2010
Australia vs. New Zealand Team Challenge
&
Australasian Championship
Perth Motorplex
5th 6th March

On Fridays night 5th March race fans at Perth Motorplex witnessed for the first time in the 7 year history of the Trans Tasman Junior Speedway - Australia Vs New Zealand Team Challenge a visiting team take the win on foreign soil.
New Zealand defeated Australia in a convincing 312 points victory with the young Kiwi's getting the dream run – driving good competitive cars on fantastic race track and 2 times NZ Junior Champion and NZ team captain 82P Jamie Larson (17yo) given the ex Haythornthwaite Championship daihatsu charade to pilot.
Australian expectations looked just a bit tentative when at a full practise session Wednesday night Jamie and the rest of the NZ boys - 28W Graeme Peter (16yo); 56A Aidan Eustace (15yo); 58R Cory Holmes (15yo); 13W Todd Jenkins (14yo) and 18R Paul Fergusson(14yo) took to conditions straight up. In what could only be described as a committed and well executed team effort Team New Zealand took their winning strategy through to the Test Mach to cause the biggest upset on Series record. Team New Zealand – slick professional cool under pressure – A Champion Team!!

For Australia hard charger Jack Alfirevich (14) drove like a man possessed to put in the best performance on night for Aus with great support by the explosive John Terriaca (14) and pocket rocket Laura Byrnes (16). But it was the mechanical woes in the Australian ranks that finally cost the team the result with Scott Elst (17) blown motor 1st heat; Kelly Mac Arthur (17) Aus team captain broken axle 1st heat and Josh Martinelli (14) with a racing incident causing radiator problem.
A Special mention goes to young 11 y.o James Channing for stepping in as reserve to replace Scott Elst and to Brandon Campbell for loaning his car to Kelly Mac Arthur to finish the event.

Saturday night 6th saw the running of the Australasian Championship over 2 heats and a final with first 4 cars across the line getting trophies. In front on a big Perth Motorplex crowd Geraldton sensation Cale Sotiroff took a resounding and deserved win from Johnny Terriaca and 1st NZ across the line Jamie Larson. In 4th place was the ever exuberant Rebecca Terriaca – with quite a few stoppages and place relegations during a very hard fought feature race. All drivers put on a spectacular nights racing and the visiting Kiwi boys got a fantastic reception from the fans as they ventured up into the spectator banks to say hello after the event.

Still existing as the only International Junior Speedway event in both Australia and New Zealand the tournament has produced Australasian Champions Carl Dowling Todd Waddell and Kye Scroop, who all continue in luminary racing careers and NZ's Ben Finemore who went on to become NZ Sprintcar National Champion. There is much work and dedication from organisers from both countries to make the Event happen but with such spectacular achievements and the opportunity of a lifetime it gives to our young speedway drivers the consensus from both sides of the Tasman Sea is that it will be here for many more years to come and a pledge to expand and extend the commitment.

RESULTS:

2010
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Team New Zealand

82P	Jamie Larsen (Capt)	594
28W	Graeme Peter	576
13W	Todd Jenkins	571
56A	Aidan Eustace	568
58R	Cory Holmes	561
18R	Paul Fergusson	547
	Total	3417

Team Australia

5	Jack Alfirevich	593
10	Johnny Terriaca	588
27	Laura Byrnes	566
11	Kelly MacArthur (Capt)	555
94	James Channing (Res)	362
4	Josh Martinelli	357
22	Scott Elst	79
	Total	3105

2010 Australasian Championship

21	Cale Sotiroff
10	Johnny Terriaca
NZ 83P	Jamie Larson
9	Rebecca Terriaca
NZ 28W	Graeme Peter
NZ56A	Aiden Eustace
27	Laura Byrnes
NZ 58R	Cory Holmes
22	Scott Elst
11	Kelly MacArthur
5	Jack Alfirevich
13W	Todd Jenkins
20	Jess Hall
18R	Paul Fergusson

DNF 99 Brandon Campbell

DNS Josh Martinelli Blown Head Gasket (had Qlfd 5th)

Team Australia

Jack Alfirevich Scott Elst Johnny Terriaca
Kelly MacArthur (Capt) Josh Martinelli Laura Byrnes

Team New Zealand

Aidan Eustace Cory Holmes Jamie Larsen (Captain) Graeme Peter Paul Fergusson Todd Jenkins