



**12<sup>th</sup> December 2017 Update**



To everyone registered for Natmeet XIII in 2018

It's now less than four months until the Natmeet in the Barossa Valley and I hope you are all getting as excited as we are. We are still receiving enquiries to join and the good news is that there are still opportunities to enjoy this event if you have not already booked. So if you have just joined your club or have reconsidered coming along please contact our registration secretary at [natmeet2018@mx5-sa.com.au](mailto:natmeet2018@mx5-sa.com.au)

For those of you who have registered and paid your first deposit, please be reminded that the final deposit balance is due on 29<sup>th</sup> December. Please refer payment details below. Anyone registering from that date will require full payment. Thank you to everyone who has already paid their full registrations.

For the motorsport enthusiasts we need to advise you that some alterations are in progress which have occurred due to factors beyond our control as described in the following report. We will keep you informed as developments

## **NatMeet 2018 Motorsport Update**

### **1. Background**

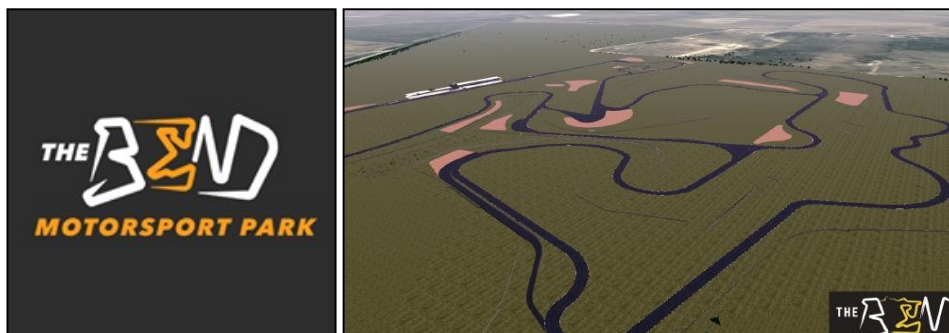
As many of you will be aware, we had planned to commence NatMeet 2018 with a day of motorsport at Mallala Motorsport Park on Sunday the 8<sup>th</sup> of April. The venue was booked and arrangements made to incorporate MX5 only runs in conjunction with MSCASA's Supersprint Round 1.

Our booking was confirmed by both MSCASA – who very kindly scheduled their event to coincide with NatMeet 2018 – and by the new owners of Mallala. Unfortunately, we've subsequently been advised that Mallala have moved our booking in favour of a 3 day event. The revised dates that they offered are regrettably not within our required time frame and as such we have had no option but to seek alternative venues.

The following is an update of what has transpired since, together with some information re the options that we are now pursuing.

## 2. The Bend Motorsport Park

The new owners of Mallala Motorsport Park are also the developers of “The Bend” – a new 200 million dollar state of the art Motorsport Complex which is currently under construction at Tailem Bend – about an hour South East of Adelaide. This is a world standard FIA licensed track that while predominately intended for circuit racing also caters for many other forms of motorsport including off roading, drifting & drag racing etc. There are 7.5 kms of newly laid bitumen circuit options, an airstrip & high end pits/ corporate accommodation. The hotel chain “Rydges” are currently constructing an onsite hotel complex which is reported to have been modelled on their Bathurst establishment. In summary, The Bend is high class and unquestionably world standard in all respects. The Motorsport Complex and the new Rydges Hotel are both scheduled to open in early April 2018.



We've been fortunate to secure a tentative booking at The Bend - together with the BMW Club of Victoria – for a Supersprint on Sunday the 8<sup>th</sup> of April 2018 with provisos that 1) Construction continues to run to schedule (highly likely as Shannons' Nationals are to be held there on April the 13<sup>th</sup>) and 2) That cost is not prohibitive. Costs are yet to be confirmed pending participation from other car clubs etc.

If this venue is confirmed, this will be a coup for NatMeet 2018 in that we will most probably be the first to compete at what promises to be an amazing – and in all likelihood, a highly publicised venue.



## 3. Other Possibilities

As a backup, the NatMeet Motorsport Committee are investigating other options – including runs at Collingrove Hill climb. Collingrove is a well known hill-climb venue which has the advantage of being close to the Barossa Valley – the area in which NatMeet 2018 will be based. This picturesque course has good facilities and is a very popular venue for Club Motorsport. The Sporting Car Club of SA is hosting an open meeting on the day, an event that is likely to attract competitors from a variety of local Car Clubs. We will keep you informed of progress but can assure you that we are doing all within our power to ensure that NatMeet 2018 will commence with an enjoyable day of competitive motorsport. We look forward to seeing you there.

Yours sincerely,

**Allen Weber**

NatMeet 2018 Motor Sport Manager & Co-Concours Manager Mobile 0419 809 930

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The rest of the program has remained unchanged and here's a quick reminder of the week's events.

**Day 1 Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> April PM**

Registration at the Novotel commence from 2.00pm followed by the evening welcome gourmet BBQ and drinks



**Day 2\* Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April \* Note** Runs on days 2, 4 and 5 will be a third of the total participants to each destination. Travel through the Barossa Valley to the Clare Valley through Auburn and on to a light lunch at O'Leary Walker Winery with spectacular views over the valley.



Return to the Barossa Valley before freshening up and boarding the bus for Seppeltsfield where you will be given a tour of the winery and their port barrel rooms, followed by welcoming drinks and nibbles before dinner. Sufficient time will be available to clean cars for the next day before boarding the bus.

There will be a silent auction on this evening with funds raised for some very deserving charities so please come prepared for some great opportunities to purchase some fantastic items.





### **Day 3 Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> April**

Today starts with a grand parade through Tanunda in the heart of the Barossa ending at Tanunda oval for a Concours de Elegance where participants can choose to have their cars judged. This will be a picnic atmosphere including morning tea and lunch provided by local community volunteers. The afternoon and evening are free for you to explore the wineries, craft and food establishments at your own pace.



### **Day 4\* Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> April**

Today's run will explore the Barossa Valley including visits to Maggie Beer's, Wolf Blass winery and Barossa Valley Cheese Company and includes lunch at the SA Company Store famous for its local produce. Driving through the towns of Nuriootpa, Greenock, Angaston, Tanunda, Bethany and Seppeltsfield you will experience the many vineyards in their autumn colours. After lunch activities are free choice to explore the towns of Angaston, Nuriootpa or Tanunda before returning to the Novotel or simply chill out by the pool before boarding the bus to the Vine Inn in Nuriootpa for a dinner dance featuring a night of German theme and entertainment. Yes, dress code for the night is German theme so pack those lederhosen.



### **Day 5\* Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April**

This morning we will enjoy some great roads through the Adelaide Hills before stopping for morning coffee at Oakbank famous for the annual steeplechase races. Some more challenging roads through the hills will see us arrive at Hahndorf to explore the famous village established by the early German settlers. Time to explore the shops and choose your own lunch option from the many food outlets in the main street. Back to the Novotel before the presentation night dinner and drinks and reinforce the new friendships of the past few days.



### Day 6 Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April

Farewell breakfast at the Novotel to say our goodbyes before departing onto other destinations or returning home. We trust you return safely and take home great memories of the Barossa Valley.



We sincerely hope that you consider or reconsider joining us here in South Australia for next year's NATMEET. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions. We would love to hear from you.



Payments are to be made into the following bank account:

<b>Bank:</b>	Westpac
<b>Account Name:</b>	Mazda MX5 Club of South Australia Inc
<b>BSB Number:</b>	035-055
<b>Account Number:</b>	359950

As the bank account is dedicate to the purposes of NatMeet 2018 you do not need to use NatMeet 2018 in your transaction description. Instead if you could ensure that you use description such as your Surname together with the payment number. For example, SMITH PAYMENT 1.

As always, if you could send an email confirming that you have undertaken a bank transfer, that would great assist with reconciliations. Our NatMeet Treasurer is **Dianne Robertson** – email [treasurer@mx5-sa.com.au](mailto:treasurer@mx5-sa.com.au) or mobile 0437 771 112.

For payments by cheque, please mail cheques to:

**Mazda MX-5 Club of South Australia Inc**  
**PO Box 312**  
**FULHAM GARDENS SA 5024**

With regards to accommodation, may I suggest looking into your accommodation options asap.

The link to the accommodation page on our website <http://mx5-sa.com.au/natmeet-2018-the-venue/>

Once you have made booking for accommodation, the Novotel will acknowledge your registration direct to you and not via the club.

“Don’t delay booking your accommodation at the Novotel which has been arranged at a discount price for the period of the NatMeet and must be booked directly with the Novotel Barossa Valley Resort. All unsold rooms will be returned to the Novotel 90 days before the NatMeet commences.”

The link to the Registration Form is [here](#), should you wish to join with us for the event.

On behalf of all the Natmeet XIII organising committee I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe new year.



Kind regards,

***Hans Oldenhove***

***Chairman NATMEET 2018***

*Mazda MX-5 Club of SA*

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