

# Pro -Tour Roadshow to rock

BY MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

At the end of last season, South Africa's national motorsport was restructured, leading to the creation of the Pro-Tour Roadshow.

The net result is that, this year, for the first time since 2001, there will be a two-tier national championship in place, with the first round of the Pro-Tour set to make its debut at the Wesbank Raceway on Sunday.

Heading the Pro-Tour Roadshow line-up are Hollard Shelby Can-Am sports cars and Formula Fords. The latter is now in its 36th consecutive year as a national championship category, while the former is about to undergo a facelift.

They will be joined in the six category line-up by the Altech Porsche Challenge, Formula Vee, the Goldwagen VW Challenge and a new motorcycle formula to South Africa, the Kawasaki ZX10 Cup.

The Hollard Shelby Can-Ams, powered by 3.5-litre Nissan engines and with grip provided by massive Goodyear slicks, will enjoy their status as the fastest cars in the Pro-Tour and thanks to some close racing have become a firm favourite with fans over the past few seasons. This colourful series recently announced Hollard Insurance as its main sponsor, and no doubt will attract even more attention when



the new, sleek Le Mans-styled bodywork is unveiled in March.

Formula Ford is a class of racing that probably has more heritage than any other form of racing anywhere in the world. Powered by 1800cc Ford motors, these slick-shod projectiles are renowned for their precise handling characteristics and therefore produce close racing.

A series with even more history

behind it is Formula Vee, which enters its 40th year as a national championship category in South Africa. Powered by 1400cc VW motors fitted with legendary twin Weber 40mm carburettors, this class is regarded as the entry level into single seater racing. Cars are evenly matched and race on semi-slick tyres.

Also part of the tour is the immensely popular Altech Porsche

Challenge. This is where machinery the likes of a ferocious Porsche 956 and 911 GT3 Rs and 911 GT2s set the circuit alight with their awesome looks and power.

What's more is that the open class isn't only restricted to Porsche machinery. Apart from a plethora of wickedly powerful 911 variants, the series is also expected to attract a number of race-spec Ferraris and other exotics for what

**PROJECTILE:**  
Shelby CanAm racers head the Pro-Tour Roadshow programme for 2007.

could turn out to be a hugely popular event.

The Altech Porsche 924 series is also popular and attracts a full grid of these superb handling, front-engined Porsches, which always provide a great deal of excitement and entertainment for race fans.

Talking of grids, the Goldwagen VW Challenge has grown from strength to strength over the past few seasons and so many entries are expected it seems as though the organisers will have to look at splitting the classes to effectively create two events for them. This class is spectacular and each race guarantees action from lights to flag.

On the two wheel front, an exciting addition to the Pro-Tour will be in the form of the soon to be launched Kawasaki ZX10 Masters Cup.

Only 2006 or 2007 Kawasaki ZX10 motorcycles with limited safety modifications are eligible and another major criteria is that riders must be over 30 years old and must not have raced in a national championship for two years. The reason for this is to prevent a front-runner in this National Superbike Championship entering. There will also be a class for riders over 45 years.

Round 1 of the Pro-Tour series kicks off at WesBank Raceway this Sunday. Admission is R40 for adults and R20 for children.

