



Australia's Largest Motoring Group

## **SPRINTCAR SERIES**



### **TIME FOR THE BIG ONE**

The upcoming Australian Sprintcar Championship will be easily the biggest meeting ever staged at the Perth Motorplex during its nine year history.

The 47th running of the coveted title will take place over three big nights – Thursday February 5, Friday February 6 and Saturday February 7.

A quality 60 car field will contest the fierce battle for the right to carry Australia #1 on the tail-tank of their car for the next year.

Current and five-time Australian champ Garry Brazier from New South Wales will defend his crown – with former titleholders Brooke Tatnell (NSW), Max Dumesny (NSW), Robbie Farr (NSW) and Todd Wanless (Qld) also in the field.

The strong Western Australian challenge will be led by Ryan Farrell, who has finished second in a previous title and has also been the highest pointscorer on several previous occasions.

Geraldton based veteran Mark Wells has claimed two third placings in the championship.

Ken Sartori started on the front row in the last title tilt held at Parramatta (NSW) that was won by Brazier.

Other local heroes such as Luch Monte, Jamie Maiolo, Shaun Bradford, Ben Ellement and Kris Coyle will be right in the thick of things.

The action kicks off on Thursday night with the Time Trials followed by two rounds of Heat races.

Another round of Heats will be run on Friday, along with a 20-lap Preliminary Feature race.

Saturday sees the final round of Heats along with the C-Main, B-Main and the all-important A-Main which will be held over 35-laps.

The first WA competitor to win the Australian Sprintcar Championship was "The Big Chap" Noel Bradford – grandfather of present day driver Shaun Bradford – who was successful at Latrobe (Tasmania) back in 1976.

Ron Krikke "The Bunbury Bullet" claimed two titles at the Claremont Speedway in 1985 and 1993.

This will be the sixth time that the Australian Sprintcar Championship has been held in WA.

The Bunbury circuit has staged the title on three occasions – with NSW drivers Garry Rush, Max Dumesny and Robbie Farr the victors. Both of the Claremont titles went to Ron Krikke.

History will be made this coming week with the premier Speedway event of the season taking place for the very first time at the state-of-the-art Perth Motorplex on Kwinana Beach. WA drivers will earn AHG Sprintcar Series points during the title tilt.

The last AHG Sprintcar Series round was held on January 24 at the Perth Motorplex and saw young Shaun Bradford score his second A-Main victory of the season. Following him across the line were Ben Ellement, Mark Wells, Daryl Clayden and Kris Coyle.

In the AHG Sprintcar Series pointscore – after round #11 – Ken Sartori leads the way on 1579 points, followed by Luch Monte 1562, Ryan Farrell 1507, Jamie Maiolo 1466 and Ben Ellement 1434.

