

17 APR 2004
Sports-Motorsports (MSS)
MSS CAN BECOME BASE FOR NEW TALENT

SEPANG, April 17 (Bernama) -- The Malaysian Super Series (MSS) could well become an important base in producing future racing champions for the country.

Sepang International Circuit (SIC) Chairman Datuk Mokhzani Tun Mahathir said staging the series would help identify talented drivers and also provide local motorsports enthusiasts a platform to gain valuable exposure by competing against international participants.

"We are lucky to be blessed with excellent infrastructure and facilities for motorsports which can help inspire our racers in their pursuit for excellence. So, we should take advantage of the many races organised here," said Mokhzani after announcing the dates for the series, here today.

"Through the MSS, we also hope to attract more local participation, not only in competition but also as support crews, like race engineers, mechanics, administrators, marketing personnel or media officers," he said.

Mokhzani added that with the introduction of a new category every year, the series would continue to be interesting and encourage newcomers to participate and learn the basics of racing from the starting stages.

"This year we introduced the Supersports category in the motorcycle race, aimed at providing a suitable base for riders to gain enough expertise and move on to the bigger MotoGP and Superbike races," he said.

The MSS inaugurated by former SIC chairman Tan Sri Basir Ismail had been able to produce a number of talented riders.

Meanwhile, Mokhzani also took to task, riders who lacked professionalism which might hamper their aspirations of adopting motorsports as their professional career.

"Some riders continue to heed no-smoking warning signs displayed at the pits and pitlanes. Their actions can tarnish their image and hamper their progress whilst projecting a bad image for youngsters," he said.

Five different races would be competed during the MSS on Saturday -- Supercar, Supersixteen (cars), Superbikes, Supersports and Production Bikes.

2004 MSS CALENDAR:

Cars:

Round 1: April 24-25
Round 2: May 29-30
Round 3: June 18-19
Round 4: July 31-Aug 1
Round 5: Sept 17-19
Round 6: Nov 27-28

Motorcycle:

Round 1: April 24-25
Round 2: May 29-30
Round 3: July 31-Aug 1
Round 4: Sept 17-19
Round 5: Oct 8-10
Round 6: Nov 27-28

-- BERNAMA

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