

For Immediate Release
PR/Cir/08-005

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Smashing Saturday

The second instalment of MPT Sprint/Supersprint sees records being smashed

Singapore, 29th April 2008 – In yet another exciting round of car park sprint races, the second leg of the 2008 MPT Sprint/Supersprint was a day (and night) of new records, smoking cars and an overwhelming influx of race queens.

The number of competing drivers more than doubled this time, with familiar faces like Lester Wong and Desmond Soh back in the scene. Having missed the previous round, they more than compensated for their absence with spectacular performances.

Lester Wong, in his trademark red hot Mitsubishi Lancer Evolution IX, smashed his own 2007 Fastest Time of the Year (FTY) record of 6.72s with a whooping 6.45s. This time was achieved in Class 17, the last sprint race for the night, which earned him the Fastest Time of the Night (4WD) award and is also the fastest time ever in the history of MPT Sprint/Supersprint. Jason Woo clinched the other Fastest Time of the Night award in the 2WD category, clocking a time of 8.05s in Class 13 with his Honda Civic EG6.

In an unfortunate incident during Class 17, Desmond Soh's Subaru STI engine blew before he reached the finish line, causing him to force an engine brake and smoke the car. Almost levelling up to Wong's time of 6.45s, Soh still managed a time of 6.65s for that ill-fated run, thus also breaking Wong's 2007 FTY record.

As a result of Soh's mishap, the left lane of the track had to be closed. The Knockout round, also known as the Eliminator round, had to be done individually instead of competing in pairs to the end. Jason Woo, in his Honda Civic, clocked the fastest time for the 2WD category, thus winning the Eliminator round. Jason Woo also

scored a hat trick, finishing in 1st place for Classes 12, 13 and 14. Needless to say, Lester Wong knocked out the rest of the competition in the 4WD category, bringing home the Knockout Stage title.

Prior to the night sprint races, the supersprint races flagged off during the day from the start of the event. Desmond Soh finished 1st for Classes 6 and 7 in the same Subaru STI, with timings of 95.50s and 94.28s respectively. Finishing 3.36s behind Soh in Class 6 is Eddie Ng in his Honda Integra Type R, clocking a time of 98.86s. And in 2nd place for Class 7 is Lester Wong in his Mitsubishi Evo with a time of 96.16s.

Other highlights of the day included live demo runs by the Nissan GT-R R35s, one driven by Lester Wong, the other by Desmond Soh. Also showcasing its run on the track against the Godzilla was Benny Yap's Porsche GT3. It was an exhibition of exotic cars that day; with a Lotus Exige, Lamborghini Gallardo Superleggera, Porsche GT3 and countless Nissan GT-R R35s. Whoever said car park races are all about WRXs and Evos only?

Moving indoors, the main tentage was a flurry of happenings too. The Carrerista Jamboree 2008 roadshow housed a sneak preview of the Formula Fun Prix. 2 miniature karts were set up for kids to try and get a feel of karting. Formula Fun Prix is one of the many programmes lined up for the biggest motorsports carnival of the year, Carrerista Jamboree 2008, to be held over the last 5 days of the year at Changi Exhibition Centre.

In the previous Qualifying Round of the Race Queen Search 2008, 21 girls vied for a place in the semi-finals and only 16 made it through. In this Wild Card Round, 12 girls competed for the last 8 places in the semi-finals. Besides the new group of contestants, the babes from Round One were also on-site to mingle with the crowds and introduce themselves to the public. Wendy Tow, winner of the 2007 MPT Race Queen Search, returned to be a guest judge for the Wild Card Round.

Making a special appearance at the event was Hafiz Koh, youngest and only full-time professional local race driver. A role model for kids, Hafiz aims to inspire the young and to instil a keen interest for motor racing in them.

As the MPT Sprint/Supersprint series progresses, the intensity of the competition and the degree of concentration escalates. Round Three is set to be held on the 6th of September, back at the same venue. Watch Desmond Soh return and fight to better his time in his Subaru STI, the 24 Race Queen Search semi-finalists battle it out for a spot in the finals and more Carrerista Jamboree highlights!

About MPT Motor Trading

MPT Motor has been actively promoting motorsports in Asia, and not just in Singapore. Since its inauguration in 2004, it has established its name through several flagship events such as the MPT 300m Sprint Challenge and the popular motorsports held at Kallang car park.

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