



# The Motorsport NZ Elite Academy Newsletter. March 2019.

## News from the Trust.

Welcome to the second of the Class of 2018's newsletters. This is another series of self written notes from the team that made up the class of 2018. Its been great seeing them all in action over the summer months at many of the circuits across the country and waving the flag very high indeed for the next crop of future stars in the sport. Equally its been wonderful to see past camp graduates Alexandra Whitley and Hunter McElrea doing well overseas with Alex in the next phase of the W Series and Hunter kicking off his F2000 season with two podiums at St Petersburg, it again says high things for our talent. On behalf of my fellow trustees Thank you to all . David Turner.

Since my last report I have been making good use of my learning's from my Academy mentors. I am currently sitting third In the Formula First Championship. Thanks to the help of the Academy mentors I have steadily improved throughout the season in both on-track results and as a driver/athlete.



I have maintained my high level of fitness, developed my mental resilience and have grown my social media presence and following. With more sessions with my mentors still to come, I look forward to building on what I have learnt so far and continuing to develop my skill set as I move into a new season. The great thing about the Academy is that the skills I have learnt don't have a 12-month expiry date. In fact, quite the opposite - these are lifelong racing and life skills that will serve me well throughout the rest of my career. This is something I have promoted when talking to other young drivers about the Academy. With six of the eight rounds completed in the Formula First Championship, without losing sight of my goals for this season, I am excited to be working on my racing plans for the 2019/2020 seasons.

This will involve being a part of the revamped Formula Ford series, which will be awesome! The Formula First racing has provided me with a solid set of race skills. It has been a fantastic class to be a part of and I can't recommend it highly enough as a starting Formula.

Through the Academy I have met some great people in all different roles in the motorsport community and gained some great advice. It's fantastic to be a part of something that is so important in New Zealand Motorsport. All the best to my classmates of 2018, I know the Academy has been an experience none of us will ever forget.

Thank you all Billy Frazer.



What a rollercoaster! The CMC Markets and MacClures ITM Toyota 86 has had an abundance of action this season. The team has worked diligently, moving from 16<sup>th</sup> overall after suffering a DNF and in turn a severely damaged car in Round 1, to 4<sup>th</sup> overall in an extremely close and competitive championship. We have had our share of bad luck but also a great amount of success, gaining a pole position at Pukekohe, an overall round, overall rookie and feature race win at Highlands Motorsport Park as well as multiple other podiums throughout. Both my successes and perseverance through low points of the championship has to be accredited to the Elite Motorsport Academy. Their post-camp Improved Performance Programme has proved vital in my development as a driver and ambassador. I am working with a great variety of mentors. This ranges from my Athlete Life coach Jenny May who has helped me into the High Performance Sports Programme at the University of Auckland where I will be studying engineering, to my nutritionist Gavin Clearkin, an area where I too have been making great progress. My networking skills have also significantly improved thanks to the help of Nicky Felton and David Turner. There are many other mentors supporting my racing that also deserve recognition such as Alastair Wooten from Formula Fit, and Ian Lambie my Mental Coach. I am excited to take the incredible array of knowledge I have attained from the academy and this past season over the ditch to Australia, where I will be racing in the Australian Toyota 86 Series. It has been an amazing journey since moving out of the simulator only two years ago, and I can take pride in saying that the Elite Motorsport Academy continues to play a significant role in my development and success. Bring on 2019! Cheers, Peter Vodanovich

This past year for me has been amazing, After winning the Formula 1600 championship I was selected as one of the 8 Lucky drivers to attend the Elite Motorsport Academy. The academy has helped me improve as a driver greatly. During the 2018/19 season I competed in the New Zealand Toyota 86 Championship, I raced with the CareVets scholarship team. The season had plenty of ups and a few downs, the down being when my engine let go during practice at Teretonga. The high of the season has to be the weekend just been at Hampton Downs where I won 2/3 races at Hampton Downs and this secured me the Championship, I am now the 2018/19 Toyota 86 Champion and the first ever rookie to win the Title. Now my focus shifts to Australia where I will compete in the 2019 Australian Formula Ford Championship with Sonic Motor Racing Services in the car that Hunter McElrea drove last year.

Kind Regards  
Callum Hedge



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cont.



Flashback of the Class of 2018 in Camp July 2018 at the start of their year

## Catch Up with any of the Academy Class

The Class of 2018 might be getting close to coming to an end but please always consider supporting them and others from the years before them, as this really is our future in all forms of the sport.

Keen to be part of the Camp in 2019 well remember applications are closing VERY soon so don't talk about it but act on it today.

## Who is in the Class of 2018?

Callum Hedge TR 86

Callum Crawley Formula First

Billy Frazer Formula First

Bailey Paterson Formula 1600

Matt Podjursky NZ V8

Jaden Ransley TR 86

Brock Timperley NZ V8

Peter Vodanovich TR 86

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Number 1

For 2018 Academy Member Callum Hedge after taking the 2018/19 TR 86 Championship title

2019

Over 132 people from various forms of the sport have now been through the Academy process.

Will you be there in 2019?

## Class of 2019 Applications Closing NOW!!!!

[www.motorsport.org.nz/academy/elite-academy](http://www.motorsport.org.nz/academy/elite-academy)

## Bailey Paterson

My year didn't quite go to plan with more DNF's than I could count but at the same time so many positives I could take away. I learnt a lot about the mental skills of overcoming a bad race or bad weekend and how to deal with the stress that comes along with it. All in all wasn't the season I was hoping for. Now setting my sights on next season and what is to come. Would like to say a huge thank you to the Elite motorsport Academy for all the skills and knowledge they gave me for this season and for the future.

Cheers Bailey.





## Academy Snapshots.

Hunter McElrea in action at St Petersburg and Alex Whitley about to get the taste of a TRS car at Hampton Downs, both proving coming from the Academy pays off.



What a massive season it has been for myself, I have had the most pole positions, race wins, round wins in Class two NZV8 as well as possibly the biggest winning margin by over a lap. It has been a year where we have had a lot of learning and thanks to the Elite Academy I can say that it has helped me through the not so good times of motorsport. I ended up second in the championship, Now we look on to next season and building on what the academy has taught me in my next step of my racing career.

Thank you all  
Matt Podjursky



## Would you like to Support the Trust?

We welcome your support with tomorrow's future stars.

Contact Brian Budd for more information. (04) 815 8087 [brian@motorsport.org.nz](mailto:brian@motorsport.org.nz)



Over the past 5 months I have gained a huge amount of experience behind the wheel, it has been amazing being able to put what I have learnt from the academy into use in so many varieties.

After training with McElrea Racing on their Motion Force 1 Simulator, I competed at the Phillip Island (Melbourne, Australia) Qualifying round for the Aussie Driver Search Pro Competition. After driver the 2011 FPR V8 Supercar I was extremely proud to hear I had placed in the Top 6 out of 250+ Drivers heading to the final at Wakefield Park (NSW, Australia).

Back in New Zealand I turned my focus to competing in Round 1 of the BNT V8's at the Auckland ITM Supersprint (Pukekohe Raceway). After claiming Pole position I came away from the weekend with a clean sweep winning all 3 races and ultimately claiming 3rd in the Overall Championship.

After a full day testing in Wayne Anderson's Ford Supertourer I was ready for the Aussie Driver Search Final when for the first time I really saw how tough my competitors were. Making it through to the Top 10 I was eliminated driving the 2014 Tekno V8 Supercar before the top 3.

Once again back in New Zealand after this huge experience I have been working as a driver trainer and planning my upcoming 1hr Races in the ENEOS North Island Endurance Championship. Looking forward to competing in my NZV8 with a few more goodies and then in Wayne Anderson's Supertourer again. Regards Brock Timperley.



The Ian Snellgrove Award will go to the top Athlete from the class of 2018 at the annual MSNZ Awards night. It's going to be very close indeed as points since the camp have been on going and adding to each persons tally. They come from the work they do with tutors', the camp conference calls, this newsletter and many other aspects so the efforts are all on the table across the entire year. Who will take the title in 2019?



Brock in action in Australia



The Trophy that's up for grabs