

SUZUKI GRID KIDS DUATHLON



**For immediate release
11 October 2011**

GRID KIDS WELCOME SUZUKI AS OFFICIAL SPONSOR

Grid Kids are proud to announce Suzuki as the official sponsor of the Grid Kids Duathlon 2011/2012. Kicking off in Pukekohe this November, the kids' duathlon series will run until March 2012 and will also visit Christchurch, Invercargill, Timaru, Fielding and Taupo.

Organised in conjunction with the New Zealand Motorsport Series, the Suzuki Grid Kids Duathlon coincides with the Sunday racing of the Motorsport championship at six New Zealand locations and enables children to be part of the motorsport action.

By entering the duathlon, kids also receive free tickets to the motor racing being held on the weekend of their event as well as the chance to be a 'grid kid' for the New Zealand V8's Suzuki Sport Cup.

Director of Grid Kids and two-time New Zealand Elite Triathlon Champion Shanelle Barrett said that it was "a real privilege" to have Suzuki on board.

"With Grid Kids coming into its third season it is very exciting to have Suzuki supporting the series. Both Grid Kids and Suzuki are passionate about youth and motivating them to get outdoors. Working together will hopefully see the Grid Kids series grow to its full potential.

Kids now have the added bonus of the chance to meet Jamie Gaskin (Suzuki driver) and to receive training tips and autographs from Cameron Brown and Kris Gemmell at some of the events, thanks to Suzuki's involvement in the New Zealand triathlon and duathlon scene. We envisage this partnership growing each year which in turn will allow Grid Kids to continue to motivate New Zealand children to get out there and get involved with sports."

Darren Stephens, Suzuki Motorsport Manager said:

"Suzuki is committed to strengthening sporting opportunities for young New Zealanders, as demonstrated with our 2XU (two times you) clothing partnership and our Triathlon New Zealand association.

It's about backing our youth and Shanelle and her team do a fantastic job motivating and making it possible for our kids to get outdoors and get involved."

Pre-event registrations will be hosted at local Suzuki dealerships and local primary schools can also benefit from a personal visit from Suzuki Driver Jamie Gaskin – with his race vehicle.

ENDS

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Notes:

2011/2012 Suzuki Grid Kids Schedule:

Pukekohe Park Raceway – 6 November 2011

Ruapuna Park, Christchurch – 11 December 2011

Teretonga Park, Invercargill – 15 January 2012

Timaru International Motor Raceway – 22 January 2012

Manfeild Circuit, Feilding – 12 February 2012

Taupo Motorsport Park – 11 March 2012

For further information or to register visit www.gridkids.co.nz

Involved primary schools will have the opportunity for Suzuki driver Jamie Gaskin to visit their pupils prior to the Suzuki Grid Kids Duathlon (school holiday dependent). To arrange a photo opportunity with your local primary school please contact either your local school directly or Jacqui on the details below.

For further media information and interviews, please contact:

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