

SALMA



South Australian Late Model Association Inc.
"The Greatest Show on Dirt"

South Australian Late Model Association on target for exciting 2011/12 season



ABOVE : Mat Crimmins scooped the pool at the inaugural SALMA awards night held recently. Photo by Mick Lewis.

While the winter months are traditionally a time to prepare cars ready for the new season, or update equipment, South Australian Late Model Officials haven't lifted off the loud pedal yet, finalising their 2010/11 efforts, and putting in place some big plans for 2011/12.

"The South Australian Late Model Association is determined to build on the success of last season, so we are keen to keep the momentum rolling" said SALMA President Mat Crimmins.

"Last season was the best for the Association so far, and with plenty of new racers coming on board, and a lot of interest being shown in Late Model Racing in general, we felt it important to get our plans out early for next season".

"We are looking to stage a \$10000 to win race at The Edge Hotel Motel Timmis Speedway Mildura over the 2012 Easter weekend. At this early stage SALMA is seeking expressions of interest from racers from across the nation interested in competing. This would be Australia's highest paying Late Model Race ever, and

naturally we require a strong nomination list in order to make the event financially viable. That's why we are encouraging racers to contact SALMA as soon as possible and make their intentions known" Crimmins said.

Those racers interested in competing in the \$10000 to win race can contact SALMA via email at admin@salma.com.au for an information package.

"SALMA is also pleased to announce that the first ever Victorian Late Model Championship will be a highlight of our 2011/12 schedule. Many members of SALMA, and several of our new drivers, are based in Victoria, so holding a state title for the division is a great way of repaying their support" said Crimmins.

The inaugural Victorian Late Model Championship will be held at Rolling Thunder Raceway Bacchus Marsh on Saturday February 4.

"With the first ever Victorian title being held only one week after the National title in Sydney we are expecting a big field of interstate racers to support the event. Late Models have raced at Rolling Thunder Raceway several times, with the track ideally suited to wide open side-by-side V8 racing" Crimmins said.

In other breaking news Late Models will be racing at two meetings at Speedway City (SA : January 7 and March 17) and three at Murray Bridge (SA), with several Rounds of the SALMA Series also scheduled for country tracks in South Australian and Victoria. The state title is tentatively booked for Mt Gambier Speedway (SA) on December 3. The full calendar, that also incorporates Club shows in Victoria and South Australia, can be viewed at www.salma.com.au

While SALMA Officials have been kept busy making plans for next season a number of new racers are readying their steeds for battle.

Michael French is joining the fray with a Rocket featuring 2010 updates, while fellow South Australian AMCA racers David "Snowy" Hartman and Michael "Mooney" Hartman are stepping up as well , David with a 2003 Rocket and Michael in a 2000 Proven.

One familiar face going Late Model racing next season is Graham Forte from Echuca. Forte has a wealth of Speedway Sedan racing experience to draw on, and drove Grand Nationals and Super Sedans in the 90's. He will be seen at the wheel of a 2006 Swartz chassis with 2008 updates, formerly campaigned by Phil Richards in Western Australia. Another Victorian joining the division is Daniel Timberlake in a Rayburn.

To celebrate its 2010/11 season SALMA held a successful Annual General Meeting and inaugural Presentation Dinner at the Maid of Auckland Hotel in Edwardstown SA on Saturday July 23.

A proactive Annual General Meeting saw the serving Committee returned for another term :

President – Mat Crimmins

Vice President – John McKay

Secretary – Stuart Pope

Treasurer – Lisa Crimmins

Drivers Standard Officer – Brian Raymond

Technical Officer – Mick Lewis

The 2010/11 season pointscore saw Mat Crimmins triumph by almost 200 points, testament to his dedication to the division, and the many road trips undertaken. The final points read :

1. SA10 Mat Crimmins 921
2. SA5 Luke Raymond 749
3. VIC19 Gary Bryans 489
4. SA23 Luke Farrent 364
5. VIC 33 Bill Mentiplay 301
6. SA44 Andy McKay 199
7. VIC95 Shaun Nelson 191
8. VIC21 Rod Edwards 100
9. SA22 John McKay 82
10. VIC3 David Mentiplay 79

Each competitor received a special plaque provided by Paris Charles Photography.

Other award recipients were :

Rookie of the Year : SA23 Luke Farrent

Best Presented Car : SA5 Luke Raymond

Encouragement Award : VIC95 Shaun Nelson

A number of Appreciation Awards were also presented to :

John Williams ("Big John") – Assistance at Australian title and Easter 5000

Nicole Hill – Pit Marshall all year plus assisting Lisa Crimmins

Rae Bates – Selling Raffle tickets and general help

Nicky Pope – Selling raffle tickets and general help

Lisa Crimmins – too many jobs to mention

Visit www.salma.com.au for all the latest news on South Australian and Victorian Late Model racing.



ABOVE : Graham Forte will race this 2006 Swartz (with 2008 updates) in the 2011/12 SALMA season. The car will be powered by a Draime 380 engine. Photo by Steve Forte.



ABOVE : Mat Crimmins new chassis ready to be fitted out for the 2011/12 season.

Ends Release

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