

Welcome to this month's competitor bulletin. We are now into the full swing of the season with 2 events already run in recent weeks. We have our second May event coming up on the 18 May with Round 2 of the Track Championship Series, then we have a small hiatus while the Supercars come to down before we get pumped for our biggest events of the year, the 2013 NT Titles and the ANDRA Drag Racing Series.

SCRUTINEERING

We have had a number of competitors fail to present at the scrutineering area at recent events so we are revising the scrutineering format. The week leading up to each Track Championship event we will distribute the ESP Audit list. If you are on this list you must present your vehicle to be checked, along with your safety clothes, log book and license (if applicable).

If you have not been randomly chosen for an audit you MUST STILL present your license and log book (if applicable) to the scrutineering shed.

It is here that you will receive a coloured sticker to place on the front of your vehicle. Staging officials will be keeping an eye out for the stickers and if you don't have a sticker on your vehicle you haven't gone through the correct process. No sticker, no race.

WHY THE MOVE TO THE V8 PADDOCK?

Over the past few events there have been a lot of questions amongst racers around why the club has moved from the grassed pit area to the V8 paddock.

As you may already be aware a survey was sent to all members and racers in December 2012 to provide feedback to the committee that would assist with the planning for the club in the coming year. One of the questions in this survey was in regards to changing the location of the pits.

2013 SEASON CALENDAR

Mar-29	Off Street / T&T
Apr-12	BTH Off Street
Apr-27	Season Opener
May-03	BTH Off Street
May-18	Track Champs Rd2
Jun-28	BTH Off Street
Jul 12-13	2013 NT Titles
Jul-26	BTH Off Street
Aug-03	Track Champs Rd4
Aug 16-17	ANDRA Pro Series
Sep-07	Track Champs Rd6
Sep-21	Season Finale
Sep-27	BTH Off Street

2013 MEMBERSHIPS

Don't forget, memberships are due. Register a new account and log into the Competitor Area on the website. There you will see a 2013 MEMBERSHIP event that you can register for and pay via credit card.

**GET YOUR NT TITLES
AND ANDRA EVENT
ENTRIES IN NOW**

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Whilst the committee acknowledges that the grass pit area is a great location for some racers it has never been suitable for all. The grass pit area is the lowest point in the Valley, during the wet season the majority of the water from the infield runs into the pits. Drainage in the area, particularly where the bikes park is very poor. The committee has looked at ways to rectify this problem over the years however due to the water table in the area it is something that will keep occurring. This drainage issue also causes ongoing damage to the ring road during the wet season each year and the club has had to pay for repairs at a significant cost before the start of each season.

The committee was also informed earlier this year, that at the Australian Superbikes event in September 2013 they will be building a dirt Supercross track in the infield. You may have noticed the mounds of dirt already appearing at the top of complex. To build this track, the contractors will be accessing the infield via the grassed pits. With 8,000 tonnes of dirt to be carted in you can only imagine the damage the trucks will cause to an already fragile area.

The club has been very successful in recent years and we now have a track envied by the rest of Australia, it's no surprise that more people are taking up the sport of drag racing. With an increase in racer numbers in the past few years trying to fit everyone into the grassed pit area was becoming an increasing challenge. We no longer have the room to fit everyone in the existing pit area, this was noticeable at many events last year when the exhibition cars and Outlaws started to use the V8 paddock just so we could fit the larger categories together.

Taking this all into consideration, the committee had a long discussion about how this would work and what effects this would have on racers, officials and the crowd. The committee made the strategic decision to move the location of the pits to the V8 paddock to increase our overall capacity and future capabilities. We understand this move is not favourable to everybody, but we hope this explains why we had to make this hard decision as the old pits were not expected to service the needs of our growing club.

Based on some of the feedback we received about the new pit area we have already seen improvements to the scrutineering process, staging, lighting and availability of the sheds on a first in basis. No doubt we will see more improvements as the season progresses and hopefully make this new area as enjoyable as the last.

The committee welcomes further feedback to improve the new pit area. You can do this by sending an email to mail@hiddenvallydrags.com

TRACK CHAMPIONSHIP RD 2

Gates open	1:30pm
Qualifying	2:30 - 5pm
Racing	6pm - 10pm

PIT RADIO - 88.7FM

Did you get to tune into the new FM Radio for pit announcements at the Season Opener? Tune in to 88.7FM and we'd be interested in your feedback.



GARAGE HIRE

As we reported before our last event, garages are now available for ALL categories at upcoming Track Championship events. If you want to make use of these great facilities you simply need to choose YES to the Garage Hire question in your online competitor entry. Full details are available online under the [track regulations](#) at

www.hiddenvalleydrags.com/competitors/regulations

You may share garages with a fellow racer that is in the same category as yourself, just make sure only one of you register for the garage during your online entry.

Spaces are limited so get in quick.

STAGING LANES

Just a quick reminder, the new staging lane format for Track Championship Events is as follows;

- Exit the pit area and travel past the drag strip control tower
- Stop in the pre staging area at the end of the witches hats (beside the concrete wall) in the 2 lanes
- For Exhibition and Outlaw classes you will be sent around 2 at a time by the official to the fire up area (our old staging lanes), giving plenty of room for tow cars.
- For all other categories (Street, Super Street, Super Sedan, Top Sportsman, Bikes) after you have stopped at the witches hats you will be sent around as an entire bracket by the official.



Check out the following Youtube video to also help guide where you are going;

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VGoPVVP-Gtw>

Remember you must have a crew band to enter the staging lanes along with enclosed footwear.

Tow vehicles must not be parked forward of the waterbox.

EVENT SCHEDULES

Remember the week leading up to our events we send out competitor information to registered teams. Included in this info are any last minute changes you need to be aware of and the event schedule. It is critical that you read this information as it is an important part of our communication.

We understand the turn-around time for some brackets at the Season Opener was tight but we must commend you all for the well-structured racing that we saw. For the first time since we implemented scheduled qualifying sessions it was nearly 100% perfect. Hopefully with the improved pit announcements we can continue to improve communication and get you out on track on time.

12-13 JULY

16-17 AUGUST



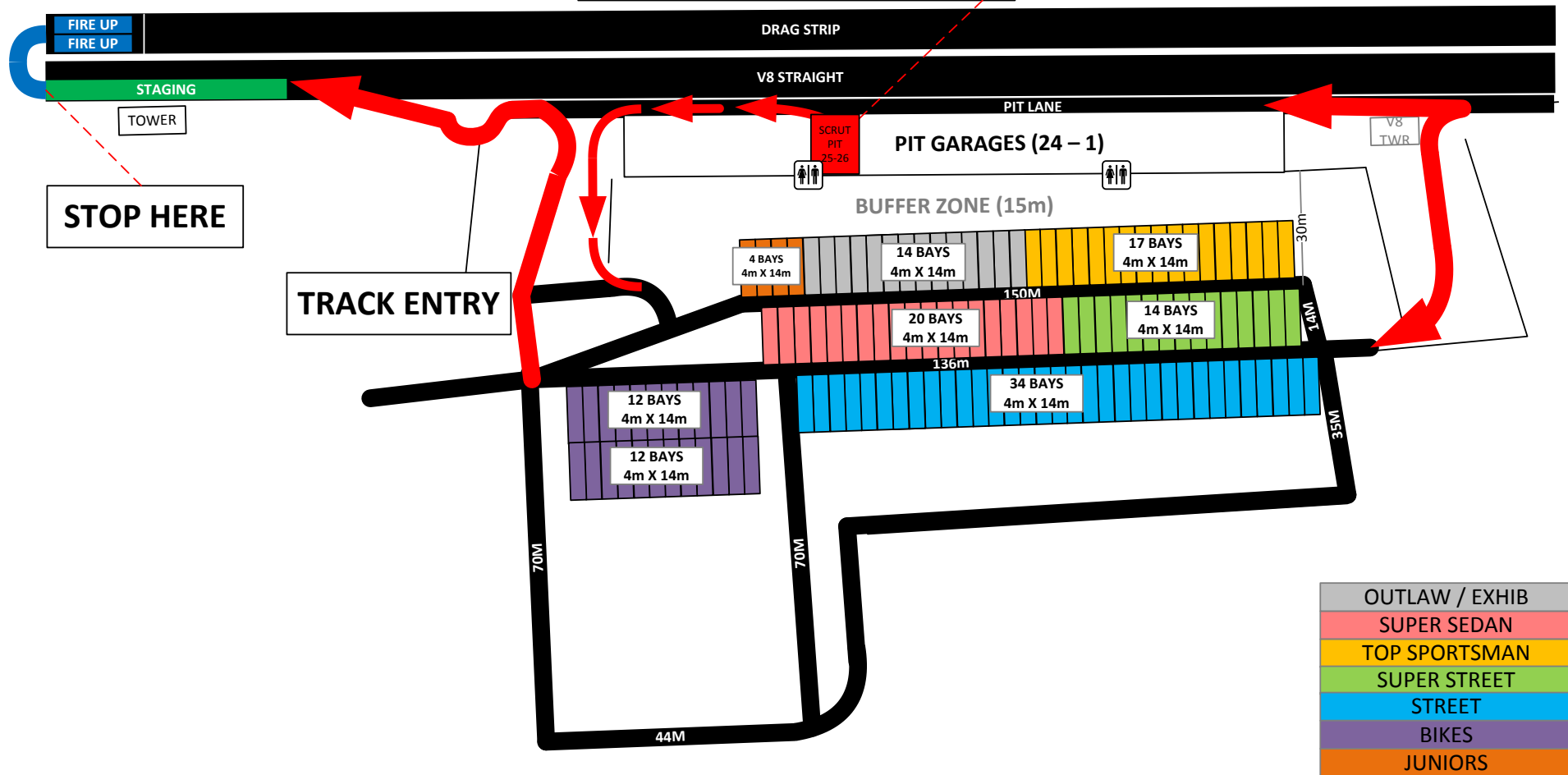
HIDDEN VALLEY DRAG STRIP

COMPETITOR BULLETIN

May 2013

PIT AREA – TRACK CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

SCRUTINEERING – PIT 25/56



STAGING AREA – TRACK CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

