turn left onto Wilson Farm Road.

