



2017 CROSS COUNTRY CAR RACING REGIONAL INTER-PROVINCIAL CHALLENGE

Date: 29 July 2017

Venue: Eeram Farmers Complex, Harrismith

Events: Harrismith 250 Northern Regions & Harrismith 250 KZN Regional

In order to inject a different flavour and renewed interest into our much loved sport, representatives of Northern Regions and KZN recently got together and formulated a ***Regional Inter-Provincial Challenge*** to be held in conjunction with the above events at the end of July. This marks the trial event in what is planned to become a three-event series challenge in 2018 and beyond. The Harrismith event provides an ideal opportunity to kick off this initiative due to the fact that both regions are having a round of their own regional championships incorporated into the national championship event over the same weekend.

Over-and-above the usual rivalry between competitors, we now have an additional element thrown into the mix as there are bragging rights on offer, apart from individual trophies and the ***Regional Inter-Provincial Challenge*** trophy.

Format and race distance

Race distance will be between 210 and 240 kms, run in a similar fashion to Glenharvie at the end of every year, which will mean that the regional competitors will 'finish' at a marshal/road crossing somewhere on the loop and drive back to the DSP for a 'ceremonial' finish. Everything is run under current rules and regulations as per usual. There will be no additional costs or fees for competitors.

Seeding and starting order

The starting order will be made up taking each regions' respective seeding method into account but then combined, alternating the order between KZN and Northern Regions competitors. A 'flip of the coin' will determine which region will start first and thereafter the order will alternate between regions, i.e. (1st) KZN, (2nd) NR, (3rd) KZN, (4th) NR, (5th) KZN, etc. Dust gaps will be as prescribed in the regulations or published on the day. The first car will start at a prescribed interval after the last national competitor.

Points scoring

Due to the variation in classes and types of vehicles (KZN for example has no production vehicles but run Class A vehicles) the scoring for the challenge will be determined on overall positions and will be scored as follows: 1st - 15, 2nd - 14, 3rd - 13, 4th - 12, 5th - 11, 6th - 10, 7th - 9, 8th - 8, 9th - 7, 10th - 6, 11th - 5, 12th - 4, 13th - 3, 14th - 2, 15th - 1.

Awards - 2017

The first 15 competitors will score points irrespective which region they are from, the points are then tallied and the province with the most points is declared the winner. In the event of a tie the award will go to the province with the most vehicles in the top 15 points scoring positions.

Trophies will be awarded to the first 6 places in the combined overall finishing positions irrespective which region they are from, and a trophy will be awarded to the winning province.

2018 and beyond

For 2017 this challenge will consist of only one round but for 2018 and beyond the proposal is to run it over 3 rounds with each region hosting a 'home' event and Harrismith being the third 'neutral ground' event. The Barberspan event is mooted as Northern Regions' 'home' event and the first of the challenge events and KZN is also looking at incorporating that event as part of their regional championship to entice participation from the majority of competitors. Likewise, Northern Regions will then incorporate a KZN regional event around November or so (Possibly Hlatikhulu) on the calendar as one of their championship races and the third event in the challenge, again to entice participation from NR competitors.

Following on the Harrismith event, a post-mortem will be conducted and we will also welcome input from all relevant competitors in order to make this a success.

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