



MAY 2010 REPORT



Dear supporters

Well I am pleased to announce that I have been selected to be one of five 'Aspiring Kiwis' and motorsport ambassador for a new travel company called Fernatics. Their ambition is to give New Zealanders the opportunity to travel to the world's best sporting events for an affordable price and to also help five kiwi sporting aspirations reach their full potential and dreams. They are having monthly auctions on seller.co.nz and the proceeds will be divided between the five 'Aspiring Kiwis'. They have also given me a page on their website; www.fernatics.co.nz click community and you will see it. Thanks Stephen and the rest of the Fernatics team for the opportunity.

Due to the wet weather in Christchurch lately the Canterbury Motor Racing School, Ruapuna Park has had to postpone two of their school days to the weekend where the weather had been more suitable, this was great as it gave me the opportunity to be at the track a whole day and also get some extra laps in a car as a payment. We ran these particular schools on Ruapuna's 'A' track as we call it. The circuit is 1.31km and includes the dipper which is not used as part of the main circuit. It is an entertaining track to watch and drive. Fortunately on both occasions we finished with some time to spare and thankfully Andy Neale (owner/chief instructor) let me do about 20 laps in the Formula Ford. This was great to finally get back behind the wheel again since my Formula Renault test. Although the 'A' track is relatively short circuit it takes a little time to get the hang of it. The dipper part is quite unique; you drive onto a short straight and brake hard, turn a sharp left, go down a hill into a tight right-hand hairpin then race up the hill again. As the dipper is not used regularly its grip level are very low, add in a wee bit of excess muddy water from the weeks bad weather makes for a difficult sequence of corners to perfect. I could hear and feel the rear wheels spinning because of this on the run up the hill. The approach to the first sharp left hander sets up the lap and if you can get it right your lap time will be strong but if you make an error on entry, maybe turn in too early you basically through away the lap time.

My entry into the 2010/2011 Castrol Suzuki Swift Sport Cup Scholarship has been confirmed. It will be held at my local race track Ruapuna Park on August 22nd. I am really looking forward to the day and I'm working extremely hard to make my bid for it as strong as possible. It's really exciting and I can't wait. I see it as a fantastic way to boost my racing career onto the national scene.

Remember to check out fernatics.co.nz. If you are planning on travelling to a sports event in the future don't hesitate to email me and I will put the Fernatics team in touch with you. Also if you're interested in heading to the new international 'Armor All Gold Coast 600 V8 Super Carnival' stay tuned for Fernatics travel package which is due to be released in the next few weeks.

Thank you for your time and continued support

Best regards,

Tom Barker

PARTNERS

