

NATIONAL AUTOGRASS SPORT ASSOCIATION LTD



The board is pleased to announce that a new tyre supplier to the sport has been agreed on. This follows a long period of negotiations which started at last year's AGM where three existing tyre suppliers were asked to attend a meeting to discuss control tyres for junior specials. The meeting was reconvened early this year, when the chairmen were asked their views on trying to introduce control tyres into junior specials to try to reduce costs. The feeling in the room was that anything to lower the price of tyres should be investigated.

By chance we learnt of a supplier who was willing to import brand new tyres in large quantities and stock them for sale to our members. He is the authorised UK agent for TORQUE tyres. He already has facilities to handle internet sales and deliveries of tyres throughout the UK. Furthermore, he is willing to work towards the long-term future of affordable tyre supply to NASA.

This is an opportunity to address the thorny issue of supply and pricing which has throughout our history been left to market forces.

The words "control tyre" are sometimes misunderstood. There are two elements to a control tyre one is the compound and tread design. The second is the price. For the first time the NASA board will have direct access to a tyre supplier and be able to dictate the price. This removes the element of price increases due to shortage of supply or the non-availability of casings to remould. For the last few years, supply has been difficult on occasions and tyres literally rationed to our members. Control tyres are used in many motorsports categories and are a successful way of achieving long term stability for the benefit of the racers. Finally, ALL the tyres will be the same across the board.

Hopefully the above paragraphs will cover some of the history of how we have come to this point. Going forward, an order has been placed at no cost or risk to NASA for the following sizes of tyres to fulfil the needs of junior specials and F600.

These sizes are:

185/70/14

185/65/14.

185/65/15

After lobbying by some F600 drivers this initial sizing has been expanded to include

175/65/14

175/70/13

195/55/15.

Having covered those concerns a quantity each of the following tyres have been ordered to trial 155/70/13 and finally 195/65/15.

A number of concerns have been raised during the negotiation process, one being that the tyres are not made for "competition" use and therefore not covered by NASA insurance. There are no concerns whatsoever regarding insurance. Another concern was who will fit the tyres? Tyre fitting services are only catered for at the larger meetings generally such as National Championships, BAS, UKAC etc. Some clubs are lucky enough to get sporadic attendance of a tyre van at club meetings. We have had interest from some tyre suppliers to attend and fit tyres and a meeting will be published shortly where interested parties can attend and tender for the job.

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Further details of the supplier and how you can purchase these tyres will be released once the final contracts have been signed

Finally, the TORQUE tyres will be on the approved option B list. Therefore, they are legal to use on ALL classes going forward and compulsory on Junior Specials and F600 drive wheels from the start of 2024.

Very shortly, a pre-ordering system will be announced with an e mail address so you can get your tyres when they arrive in early January 2024.

Tyre costs as below

155/70/13 £39.90

175/70/13. £40.20

175/65/14. £42.60

185/65/14 £43.50

185/70/14 £43.80

185/65/15. £45.00

195/55/15. £45.54

195/65/15. £45.54

All prices include VAT

Shipping costs are £15 for two tyres and £22 for four tyres. You can do your own calculations on specific tyres as members you are using but, as a rough guide you can get two tyres delivered including VAT for just under half the price of the equivalent tyres now.

In effect, each member will know how many tyres per year they buy, and the current cost just divide that by two as the minimum cost saving. The board intend to set the MAXIMUM retail price of these tyres as above. There will also be an agreement that any tyre fitted at a meeting will have a maximum fitting price even if the tyre hasn't been bought from that tyre retailer.

The driving force behind these proposals is to give members a reliable source of tyres at a cost that will be regulated by NASA not market forces.

The NASA Board

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