

The Battle of Oran Park in NSW Formula Ford 1600 Championship:

As history has proven in recent years there has been no shortage of action when the third round of the NSW Formula Ford 1600 Championship is fought out at Oran Park Raceway, near Narellan NSW, this weekend (June 21 – 22).

The 2.62km Oran Park Raceway circuit always throws up plenty of curves and it also has seen numerous drivers over the years break through for maiden race wins, as well as caused a few problems for some with the demanding layout, and this weekend should be no different could see something similar.

In recent years Oran Park Raceway has seen the likes of ex Formula Ford drivers Greg Woodrow (retired) and Nick Lowe (Aussie Racing Cars); record their first victories in the NSW Championship. In 1994 Australian Formula One driver Mark Webber was able to score his first win in the NSW Formula Ford Championship at this circuit.

Regarded as one of the most technical circuits in Australian Motor Racing, Oran Park Raceway is certainly one circuits that demands respect in order for each drivers to be quick, so that is certainly going to prove quite a challenge for the Formula Ford pilots. Its fast flowing nature requires a good balanced car and committed driver in order to succeed there.

So far in 2008 the opening two rounds of the NSW Championship have been dominated by Anglo Australian Motorsport drivers Ryan Simpson and Tom Tweedie and as one would expect the pair currently sit 1 – 2 respectively in the championship point standings. There is no doubt that Simpson and Tweedie, who are two talented young drivers, are looking to continue their battle at the pointy end of the field and Tweedie can certainly take plenty of confidence into this round after his round two result at Eastern Creek Raceway last month when he managed to break through for his maiden win in the NSW Championship and he certainly made Simpson work hard for his second successive round win in succession.

The likes of Matthew Howard, Bruce McCabe, Derryn Harrison and veteran John Smith certainly have their eyes set on the podium, and these three drivers are set to prove the closest challengers to the dominance of Simpson and Tweedie at this stage of the NSW Championship, with each eyeing a in regards to breaking through for victory.

Formula Ford Newcomers, Anglo Australian Motorsport teenager Nathan Morcom and Icon Motorsport pilot Adam Lucas, have shown made it known in the opening two rounds of the NSW Championship that they are genuine podium contenders and are improving with the more circuit time. Fellow Formula Ford rookies, Daniel Lewis, James Stewart and Russell Newell, have similar views of improvement and have shown that it won't be too long before they are amongst the Top 5 contenders on a regular basis.

Drivers such as Jason Liddell and David Holland are very excited to be returning to Oran Park Raceway this weekend and they plan to fight it out amongst the field around the popular Western Sydney based circuit.

Latest NSW Formula Ford 1600 Championship Point Standings (after two completed rounds):

1 Ryan Simpson – 176 points

2 Tom Tweedie - 156

3 Matthew Howard - 132

4 Bruce McCabe - 126

5 Daniel Lewis - 110

The race format for round three of the NSW Championship will be qualifying and the opening race on Saturday followed by race two and three on Sunday.

For more information about the NSW Formula Ford 1600 Championship or Oran Park Raceway visit:
www.ff1600.org.au or www.oranpark.com.au

-ENDS RELEASE-

NSW Formula Ford 1600 Championship media enquiries Daniel Powell – Redline Media

Phone: 0246 832 287

Mobile: 0432 126 210

Email: daniel@redlinemedia.com.au

Website: www.redlinemedia.com.au