



## The official news source of SCCA's Northwest Region

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# SCCA resurrects Trans-Am Series

## SCCA STAFF REPORT

ORLANDO, Fla. — After a two-year hiatus since its last champion was crowned, SCCA's Trans-Am Series will return in 2009, with a planned eight-race schedule for the series that held its first race in 1966.

Five of the eight races were announced in Orlando at the Performance Racing Industry show, including June 12-14 at Portland International Raceway, as was the series' title sponsor for 2009, Muscle Milk.

A joint venture between Sports Car Club of America Inc. and subsidiary SCCA Pro Racing, the 2009 Muscle Milk SCCA Trans-Am Series will consist of six events in conjunction with some of the biggest SCCA Club Racing events across the country, creating powerhouse SCCA weekends, and two key professional events. Technical rules will be based on the SCCA Club Racing GT-1 class.

"There is a dedicated group of Trans-Am loyalists who have been working to make this happen since our last licensing agreement to operate the series expired in 2005," SCCA President and CEO Jim Julow said. "The rebirth of Trans-Am begins in 2009 with a grassroots-based series that has the potential to grow in the coming years into a full professional racing series. On behalf of SCCA and SCCA Pro Racing, I would like to thank Jim Derhaag for his tireless efforts to help put some of the critical pieces together and Muscle Milk for coming on board as title sponsor to make the series a reality."

The series kicks off March 21 and 22 at Road Atlanta as part of the Atlanta Region SCCA season-opening National race. The series has previously visited Road Atlanta 12 times from 1973 through 2002.

April 17-19, the series heads to Virginia as part of North Carolina Region Oak Tree Double National weekend at Virginia International Raceway.

The series treks north of the border May 15-17 to return to Mosport In-

## 2009 schedule

**March 21 and 22**, Road Atlanta, Braselton, Ga., Atlanta National

**April 17-19**, Virginia International Raceway, Alton, Va., North Carolina National

**May 15-17**, Mosport International Raceway, Canada, SPEED World Challenge

**June 12-14**, Portland International Raceway, Portland, Ore., Oregon Region

**July 11 and 12**, Watkins Glen International, Watkins Glen, N.Y., Finger Lakes National

*Three other dates to be announced*

ternational Raceway for the 25th time as part of the Victoria Day Weekend with the SPEED World Challenge Championships, reuniting SCCA Pro Racing top series from the last 20 years.

The series lone visit to the West Coast is a big one, joining the Rose Cup Festival June 12-14 at Portland International Raceway. From 1975-2005, the race circuit held 21 Trans-Am Series races.

Then it's back east to the Finger Lakes Region National at historic Watkins Glen Raceway, July 11 and 12.

"We're excited about the return of Trans-Am and are pleased to be able to give something back to the series that has provided so much excitement for race fans throughout the years," said 1978 series Champion Greg Pickett, founder of CytoSport Inc., the makers of Muscle Milk.

All events are expected to be approximately 90 miles in length with no pit stops. Races in conjunction with club racing events will have qualifying and race sessions separate from the regular GT-1 competition grouping, so drivers have the potential to run both the GT-1 Club Racing event and the Trans-Am Series event on the same weekend.