

Mazda MX-5 Club of NSW Inc ABN 82 599 208 521

Competition Report for the Year 2013 - 2014

2014 has been a very busy and a very successful year both for track events organised by the club, and for other motorsport events involving club members.

Club Track Days

There have been five club track days since the last AGM, with the last 2014 event at Wakefield Park on 7th December. All events have been well supported, with most having a full field of entrants. The track days have been supported by 175 members as drivers or officials. The supersprint format of these events has continued to work well, to provide safe and enjoyable track experiences for many club members. Mike Hicks and Zan Menzel along with a large group of regular officials must be thanked for their efforts over the year. Once again, the track presentation was held at the ARDC Garage on 20th July, with trophies presented to all the winners of class pointscore and fastest time, and gifts presented to our volunteers who made our track days possible. Thank you once again!

Driver Training Days

Two driver training days were planned at Marulan Driver Training Centre in July and October, the first of which was subsidised via the generous sponsorship from Deckspeed. These events are intended to provide a fun on-track experience for club members who have never driven on a track before, and to give them an opportunity to improve their driving skills, with in-car tuition available from club members with extensive track experience. For 36 drivers, most club members, this was their first on-track experience. A special thanks to Lindsay Green, Steve Fisher, Natalie Strain, Helen Green and Josh Fitzgerald for organising the October driver training day.

MX-5 Cup

This year the club started a race championship series called the MX-5 Cup, with five rounds scheduled through the year at events organised by Wakefield Park management. This series provides races in a friendly environment, with points awarded in laptime-based classes. Thanks to Craig Durrant and the MX-5 Cup committee of Luke Otten, Stuart McFadyen and Daniel Deckers for their largely unseen efforts in getting this series going and making it a great success.

Also a special thanks to Daniel Deckers and Deckspeed for providing a guest drive in a Deckspeed race car to a lucky club track day driver at each of the MX-5 Cup rounds this year.

Motorkhanas

A motorkhana day was run at the Sydney Motorsport Park skidpan in March with 35 members participating. This was a non-competitive event, and provided a fun environment for club members to push their cars to and beyond their limits in a low



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risk environment, and with minimal wear on the cars due to the low grip surface. The day was a great success, and indicates that such motorkhana events should be a regular part of the club calendar. Those with long memories and matching membership tenure will recall they once were.

In October, the Australian Motorkhana Championship was held in Sydney, and club member Scott Gibbs won class B. Congratulations Scott.

NSW Supersprints

Last year the MX-5 Club just missed out on winning the CAMS NSW Supersprint Championship by a ridiculously tiny margin. This year our club members scored 3219 points, winning the championship by 1007 points from the ARDC. This is the club's 9th Supersprint championship, making it the winningest club in the history of the competition. A single marque club like ours is somewhat disadvantaged in the championship due to the class structure, so this win is a testament to the commitment of the 37 club members who registered in the championship and then drove at as many supersprint rounds as they could. Well done.

Congratulations to Stewart Temesvary who is the Type 1 Supersprint Champion in 2014.

Victorian 6-Hour Regularity Relay

The Victorian 6-Hour Regularity Relay was run at Phillip Island in August, and three teams from our club participated. Each team had four drivers, plus a number of support crew. The 6-Hour is a great event at an iconic track, and a very social and fun weekend for the club members who make the trip. The MX-5 teams finished 11th, 12th and 48th.

Nulon Nationals

In 2014, Nulon decided to give back to the car clubs of Australia by creating an event focused on bringing different clubs and demographics together. The Nulon Nationals are an inter-club three round based event. Each team put forward five cars to compete in a range of events including hillclimb, circuit racing and a head to head battle down an airport runway. This annual event attracts some of Australia's fastest road and track cars in a friendly competition with great prizes.

This being the first year there were a few teething problems. The main one where the MX-5 and Toyota 86 clubs were concerned was parity with some very powerful cars. But even so, Nulon put on a great show with them paying all the competition fees, putting on BBQs and supplying some accommodation.

Leading into the last event it was very tight between the Toyota 86 and MX-5 Clubs, but with double points on offer, the 86 Club beat us at the post. We came in 7th behind some clubs with very powerful cars.



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The Year Ahead

So, looking to 2015, the competition calendar has six track days, two motorkhanas, two driver training days at Marulan, and seven rounds of the MX-5 Cup Championship.

We will be defending the NSW Supersprint championship, and hoping to win our 10th title. The Australian Supersprint Championship will be held over two days at Wakefield Park in November, providing a perfect opportunity for our club members to claim a National title. Plans are already underway for another trip to Phillip Island for the Victorian 6-Hour Regularity Relay. And the Nulon Nationals will be back with revised rules.

These events give plenty of opportunities at many levels for all of us to enjoy our great little cars.

David Lawler

Competition Secretary

Mazda MX-5 Club of NSW Incorporated

Annual General Meeting

22nd October 2014