

Classic Classes, Northern Rallysprint 2010 Series.

The classic class is simply aimed at bringing out those good old classics, there's many of them out there and it would be great to see them out on a more regular basis.

Many drivers of classic cars are simply put off by rallies, as normally there up against top flight 4wd machinery. We do have a couple of excellent classic events in the New Zealand rally calendar, one being the Otago Classic, the other being the New Zealand silver Fern held every other year. Both are fantastic events and attract large entries, with many international overseas drivers competing. But with both events based in the lower South Island they are very expensive for drivers in the top of the North Island.

The Northern Rallysprint series is offering the drivers of classic rally cars a championship were they can compete against other classics, the championship will run with the rally sprint series under the same rules as the regular competitors. The events are low Mileage thus reducing maintenance and tyre budgets, smooth but yet challenging, central service reduces the need for large service crews, Its friendly yet extremely competitive, and above all, there all run superbly by the local car clubs and are well established as the clubs have been running the events for 20 odd years. Another huge plus is the "maximum" entry fee placed on the clubs, for the 2010 series this figure is likely to be \$160, again a huge plus when trying to work out budgets. So, as a low budget, competitive, friendly and well organised series its ideally suited to classic rally cars.

Obviously its early days and it's a bit of an experiment which will need quite a bit of work, but were quietly confident it can work and be successful. Originally it was proposed that we would run three classes, classics upto 1750cc, classics over 1751cc, and modified classics which was to cover classics with modern power plants such as hyabussas, v-tecs, durtecs etc. However, the convenors are in favour of just two classes, 1750 and over 1750 so as to not fragment existing classes. It is

also noted that people building such cars as the modifieds are well aware that their cars are not true classics and would have to run in the regular classes anyway.

The next issue is “what’s a classic, and what rules do we run to?”

Here we have to apply common sense and run inline with other classic rules so as to not alienate our series. We don’t want to have cars that can only compete in one event, but not another. Therefore we will be running to the Otago Classic rules with a couple of tweaks for the rally sprint series.

The scoring system will again be as the regular rally sprint, which will give scores to class and overall positions, the overalls being the entire list of registered competitors. There is also a trophy for 1st 2wd car, which could quite possibly also be a classic. The full scoring system can be found on the site www.northernrallysprint.co.nz,

The website will contain all the information you’ll need for the series, from rules, regs, calendar, reports, photos and the championship points and tables. Registered competitors will automatically be sent information that the site has had an update, so you don’t have to go searching for information, it will all come to you.

The series kicks off on the 14th March with the Pukekohe car clubs Ponganui rd, followed two weeks later on the 28th March when the Northland car club will run Rurangi road. April has South Auckland cc’s Trigg road on the outskirts of Huntly. May and its down to Matamata for the Piakouni rd by the Thames Valley cc. August see’s the Auckland car club return to the series with the only Tarmac round of year at Hampton Downs. September and its up to the Brynderwyn’s for the Hibiscus coasts cc event Wearmouth road. Another event may well be added yet as we have a two month break in June & July.

The Website at the moment is closed for updating and revamping in readiness for the 2010 series, it will be back up and running early January, but should anyone require more information don’t hesitate to contact , steve@budgetmotorsport.co.nz

We would also be grateful if any one thinking of doing this classic class could drop me a line expressing intrest,just so the organisers can gauge the interest and feed back.



Richard kelsey above,and Rob Wylie below on the 2009 Wearmouth rd event.

