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Pre Season Newsletter 11/12

Yes it's that time again and we've had a very busy winter season with our ongoing efforts to improve safety at Fram Autolite Dragway. Many of you will be heartened to learn that Stage Three of the three stage concrete barrier project has been completed with the last 200m of concrete installed and 100m of Armco installed in the braking area. We now have Armco on the right hand side all the way down to the return road turn off. Our aim for making Fram Autolite Dragway the safest place to race is well on track.

It would be fair to say that the activities and discussions that have occurred throughout New Zealand during our winter layoff time have been challenging for many. The Fram workers and Board of Management have every intention of bringing a great season to racers and spectators alike. This can only be achieved when everyone works together to make it happen. Remember everyone is welcome whether you have an IHRA or NZDRA license.

Our Night Speed Drag Wars kicks off on November 4 and there are some exciting plans being discussed and formulated to make it a huge season blast off. Watch this space!

After the success of the 1/8 mile night meeting last season we will again be running a night meeting on 11th February where we will be running 1/8 mile drags. Make sure you tell everyone about it. I don't know about you but flames at night time always look so much bigger and better – not to mention the crackle of engines in the night time stillness.

And then there's the second NZ Junior Dragster Champs on February 5th with a 10am start and no charge to racers. All proceeds going to Ronald McDonald House. Let's see how many racers will come to support such a worthy cause.

The FRAM AUTOLITE Point Score Series will run over the four competition meetings and as per last year will not follow the National Series format. To ensure fuller fields of racing we will not be running a separate Doorslammer or Top Alcohol bracket and encourage as many of these racers to support this format for this season. The quickest eight cars in qualifying will make up the Top Comp Bracket and will be run on a personal index system – a format that has run successfully over a number of years at FRAM. Competitors' personal indexes will be established from their previous personal bests (PBs) softened by 0.5 seconds for the first meeting on the 13th November. The starting personal indexes for those competitors with new cars will be the National record softened by 0.5. For those who don't make the first comp meeting on the 28th November their personal index for their first meeting they attend will be their Personal Bests (PB) and will **not** be softened. PBs will be recorded during qualifying and eliminations (the Test and Tunes before Comp 1 do **not** count for PBs) therefore if you go quicker than your PB your personal index will harden to your new PB at the **next** meeting you attend. If you don't qualify in the top 8 you will race in the DYO brackets for which you qualify. Please note if your PB is run in another bracket ie Pro Comp, this will stand as your new personal index in the Top Comp bracket in subsequent meetings.



The qualifying sessions will be different and racers' attention to the qualifying schedule will be necessary for the smooth running of the events. This schedule will be available at the Entry Booth on race day and all Pit Runners and Pit Tower personnel will be able to assist you in getting on the track at the right time. To reduce any congestion in the pits racers will be called in their potential time brackets – e.g. 10+ second cars, 9+ second cars etc. Super Street, Modified Bike, Junior Dragster, Super Sedan entrants will be called in their bracket as usual. Remember there are only 2 qualifying passes and anyone attempting to do more passes may face disqualification. At the conclusion of the qualifying session Race Control will publish the overall qualifying positions and the make-up of the day's respective brackets. Pit Control will also have this available and pit runners will assist with this information. All divisions will need DYO's prior to commencing their first round of racing. The racer return system will be more structured this season and first round losers will be **paired** and seeded with other first round losers to determine the lower placings. There will be placings and points for first to eighth.

Our annual Dragmasters returns on Saturday 7th January 2011. This will be a twilight meeting again but commencing at 10.30am. Remember this event sees top Import/Sport Compact competitors matched with equivalent performing V8s in heads up teams racing. The support brackets for Dragmasters will be heads up indexes of 6.90, 7.90, 8.90, 9.90, 10.90, 11.90, 12.90, 13.90 and 14.90 and we encourage everyone, V8's and Imports, to race and be part of the action. There will be a Junior Dragster division competing on the day.

EVENTS

November 12th Test and Tune

This is our first chance to test our competition cars. With a number of new cars in the country this will be an interesting day. Gate Admission is \$10 per person and \$70 race entry. Gates open at 9am. Track opens at 11am.

November 13th Central Joinery Competition Meeting #1

See Competition Events Chart. Gate Admission will be \$20.

November 26/27th Prestone Spring Nationals

This is the first round of the Track National Series, we will be running a test and tune after 12 on the Saturday and have the first round of qualifying starting at 4pm, there will be 2 rounds of qualifying Sunday morning and then into eliminations. See Competition Events Chart. More information will be sent out in a newsletter. Gate Admission will be \$10 Saturday and \$20 Sunday.

January 7th Mothers Dragmasters

This is a stand alone meeting that draws the crowds and great interest from racers keen on the friendly rivalry between the V8s and the Jappers. The majority of the pairings this year will be decided prior to the day with minor adjustments made on the day depending on racer availability.

If you are interested in taking part but have not been contacted, please phone Gary on 0274 056060. Gates open at 9am, scrutineering is from 9.30 to 10.30am with the track opening at 10.30am for qualifying and racing beginning at 2pm. Match race competitors will be invited while other competitors will pay \$40 for a street car and \$80 for a competition vehicle to enter. Rain date Sunday 8th January. Gate Admission will be \$20.

January 15th Competition Meeting #2

See Competition Events Chart. Gate Admission will be \$20.



February 5th

NZ Junior Dragster Champs

A stand alone meeting just for Junior Dragsters with DYO and heads up racing. All proceeds to go to Ronald McDonald House, Gate admission \$5 a car or gold coin.

February 11th

Night of Thunder Competition Meeting #3

This will be a 1/8 mile meeting run on a Saturday evening, a mid afternoon start and finishing under lights at night. See Competition Events Chart. Gate Admission will be \$20. The racing formats will be the same as the three previous FRAM comp. The only change is to the Top Comp Bracket, they will be on a DYO as well for this meeting, as last year it was impossible to get the correct 1/8 mile personal index data.

March 4th

Competition Meeting #4

See Competition Events Chart. Gate Admission will be \$20.

March 16 - 18

44th NZ Nationals

This is the biggest event of the season. We are going back to the 3 day format, one round of qualifying on the Friday night, 3 rounds on Saturday and eliminations on Sunday. We are again anticipating a record number of entries and great support from our loyal dragracing fans on the hill! More information about this prestigious event will be published at a later stage but keep this weekend free and bring the sunshine – it will be a great day!!

Please note: this event is the final round of the tracks National Championship Series

March 25th

Rain Date

This is the rain date for the NZ Nationals.

April 22nd

Sponsors/Fun day

As per last year, no gate entry and \$50 to race.

Awards Night

All competitors will be welcome to celebrate our annual award winners and more details of this evening will be posted at a later date

VENUE INFORMATION

Pit Area Shelters

No areas are to be chained off at any time during the season. No permanent shelter will be allowed although concrete pads and "easy-ups" are permitted. Ring FRAM Autolite Dragway's office for details.

Pit FM Radio

Again this season we will be broadcasting our Pit FM Radio from the Pit Tower. This is in addition to pit runners and will assist them in trying to advise every one of race day details. Please listen to it as it will assist in the smooth running of the day. You can tune in on 106.8FM

Pit Area Allocation

Carol Phillips will be allocating pit spaces to competitors for the season. Carol can be contacted on **09 2799 569** or **027 260 8452**. Please call her prior to the first meeting to let her know whether you will require a pit space this season. Regular racers also need to confirm their pit space requirements. **Fram Autolite Dragway management must be consulted prior to any permanent concrete pads being on sold or leased out.**



At any private hireages it is up to the promoter to utilize any pit spaces as they see fit.

The trailer park is at the end of the camping area (ex vintage speedway). Please follow the signs.

As space is precious the only vehicles permitted in pit areas are race vehicles along with one tow car and where applicable a vehicle service unit. Please respect your neighbours and stay within the confines of your allocated space.

Sponsorship and Signage

If you know anyone who would like to utilise our venue as a method of promotion, please contact us at framautolitedragway@xtra.co.nz or give the office a call on (09) 238 5564.

On Site Accommodation

Camping is restricted to racers and crew members and is only to be in designated areas. We kindly ask campers to respect the privacy of others. The venue may be locked on Saturdays before Sunday events so please contact the office (09) 238 5564 to pre-arrange camping. Limited hot showers and power are available for campers.

Track Preparation

Because FRAM Autolite Dragway prepares the race surface the entire day prior to events we are unable to allow vehicles to test during that day. If you have any questions with regard to testing please contact the office on (09) 238 5564.

Private Track Hire/Testing

The track is available for private hire/testing. If you would like to know more about this contact the office (09) 238 5564.

COMPETITOR INFORMATION

Tech Inspections

Before arriving at FRAM Autolite Dragway please ensure your vehicle is tech inspected and your IHRA/NZDRA License is up to date. IHRA Tech Inspections and licenses can be done at the track if pre-arranged with your tech inspector. See the Fram Autolite Dragway website for a list of IHRA Tech Inspectors near you!

FRAM Autolite Dragway Points

The FRAM Autolite Dragway Point Score Series will take place at the meetings of 13 November, 15 January, 11 February and 4 March. All divisions will be eligible for points in the FRAM Autolite Dragway Point Score Series as follows:

Junior Dragster, Super Street, Screaming Eagle, Mod Bike

Super Street, Mod Bike, Junior Dragster and Screaming Eagles will be allocated 50 points for entering.

Ten Points will be allocated to competitors after each round of racing is completed. i.e. a loss in the first round of racing equals 10 points; a loss in the second round equals 20 points, etc. To obtain points racer must have crossed finish line under own power).

1.5 Points: All divisions will get 1.5 points allocations at the opening meeting (13 Nov 2011)



Top Comp, Pro Comp, Super Comp, Comp Super Sedan, Comp Bike Divisions Points

1. The following points will be allocated in all the listed divisions:

Entry - 50 points

1st	200	2nd	180	3rd	160	4th	140
5th	120	6th	110	7th	100	8th	90

Points per round contested: 50 points each round. (Note: to obtain round points racer must have crossed finish line under own power).

2. Allocation: Points are allocated to each vehicle/team but the team may be expanded and the points retained. There will be no transferring of Points - can only earn points in that Bracket, e.g. Competition
3. 1.5 Points: All divisions will get 1.5 points allocations at the opening meeting (13 Nov 2011)

Individual Division Points – Junior Dragster, Super Street, Screaming Eagle, Mod Bike, – unlimited field sizes

The points will be calculated by the Compulink as per the previous season. Points will not be transferrable between categories.

Individual Division Points – Super Sedan, Comp Bike – unlimited field sizes

Points will be calculated as per the comp brackets. Please note – because of dissimilar field sizes all points will be calculated from an 8 car field size ie Super Sedan points will only start accumulating once the eight car field size (quarter final) has been reached.

Combined Point Score - Top Comp, Pro Comp, Super Comp and Comp – 8 car fields -on the day prize money only.

Trophies and certificates will be awarded to the winners and runners-up at the Awards night. Points are transferable between the Competition DYO categories. Accumulated points during the season will count to recognition for these awards. Please note that the maximum DYO you can elect in these brackets is 10.00secs. If your vehicle is unable to run these numbers you will not be eligible and you must run in Super Street or Super Sedan.

Harcourts Top Dragracer Points

Racers competing in Top Comp, Pro Comp, Super Comp, Comp, Super Sedan and Comp Bike will be eligible for the Harcourts Top Dragracer Award. Please note – because of dissimilar field sizes all points will be calculated from an 8 car field size ie Super Sedan points will only start accumulating once the eight car field size (quarter final) has been reached.



Division Sponsors

Top Drag Racer	Harcourts
Top Comp	Franklin Long Roofing
Pro Comp	VHT
Super Comp	Mothers
Comp	The Tractor Centre
Super Sedan	Abernethy Civil
Super Street	Jack Perry Towing
Competition Bike	Auckland Motorcycles and Powersport
Screamin' Eagle	Auckland Motorcycles and Powersport
Modified Bike	Auckland Motorcycles and Powersport
Junior Dragster	Fun Time Food and Amusements

Sponsors

Each competitor racing at a sponsored event may be required to affix a Decal on both sides of the vehicle or bike. Any competitor not displaying the decal may not be eligible for prize money. It is important to remember that with sponsorship, it allows television coverage which, in turn, benefits both competitors sponsors and the image of New Zealand drag racing on the whole. *Please support our sponsors.*

Travel Vouchers

Only competitors who run 10.00 or quicker at the event qualify for travel vouchers. All vehicles must be trailered to the event, run slicks and be tech inspected. Travel vouchers can only be collected and signed for by the competitor on the day. Junior Dragster and Screamin' Eagle will not be eligible for travel vouchers and Motorcycle competitors will receive half of the following payout. From the Wellington area travel vouchers will be \$150. From Palmerston North/New Plymouth \$90 and Taupo/Whakatane/Whangarei \$60. Please present your time slip to the Travel Voucher coordinator (main tower) in order to pick up your petrol vouchers – these are to be collected on Race Day. All South Island competitors **must** apply for travel voucher consideration four weeks prior to events. Please call Gary on 0274 056060 for further information.

RACE DAY/ENTRY INFORMATION

Race Entry **8.30 – 9.30am**

For all racers your entry booth is at the bottom of the main tower and will be open for one hour prior to track opening. Entry procedures are unchanged from last year. Please ensure you have completed the weighing and classifying process and have your competition license and logbook with you *before coming to the entry booth.*

Racer Costs

Junior Dragster \$0.00

Super Street, Mod Bike & Screaming Eagles, \$60.00 plus 1x free Gate Entry pass to next comp meeting.

Super Sedan & Competition Bike, \$100.00 plus 2x free Gate Entry passes to next comp meeting.

Competition Classes, \$120.00 plus 2x free Gate Entry passes to next comp meeting.

These free gate entry passes can only be used for entry to the four Fram Autolite Dragway track series, they are not valid for any National meetings, DragMasters or any private hireages.

Sportsman Racers – your entry booth will be at the bottom of the main tower. Entry will be open for one hour prior to the track opening. Please bring your Driver's License or Race License with you. Scrutineering will be at the normal scrutineering shed. Please enter before you go to scrutineering.



All Junior Dragster competitors (for the first meeting of the season they compete) must go with relevant paper work (including Logbooks) to Race Entry at the base of the Control Tower to enter. At their next meeting they will be able to complete scrutineering/entry in their own pit area as a dedicated pit runner will be available this year to oversee these tasks. Timeslips will be collected by the pit runner and distributed in the Junior Dragster pit area.

Note: If an endorsement has been entered in your logbook from the last event attended, please see the IHRA Area Steward to check the fault and have the logbook signed off before coming to Entry Booth.

Licensing

All competitors must hold applicable current licenses prior to race day. A civil driver's license will be accepted for Super Street and Mod Bike (slower than 11.00) on the day at competition meetings.

License Passes

To eliminate delays in the racing schedule all license passes will occur during qualifying schedules

Racer Detail Sheet

Please ensure you complete your personal and vehicle details at time of entry; your best time and speed, all your drag racing highlights and all your sponsors and crew details when you fill in forms this summer. You can download a copy of the racer detail sheet from www.framautolitedragway.co.nz. In order to keep fans informed at the track, we need to know all about you and your sponsors so please help by filling in the details. You will only need to do this **once** during the season but the information can be updated. It will be a great help to the announcers!

The racer detail sheet will contain extra legal information concerning insurance and indemnity that you will sign at the beginning of the season and confirm by signing your Scrutineering card at every meeting you attend

Scrutineering

There will be no scrutineering for Tech Inspected vehicles. IHRA area steward will however be carrying out random audits throughout the season. All vehicles with a WOF/Rego (>11.00 secs) will continue to be scrutineered at each event.

Your competition number and bracket category is to go on the windscreen of each race vehicle and tow vehicle, as well as the standard side position.

Important Note: No express or implied warranty of safety shall result from scrutineering, Tech Inspection or audit checks. These checks are intended to assist the competitor with his/her safety and are in no way a guarantee against injury or death to a spectator or participants.



Qualifying Schedule – note may be adapted at following events

Bracket	Division	Pit lane	Time (approx)
C8	Super Street	7 & 8	9.15, 10.35, 12.20
C13/C11	Modified bike, Scr Eagle	3	9.20, 10.45
C12	Junior Dragster		9.00, 10.30
C10	Super Sedan	7 & 8	9.35, 11.00
	9+second cars	6	9.45, 11.10
	8+ second cars	5	9.50, 11.20
C9	Comp Bike	4	10.00, 11.30
	7+ second cars	2	10.05, 11.40
	6+ second cars	1 & Top pit	10.15 11.50

It is of paramount importance that all racers advise out as soon as this becomes apparent so fields can be fully seeded correctly

Note: there will be no Alternates

RACING

Racing starts at 12.30pm – in this order Super Street, Modified Bike, Screamin' Eagle, Junior Dragster, Super Sedan, Comp, Super Comp, Pro Comp, Comp Bike, Top Comp. To encourage spectators to remain until the end of the day we will be aiming to complete all racing by 4pm

Remember Dial- ins will be needed for all competitors apart from Top Comp prior to the first round of racing

ON TRACK

Tow Vehicles

If you use a tow vehicle please ensure it uses the return road when following race cars down track. **There is to be no parking on the return road by the main tower as this blocks spectator viewing. Please have your tow vehicle move down to the finish line end of the burnout pad.** In line with safety regulations, there should be no children or standing passengers on the back of the vehicles. The return road has been widened from the finish line to the Chute Packers shed. When going to tow cars from the braking area do not use the track but continue down the return road.

STAGING

WE WILL BE IMPLEMENTING AUTO START THIS SEASON

Courtesy staging will be mandatory for all categories. As a reminder, both contestants must activate their pre-stage lights before either may advance into the stage beams. The final staging motion, using applied power, must be in a forward motion, going from pre-stage to stage position. (This is considered a courtesy rule and the starter has the option of backing out both drivers and re-staging to assure a proper start). The second infringement in one race day will result in **DISQUALIFICATION**. In the case of Junior Dragster, the Starter will allow one pull back. See track rule below. Disqualification is at the discretion of the starter.

1.20 Courtesy Staging

Failure to courtesy stage more than once at one race meeting will result in disqualification in eliminations at the discretion of the starter. Courtesy Staging - Both cars must Pre-stage before either car stages. A vehicle that accidentally lights both bulbs may be allowed to back up (Pull back with juniors) and restage correctly if time allows. If the tree is activated during this process and the entry is not re-staged he will be eliminated. The amount of time allowed for the second car to stage is predetermined by the auto start.



Over Staging

If you are last in and “over stage” (drive through the lights), the Starter will trigger the Christmas tree and let the other car go. The offending vehicle/driver will be given an automatic red light. You are not permitted to “reverse stage”. FRAM Autolite Dragway requests all competitors to comply with the track Rules which relates to Courtesy Staging. As detailed in our last year pre-season newsletter Courtesy Staging will be mandatory at Meremere for this season.

Breakages/Oil Downs

In the event of your vehicle breaking or dropping oil please ensure that you pull to the SIDE of the track as soon as it is practical and STOP. This will drastically speed up the cleanup operation

Antifreeze -

All competition vehicle/bikes are prohibited from having antifreeze in their vehicle/bike. Violations may result in disqualification/fine at the discretion of the IHRA steward/MDI track director.

Passengers

To ensure FRAM Autolite Dragway adheres to safety regulations, there should be no passengers in race vehicles without prior arrangement in writing to the Board of Management. Vehicles given prior dispensation and capable of exceeding 150mph through the finish line must shut down at half track. We are passionate about upholding our safety record so please don't abuse the privilege.

Time Slips

Please have one crew member uplift time slips. Only Modified Bike, Super Street and Screamin' Eagle competitors may collect these on the return road. Please observe the speed limit as you approach the main tower.

Please support our Sponsors by using and promoting their products. For details on the supply of products such as Autolite Spark Plugs please ring Gary on 0274 056060.

Have a great season at “the best place to race”.



NIGHT SPEED DRAG WARS (NSDW)

www.dragwars.co.nz

There will be six NSDW events over the drag racing season commencing early November through to mid March as follows:

These will be split in to two seasons, Spring and Summer with three meetings each.

Spring Season:

Friday 4 November 2011
Friday 18 November 2011
Friday 2 December 2011

Summer Season:

Friday 17 February 2012
Friday 2 March 2012
Friday 23 March 2012

Prize money will be paid out after each season.

The opening night on the 4th November will feature an impressive fireworks display and a match race by 2 of NZ top import race cars with free admission to children under 12.

Race Categories

Each entrant at his or her first event needs to go to Race Entry and complete a racer entry form. All racers must park in the Pits, complete the racer entry form and then line up for scrutineering. On the form you will need to tick a category box depending on the type of vehicle you're entering. The category will also be written on your windscreen driver's side rear window at scrutineering. At subsequent events collect your racer entry form (scrutineering card) from race entry and take your car directly to scrutineering. Once you have entered, you will have a wrist band put on you and this will be checked at Head of Staging prior to entering the startline area for each race.

Categories 1,2,3,4 and 7 are for vehicles running 11.00 sec and slower (automatic loss if they run under 11.00 during racing).

Category One	Turbo 4 4WD Turbo, Supercharged, NOS, 4 and 6 cylinders
Category Two	Turbo 2 2WD Turbo, Supercharged, NOS, 4, 6 cylinders and Rotary
Category Three	All Motor Naturally aspirated 4, 6 cylinders and Rotary
Category Four	Quick 8 All V8
Category Five	Motorcycles DYO racing, Factory stock bikes slower than 10.0 do not need to be tech inspected but do need Drag Racing License if going quicker than 11.00
Category Six	DYO Racing All welcome
Category Seven	Women's Division DYO racing. This will be run if 4 or more competitors are present.
Category Eight	King of the Street Street legal, WOF cars running 10.99 seconds or quicker. Heads up racing. DOT approved tyres ok. This will be run if 4 or more competitors are present. Prize money paid at each event, \$300 winner and \$200 runner up. <i>Note: IHRA/NZDRA Drag Racing License and tech inspection required.</i>



Category Rule Changes

- If you change your car but remain in the same category you may retain your race number and points.
- If you change your category you must have a new number allocated and your points won't be transferable and a new racer detail sheet must be completed.

NSDW Point Series

FRAM Autolite Dragway will run a point score series over the 2 seasons comprising of 3 meetings each, with prize money and trophies awarded at the conclusion of each season. Winners will receive 2 gate entry passes and free race entry to the next NSDW event and Runners up will receive 2 gate entry passes

Ten points will be allocated to competitors after each round of racing is completed i.e. a loss in the first round of racing equals 10 points; a loss in the second round equals 20 points, etc. Points are not transferable between categories.

Entry

The cost to race is as follows:

\$15 Gate entry

\$30 Race entry, race at every meeting over both series and you will get free race entry at the last meeting.

\$45 Total

If a vehicle has two alternating drivers, both drivers licenses must be produced and both drivers must complete a racer entry form. Only one racer number and scrutineering card will be allocated to the vehicle and competitors can only enter one division per vehicle entry.

If you change any details with regard to your vehicle, your address or email, a new racer detail sheet should be completed so that we can update your personal information in our database.

Points Update

Meeting information and a point's update will be available on our website www.dragwars.co.nz Please ensure you have completed the racer entry form including your email address as we will be in contact with you alerting you to events and changes to our websites via our email database.

Noise

To adhere to a restricted noise policy all vehicles must have full road legal mufflers in place and make no more than 95db measured at our boundary.

Burnout Competition

At the conclusion of the night's racing there will be a Burnout Competition. This is open to all racers who have entered to race at the beginning of the night. There must be 4 entrants to proceed.

Scrutineering

No express or implied warranty of safety shall result from scrutineering, Tech Inspection or audit checks. These checks are intended to assist the competitor with his/her own safety and are in no way a guarantee against injury or death to a spectator or participant.



Helmets

All competitors must wear an approved helmet. See the Track/NZDRA Rule Book for further details.

Passengers

Passengers are not permitted at NSDW events.

Venue Information

- Gates open at 5.00pm.
- Racer Entry and Scrutineering from 5.30pm to 8.30pm
- Track opens at 6.00pm, racing till late
- **No alcohol permitted**

If you own or have access to an email address, please send it through to framautolitedragway@xtra.co.nz so we can add you to our instant update newsletter list. It is vital that you get your address on our email list. Don't forget to take a look at our NSDW website at www.dragwars.co.nz.

FRAM Autolite Dragway welcomes competitors, spectators and sponsors. We look forward to sharing a sensational and exciting season with you.

On behalf of the FRAM Autolite Dragway Board of Management

