

**2nd September 2008**

## DUNLOP MOTORSPORT IRELAND YOUNG RACING DRIVER OF THE MONTH - JULY 2008

22 year old Niall Breen has once again secured himself a place as a contender for the prestigious Dunlop Young Racing Driver of the Year Award. The young Dundalk lad, who is currently contesting the Formula 3 Euroseries, has been selected as the Dunlop Young Racing Driver of the Month for July.

Niall, who is supported by Bar 1 Racing, Tiffen Developments and City Waste, achieved a second place podium finish at Nurburgring on July 27th. Having completed his Law Degree in June 2007, Niall is currently putting his racing career first, with Formula One being his ultimate goal.

Niall is now the fourth of six contenders to be short-listed for the Dunlop Young Racing Driver of the Year Award, which has a total prize fund of €50,000. This award is presented annually and is sponsored by Irish Dunlop Ltd. with additional support from the Irish Sports Council and Motorsport Ireland.

### SEPTEMBER FIXTURES

6	Munster CC	Autotest (H)
6/7	Wexford	Stages Rally
6/7	Co Kildare	4x4 Challenge
6/7	Donegal	Hillclimbs (HC)
7	Cork	Autotest (H)
12/13/14	IMRC	Retrospective Trial
13/14	Leinster	Trophy Race Meeting
13/14	Birr	Autocross (GS)
14	Clare	Stages Rally (SR)
14	Munster KC	Kart Race Meeting (KC)
21	Carrick-on-Suir	Restricted Mini Stages Rally
21	Co Kildare	4x4 Production Vehicle Trial
21	Kerry	Autotest
21	Connacht	Autocross (LS)
27	MEC	Rhodes Cup Sporting Trial
27	500 MRCI	Race Meeting, Kirkistown
27/28	Munster CC	Cork 20 International Rally (TROA)
28	Co Kildare	Autotest (H)
28	IKC	Kart Race Meeting (KC)
28	Co Cavan	Autocross (LS)
28	Carlow	Race Meeting - Mondello



### FIRE EXTINGUISHER SURVEY

Motorsport Ireland have approached the FIA Institute for Motor Sport Safety in relation to the use and type of fire extinguishers at motor sport events, specifically rallying.

Thankfully the Institute for Motor Sport Safety have now taken this important issue on board and they are in the process of creating a research programme. They have requested the assistance of MI to do this.

We need to gather information relating to the type of fires occurring to ensure that the research programme is relevant. We have prepared a questionnaire to do this. If you have ever been involved in a fire at an event please complete this questionnaire and return it to us. The questionnaire is available on the MI website or it can be faxed or posted to you if you contact the MI office.

### OCTOBER FIXTURES

4	Co Monaghan	Drumlin Navigation Trial (NT)
4	Leinster	GVB Cup Sporting Trial
5	Laois	Sprint - Tynagh
5	MRCCI	Midget Car Race
5	Tipperary	Autocross
5	Wexford	Autotest
5	Birr	Forestry Rally (FR)
10/11/12	UAC	Circuit of Ireland Retrospective Trial
11	Donegal	Harvest Stages Rally (SR)
12	Co Kildare	Rallycross (RX)
12	Mayo	Autocross (LS)
12	Tipperary	4x4 Production Vehicle Trial
12	Imokilly	Hillclimb
12	Midland	Kart Race Meeting
18	MEC	Noonan Cup Sporting Trial
18/19	Co Cavan	Navigation Trial (NT)
19	Carrick-on-Suir	Classic Tour
19	GSMC	Mini Stages Rally
25	Galway	Autotest (H)
25	IKC	John Brennan Memorial Kart Race Meeting
26	Connacht	Autotest (H)
26	Skibbereen	Fastnet Stages Rally
26	Birr	Autocross (LS)
26	ALMC	Rallysprint

## FUTURE REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING THE OBLIGATORY USE OF HEAD RESTRAINTS - UPDATED

The wearing of a head restraint approved by the FIA e.g. HANS® will be mandatory for all drivers and co-drivers in events as follows:

- All Motorsport Ireland (MI) National and International Stage Rally events: from 1.1.09.
- All FIA championships, trophies, cups and challenges: from 1.1.08.
- All events entered on the FIA

International Sporting Calendar: from 1.1.09.

A number of Head and Neck Support Devices have been submitted to the FIA to assess their compliance with FIA Standard 8858-2002. Unfortunately, a number of these devices have not yet complied with this standard and therefore cannot be

approved. When purchasing your head restraint please ensure that it is approved by the FIA and has the appropriate label.

The Guide for the use of the HANS device in motor sport can be found using this link: [http://www.fiainstitute.com/documents/HANS\\_Guide.pdf](http://www.fiainstitute.com/documents/HANS_Guide.pdf)

## LICENCE STATISTICS

The following figures relate to the number of competition licences issued up to and including 31 August:

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Renewals	2297	2540	2737	2514	3096	3170	3340	3511	3679	3847	3902
First Time	612	638	798	625	747	719	683	624	617	680	672
<b>Total</b>	<b>2909</b>	<b>3178</b>	<b>3535</b>	<b>3139</b>	<b>3843</b>	<b>3889</b>	<b>4023</b>	<b>4135</b>	<b>4296</b>	<b>4527</b>	<b>4574</b>

## LICENCES - MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS

**for INTERNATIONAL Grade Competition Licence holders aged 45 years and over:**

All competitors holding INTERNATIONAL grade competition licences, or who are intending to upgrade to INTERNATIONAL grade, and who will be 45 years of age or over, should please note the following:

Appendix 1, 6.5.3, ECG: Applications for "International" grade licences from competitors aged 45 years or over must pass a STRESS RELATED ECG test and have their

Doctor complete sections 2(a) and (b) of the "Doctors Certificate". (Do not send Trace). This test must be completed within one month of the application. This ECG will be valid for the year in which the test was passed plus two calendar years.

The reason we are bringing this to your attention is because we have been informed that, in some parts of the country, it can take up to 3 months

to get an appointment for a "STRESS RELATED" ECG test.

We would advise all intending competitors to organise their ECGs as early as possible in order to avoid disappointment.

The "Stress Related ECG" test is an FIA requirement for all International grade licences.

## HANS DEVICE INFORMATION EVENINGS

The HANS device has been made mandatory for all Stage Rally events from 1 January 2009. The MI Rallies Committee are organising five information evenings to be held throughout the country during September and October. In attendance at these meetings will be suppliers and expert advisers on the HANS device, MI Scrutineers and Competitors who have actually used the device.

The purpose of these meetings is to discuss any issues regarding the

purchase, fitting and proper use of the device, the purchase of HANS compatible helmets and to answer any queries regarding the retro-fitting of the HANS posts to helmets. Suppliers will not be selling products at these meetings; they are present to answer queries and advise on the proper fitting of the device.

Information evenings explaining the introduction and use of the device will be held on the following dates:

September 11 (Thursday) at 8 pm in

The Commons Inn, Commons Road (N20) in Cork

September 23 (Tuesday) at 8 pm in The South Court Hotel Limerick

September 25 (Thursday) at 8 pm in Sligo Park Hotel, Sligo

October 8 (Wednesday) at 8 pm in Bloomfield House Hotel, Belvedere, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath

Wexford - date and location to be announced.

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