

# The Motorsport NZ Elite Academy Newsletter. October 2021.

Welcome to the first of the Class of 2021's newsletters. It has been great seeing them all (8) making the most of these tough times since the camp week and progressing with plans and ideas. These are their own words written for you as part of their respective media development within the academy. On behalf of my fellow trustees thank you for supporting and your interest in the academy. David Turner.

## Jordan Grant

This year has been a massive learning experience with doing my rookie year in NZRC, as well as being accepted into the Elite Motorsport Academy and completing the Academy's week in Dunedin. Our rallying season this year has not gone to plan with the season being cut short, and having 2 DNF's, not giving us the result we were chasing. We still managed to achieve a lot of other goals through improving our speed at each event, and are now very close to who I see as the benchmark for my class, a 3-time category 2 champion driver.

Through the Academy application process, and completing the Academy week earlier in the year, I have seen changes in many areas, such as my time management, my mental strength, and having clearer goals for moving forward. I have been consistently using the resources provided by the Academy and am seeing great improvement, readying myself for the next season of NZRC. My main goal for 2022 is to have a large sponsor supporting me, which will enable me to achieve my aspirations.

The exciting announcement of WRC coming back to New Zealand encourages me to work extra hard, as I think it opens up opportunities to make connections to the international championship teams.

Cheers  
Jordan Grant



## Flynn Mullany

### My academy experience at the camp and so far:

"My experience at the academy has been absolutely amazing. Before the camp I was training to make sure that I managed to get the best results from it and it definitely was worth the while. Myself and the other drivers were pushed to our limits physically and mentally but overall I had a really great time and enjoyed everything that happened during the camp week. Ever since camp, I have been working still with the team as well as the providers which have been a massive help for me to prepare for my next upcoming season of racing!"

### What have I been up to during lockdown:

"Sadly thanks to this lockdown I haven't been able to get back to racing. I was planning to get back literally a week before Auckland was hit with the level 4 announcement, so it's now been since March when I was last back in a race car. But during this lockdown which I had to deal with all on my own at home, I got to focus a lot on preparing myself for when we do get back racing, from it I managed to lose 3kg of weight and managed to get an extra new sponsorship deal! But it hasn't all been so positive. Like many others I myself have been struggling mentally. But thanks to the team at the Academy they have been able to still support me in all areas and I'm now looking to be fully prepared for once this lockdown ends!"





## Jack Hawkeswood

I think the best thing from the academy for me was the mental skills coaching, it has by far been the biggest help in not only motorsport but in life and business, I'm very thankful for it. After the academy it was all a rush to get my new car ready for rally Hawkes Bay after I had rolled at Rally Whangarei a couple of months earlier.

I was happy to finish in 14th on my first rally back even though we had brake problems, and it was defiantly one step closer to my goal of racing in America in 2025.

Unfortunately due to lockdown there hasn't been a lot going on but i am hopeful for 2022!  
Jack.



## More from Flynn

### What am I up to this upcoming season of racing:

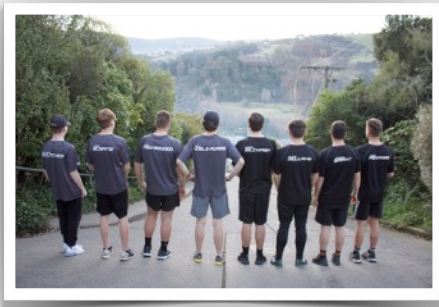
"I'm still very unsure on what I will be racing this summer, as thanks to the recent lockdowns it's made things extremely difficult to obtain sponsorship. It's been really pressuring to find the funds as if I cannot get them in time I may not even be racing this summer. But I am not going to let that stop me as myself and the academy are still working hard on trying to get some sponsorship and future opportunities. I still have a big goal of trying to race overseas next year but before I do that I need to have some driving under my belt in New Zealand before I can depart, so I am needing to put 100% effort in if I am going to race this season." Thanking you Flynn

## Brock Gilchrist

The Elite Motorsport Academy was one of the greatest experiences I have had. The camp helped me improve on a lot of things I struggled with outside of driving. My nutrition was one of the biggest. I wasn't eating near enough food and the nutritionist gave me the knowledge to make better choices and ensure I have the proper fuel I need. Sitting with the physiologist gave me an insight into an area I need to work on. One of the best things is the network that was created. I have new friends that I feel will be lifelong. We have been doing a lot of Sim racing with the crew over lockdown and have had a couple of opportunities to expose my sponsors. A couple of good articles came from the races and the exposure has been fantastic in a very quiet racing period in NZ. Thank you Brock.







## James Penrose

The academy was a fantastic experience, and additionally, the support post academy has been excellent. I've now got providers who are helping in sport psychology, athlete life, strength & conditioning and nutrition, all of which are helping me in preparing for the summer of racing ahead. My goal for the summer is to compete at the NZ Grand Prix in February, and the academy has played an instrumental part in helping me achieve that goal.

Also, Greg Rust interviewed me to chat about the academy and my racing career so far, which went well and is on the MSNZ Facebook page for anyone who didn't see it. Hopefully, Covid restrictions can ease soon so everyone in Auckland can come racing with us!

Kind regards,

James Penrose.



## Jack Noble Adams

"Since the Academy week took place back in July, I have been making most of the new opportunities available to me. I have a new training routine; I have been actively focusing on my nutrition and I have been working to prepare myself for the upcoming racing season as best I can. We have been out in the Stealth Formula Ford for several test sessions getting the car set up on the new Yokohama tires. We are hoping our new setups will transfer over to our brand-new Ray Formula Ford, the car is still being prepared and it is looking on track to be ready and racing at the upcoming Wigram Revival meeting. My fitness has been coming along well, I have been doing a lot of running including some running for the recent Running 72 charity event at the University.

My plan for the coming racing season is to compete in the National and South Island Formula Ford Championships. I also have plans to do some more testing in a Toyota Racing Series car (Covid has meant this test has been postponed a few times) and if things go well, we are considering competing in the New Zealand Grand Prix. Overall, I feel the Academy has helped me prepare myself much better for my racing and hopefully this will be reflected in the results. The South Island Formula 1600 championship starts on the 30th/31st so we will find out soon enough."

Thank you for your time.  
Jack Noble-Adams



## Liam Sceats

The main thing I took away from the Elite Motorsport Academy Camp is how important nutrition, fitness, sponsorship partnerships and data analysis is in my racing journey.

I learnt that essential skills are mental discipline and learning how to promote my media is all part of my success in becoming a better driver.

Learning & making all of the above a part of my everyday life so contributes to my overall performance.

Really hoping to be able to get my 2021/2022 racing season underway in the North Island and New Zealand Formula Ford Championship and use all of the knowledge gained from the academy into action.



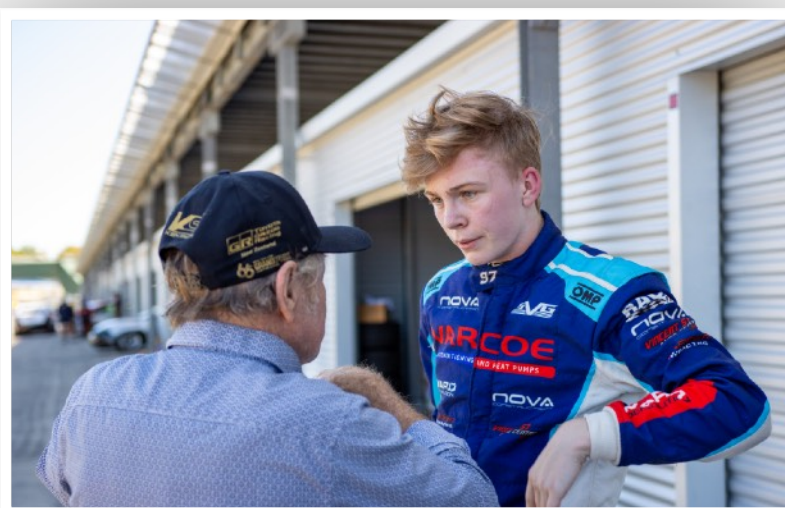
## Matthew McCutcheon

After finding out that I made the final eight for the Elite Motorsport Academy I was excited to get started and learn as much as I can in the coming year.

It started with flying down to Dunedin on a week-long camp to be pushed to my mental and physical limits. What I learnt at Otago Academy of Sport is something I have implemented in my day to day life and have experiences and memories I'll never forget.

The opportunity that was given to me to be in the Elite Motorsport Academy has helped me be in my best position for this upcoming season, where I will be racing in the Toyota Racing Series.

The ongoing support that the Elite Motorsport Academy provides also continues our development as we are on our journeys to becoming professional race car drivers by appointing us with the best providers in New Zealand to help work on all areas of racing. I look forward to continuing my development as a race car driver with the Elite Motorsport Academy. Mathew.



## Academy 2022

Applications for the Elite Academy are open again soon and the dates for camp week have been set. So be sure to check on the MSNZ Website for details.

The trust equally welcomes any donations at any time to enable the Academy to continue with the help of your funding contact us or MSNZ for more information/

Plus remember that if you have applied before that does not mean don't apply again in fact we expect you to so please do.

The Academy Trustees are Tony Herbert, David Turner, Lyall Williamson, Ali Wootten and the Trust Chair is Wayne Christie.

Camp Week and the Year long support programme is run by the Trust and the Otago Academy of Sport.