



NEWS RELEASE

New Association & 40th Anniversary Reunion Races

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Graham McRae

Sam Posey

Brian Redman

Rochester Hills, MI – (10/11/ 2007) -- A new association representing race drivers of vintage formula 5000 cars from the 1960s and 1970s was announced today.

According to Seb Coppola, founding member and president of the Formula 5000 Drivers Association: "Formula 5000 race cars are fast, fun and fantastic cars with great heritage driven by great racing champions."

"With the upcoming 40th anniversary in 2008 of the Formula 5000 racing series, it's the right time for current owners and drivers to organize and promote events that showcase these cars on the best road tracks in the U.S.A. and other countries."

Seb Coppola owns and races a 1970 Lola T192 at various vintage racing events. Other founding members of the Association are Bruce Leeson (1969 McLaren M10B), Paul Dudiak (1969 McKee MK12C) and Mark Harmer (1969 Surtees TS-5 previously driven by David Hobbs).

Seb Coppola added: "We are also very pleased that some of the great drivers and champions of the original Formula 5000 racing series have agreed to join the Association as honorary members."

"Champions such as Tony Adamowicz (1969 USA), David Hobbs (1971 USA), Graham McRae (1972 USA, 1971-73 Tasman Series), and Brian Redman (1974-1976 USA) have established an enduring tradition in Formula 5000 and we want to honor their accomplishments."

Formula 5000 was introduced in 1968 in the SCCA Formula A races, a series where single seaters from different origins were allowed to compete, but which became dominated by the new F5000 Cars when the large American V8s were allowed. The concept was inspired by the success of the Can-Am Series, which featured unlimited formula sports racing cars fitted with very powerful engines derived from American V8s; the idea was to replicate the concept using open wheel cars. F5000 enjoyed popularity in the early 70's in the U.S.A., Great Britain, Australia and New Zealand.

2008 Reunion Races

The Formula 5000 Drivers Association has announced it has received commitments from three racing organizations to hold feature races of F5000 cars in celebration of the 40th anniversary of Formula 5000 in 2008. The three main venues are:

- **May 30 - June 1, 2008 at Infineon Raceway with HMSA for the Wine Country Classic event**
- **July 17-20, 2008 at Road America for the Kohler International Challenge with Brian Redman**
- **September 4-7, 2008 at Watkins Glen with SVRA for the Zippo U.S. Vintage Grand Prix**

The Association expects other racing organizations will invite F5000 cars to participate in other events as the 2008 racing season unfolds.

According to Coppola, the Association is also in extensive discussions with a F5000 driver group in New Zealand. The group is interested in bringing as many as 20 Formula 5000 cars from New Zealand for the September 2008 reunion event at Watkins Glen. Others from the UK/Europe and Australia may join them as well.

Formula 5000 vintage car racing is very popular in New Zealand and Australia with grids frequently in excess of 20 cars.

The Formula 5000 Drivers Association is a membership car club established to promote the registration, restoration and use of historic Formula 5000 race cars. The Association organizes vintage racing events and other activities for its members. In addition, the Association manages a registry of formula 5000 cars (www.F5000Registry.com).

Individuals interested in joining the Association should contact Seb Coppola (248-601-2800; SebCoppola@F5000Registry.com) or Bruce Leeson (831-645-1090 x222; bleeson@gingerpeople.com).

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