



track talk



Rodney Jane Racing Newsletter ~ Issue 2 ~ 2009

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TOP EFFORT TO AVOID SANDOWN CARNAGE

Rodney Jane has finished 11th at the fourth round of the 2009 Fujitsu V8 Supercar Series with the Bob Jane T-Marts driver lucky to escape each of the three races without any major damage after a number of heated on-track battles at Melbourne's Sandown International Motor Raceway.

With no testing prior to the event, Jane focused on his fitness and was in better physical condition following his debut into the category at Townsville last month. Jane worked with his crew prior to Sandown to get his overall driving position right in the car.

Friday's two practice sessions provided Jane with the chance to re-familiarise himself with the Sandown circuit and his Ford Falcon BF, which he only took delivery of last month. The sessions were productive for Jane who after running inside the top two during the opening session was fifth fastest on the time-sheets. In the second practice session, Jane was 13th.

A frustrating qualifying session saw Jane cut off twice by fellow competitor Brad Lowe, the first occurrence sending Jane into the pits with a flat spotted tyre. Both incidents cost the #20 Falcon valuable track time with Jane eventually finishing the session in 11th.

Race One

In wet and greasy track conditions, Jane got a reasonable start before a three car pileup emerged in front of him going into the first corner. As Jane took evasive action to avoid the carnage, he was hit by Tony Bates and forced into the pits for repairs to a damaged tyre.

With the repair work completed, Jane rejoined the field a lap down in 13th position. From there the Bob Jane T-Marts driver took full advantage of a clear track and recorded some quick laps with his best time of 1:11.9375, the third fastest lap of the race. Unable to make up any ground Jane finished the race in 13th position.

Race Two

After starting from 13th, Jane got a better start in the second race making up two positions on the opening lap. With a greater understanding of how his V8 Supercar operates, Jane maintained 11th during the first quarter of the race.

Jane was given a further introduction to the aggressive nature of the series when he found himself

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engaged in another battle with Bates. After momentarily losing a position to his competitor following a somewhat questionable move, Jane overtook him and eventually finished ninth.

Race Three

Jane got another good start in the final race and was in sixth position for the first four laps of the 15 lap contest. With debris on the track, Jane was pushed out wide onto the marbles by Sam Walter at the half way point running off the track dropping back to last.

For the final half of the race, Jane focused on clawing his way back through the field and after a number of consistent laps he was the 12th car to the chequered flag, claiming 11th for the round.

The result saw Jane jump four positions to 13th in the 2009 Fujitsu V8 Supercar Series point score with three rounds remaining.

Jane said that the weekend was encouraging, with the solid result another step forward in his transition into the Fujitsu series.

"My focus this weekend was to improve my breaking and corner speed and I think I progressed a lot in these areas which is extremely positive," Jane said, "Next round I'm hoping to get a lot more consistent with these things and it's just a matter of getting additional time behind the wheel of the Bob Jane T-Marts Falcon."

"I'm also learning a lot about the category in general - it is a lot more aggressive than Carrera Cup which I raced in the past and there is no way you could get away with some of the moves and contact these guys pull [in a V8 Supercar] in a Porsche.

"It's great to be just outside the top 10 in the championship after competing in just two rounds. Hopefully I can record a few more consistent race results and get up even further in the order."

The next round of the 2009 Fujitsu V8 Supercar Series will take place at Queensland Raceway, near Brisbane, on August 21 - 23, 2009.

2009 FUJITSU V8 SUPERCAR SERIES

SANDOWN- ROUND 4 POINTS

1	David Russell	256 points
2	Grant Denyer	224 points
3	Daniel Gaunt	218 points
4	Damian Assailit	216 points
5	Jonathon Webb	212 points
6	David Sieders	194 points
7	James Moffat	192 points
8	Brad Lowe	186 points
9	Sam Walter	158 points
10	Shane Price	162 points
11	Rodney Jane	146 points
12	Geoff Emery	120 points
13	Taz Douglas	108 points
14	Ben McCashney	106 points
15	Karl Reindler	98 points

CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS

1	David Russell	1010 points
2	Jonathon Webb	986 points
3	James Moffat	881 points
4	Grant Denyer	866 points
5	Daniel Gaunt	744 points
6	Shane Price	713 points
7	Taz Douglas	654 points
8	Sam Walter	647 points
9	Damian Assailit	624 points
10	Brad Lowe	624 points
11	Geoff Emery	529 points
12	David Sieders	393 points
13	Rodney Jane	316 points
14	Ben McCashney	302 points
15	Drew Russell	295 points

