

MEDIA RELEASE - For immediate Release - Sunday, July 19th, 2009.

## JUNIPER AND KINGSLEY SHARE THE SYDNEY GT3 CUP CHALLENGE SPOILS

SHAUN JUNIPER and overall series points leader Matthew Kingsley have shared the spoils in an abbreviated round of the Porsche GT3 Cup Challenge Australia series completed today at Eastern Creek Raceway.

Only one race was held today at the Sydney track after a turn two, lap one crash eliminated four cars from race two on Sunday morning - the scheduled 10-lap race eventually being called due to time constraints and the time taken to clear four stranded vehicles from the circuit.

The crash - declared a racing incident - mainly involved Jeff Bobik, Jan Jinadasa and Graham Gorman with Terry Knight and Brad Rankin also caught up in the dramas, and continued the weekend's action that began when John Trende hit the turn five wall during Saturday's first race.

The race two crash was a chain reaction from a massive pack of 19 GT3 cars all trying to get through turn two at the same time whilst fighting for the same piece of real estate.

Race one winner Shaun Juniper was leading when the race was stopped behind the safety car after just one completed lap, drivers' gridding up for race three in the positions they started the cancelled heat - for which no points were given.

The final race was a much cleaner affair, Juniper and Kingsley running in close quarters for each of the ten laps with the Juniper Racing 997 GT3 Cup Car holding out to take the outright win.

Kingsley finished second on the track and extended his outright lead in the series standings.

Mark Krashos, over from South Australia, finished third holding off a fast-finishing Sven Burchartz, who had a slow start but showed good pace towards the end of the 10-lap affair. 997-trophy leader Roger Lago was fifth ahead of his fellow 997 class runner Steve Kepper, the former extending his class lead thanks to his continually consistent performances this season.

Behind them a ferocious dice was waged between Terry Knight and local ace Shane Smollen (*Pictured, leading Angus*), the pair regularly side-by-side in a tough yet clean dice, whilst Ray Angus, Anthony Skinner and Phil Holzberger also staged an entertaining dice for the top ten finishing positions before Holzberger dropped out after his car began setting fire to itself - flames from the exhaust apparently burning the fiberglass spoilers and skirts on the ex-LeMans GT-class winner.



**Photo:** As he did in race one, Shaun Juniper (leading) led race three all the way to take another win. Kingsley was second.

**Image:** by Dirk Klynsmith / GT3 Cup Challenge ; [Click for hi-res Media download.](#)



**Photo:** Local ace Shane Smollen was impressive on home turf and finished third for the round on his series debut.

**Image:** by Dirk Klynsmith / GT3 Cup Challenge ; [Click for hi-res Media download.](#)



**Photo:** Mat Kingsley continued to build his imposing series lead with another strong run today.

**Image:** by Dirk Klynsmith / GT3 Cup Challenge ; [Click for hi-res Media download.](#)

Action Tyres and More driver Matt Kingsley won the round – the fourth of 2009 – ahead of Burchartz and local surprise Shane Smollen, whilst Juniper's convincing performances won him the 997 trophy ahead of Mark Krashos and Roger Lago. It is the third time in four rounds this year that Kingsley has extended his points lead which now stands at a formidable 50 points - though 180 are still available across the final two rounds.

Anthony Skinner – another of the local, New South Wales based contingent – won class A.

Paul Bolinowsky – a podium finisher at Mallala recently – was an unfortunate non-starter this weekend. The local driver was forced to sit on the sidelines after his 996 GT3 Cup Car bent a valve earlier in the weekend.

Though reduced to two races - one of them with only four laps under green flag conditions - this weekend's first visit by the GT3 Cup Challenge Australia series to Eastern Creek raceway produced an entertaining race and plenty of action, though some unfortunate incidents left some cars battered and bruised.

The competitive 19-car field has plenty of depth with two seconds covering fifth though sixteenth position in qualifying, continuing the series reputation for competitive all-Porsche action.

The Porsche GT3 Cup Challenge Australia series now heads for the historic first ever Shannons Nationals round at Morgan Park, near Warwick, in Queensland, on August 8 – 9.

The short and challenging Queensland circuit is the home track to nearly ten GT3 Cup Challenge competitors and a strong local contingent is assured when the series visits in three weeks time.

For more information head to [www.gt3cupchallenge.com.au](http://www.gt3cupchallenge.com.au)

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**Series Points – after 4 of 6 rounds**

1. Mathew Kingsley 2702. Sven Burchartz 2203. Jeff Bobik 1874. Terry Knight 1675. Paul Bolinowsky 136

**997 Trophy – Roger Lago 237**

**Class A – Anthony Skinner**

#### **About Ronald McDonald Houses**

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For more information please visit [www.rmhc.org.au](http://www.rmhc.org.au)

#### **About the Porsche GT3 Cup Challenge Australia**

The Porsche GT3 Cup Challenge Australia is modelled on the internationally endorsed Porsche series of the same name and has replaced the previously named Porsche Drivers Challenge of Australia.

The Series – founded in early 2008 - runs under the CAMS umbrella with the Shannon's Nationals Racing Series. The category will be professionally administered, however, the primary objective is to provide a cost effective place to 'race your mates' with simple rules & regulations, value for money and a real focus on fair and enjoyable Porsche motor sport. The series is supported by Porsche Cars Australia.

Melbourne lawyer and Porsche enthusiast Sven Burchartz won the inaugural Porsche GT3 Cup Challenge series, driving a 996 GT3 Cup car prepared by Sonic Motor Racing, but was forced to work for his win.

The first year produced four different round winners from four rounds (Graeme Cook, Bill Pye, Jeff Bobik and Sven Burchartz), 27 drivers scored championship points and provided some unforgettable racing action on some of the best tracks in Australia.

With an expanded 2009 calendar, interest in the series continues to grow. The GT3 Cup Challenge Australia is the series to watch!

**2009 Porsche GT3 Cup Challenge Australia schedule**

- Round 1 - 20-21 February 2009 - Mt Panorama, Bathurst, NSW
- Round 2 - 16-17 May 2009 - Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit, Cowes, VIC
- Round 3 - 6-7 June 2009 - Mallala Motor Sport Park, Mallala, SA
- Round 4 - 18-19 July 2009 - Eastern Creek Raceway, Sydney, NSW
- Round 5 - 8-9 August 2009 - Morgan Park Raceway, Warwick, QLD
- Round 6 - 28-29 November 2009 - Sandown International Raceway, Melbourne, VIC



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