

8. Tuning Days – Mastering the Koala

After a disastrous time at the last race meeting, I was ready to give up. The advice from everyone including my wife, was try again - “practice, practice, bum on seat, laps, laps etc”. So I will give it my best.

There are 10 Tuning days and 3 race meetings before the Shannons Perth Classic at Barbagallo, where there will be a full field of Formula Juniors from around the world, as part of the 60th anniversary world tour.

Tuning Days Available at Barbagallo

16-7-16

20-7-16

22-7-16 (Race Day 23-7-16)

3-8-16

13-8-16

19-8-16 (Race Day 20-8-16)

7-9-16

30-9-16 (Collie practice before Collie Race days 1 & 2 October)

5-10-16

15-10-16

21-10-16 (Race Day 22 to 23-10-16)



The Koala loaded on the trailer ready for another practice

Tuning Day Purpose

Test the Koala's:

- Handling
- Brakes
- Engine performance
- Gearbox
- General reliability

Become proficient at:

- Pre-race checks
- Putting belts on by self
- Putting on steering wheel
- Putting helmet straps on by self
- Race starts from grid
- Qualifying – rolling start
- Mirror use
- Gear change
- Braking modulation without lockup
- Trail braking
- Sliding
- Passing
- Catching/using vehicle drag to pass
- Safety
- Improve lap times to 70secs or better (68 secs if possible)

I will report on how I go, following a few of the Tuning Days, and my progress.