

**FEMA INFO LETTER
01/2021**

To all FEMA members

February 25, 2021

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Dear FEMA members

Since more than a year, the world is facing the COVID-19 pandemic. The last twelve months have been difficult in any scene. Many of us lived through lock-downs or are still in it. We have to worry about our health, our freedoms are restricted and some of us are confronted with work place insecurity, as the economic consequences of the pandemic are still unfolding.

Even so many countries in Europe have started to vaccinate their population it is still extremely difficult to predict the coming months. It can be assumed that lock-down restrictions are only slowly lifted and we have to endure constrains for some more time.

As the last few months were not difficult enough, we lost dear friends. Some were glad they could go; others had to go way too early. We would like to express our condolence to all the families and friends.

Race Calendar 2021

The current FEMA race calendar 2021 is published on www.speedmodelcar.com. Looking forward to the 2021 Speedmodelcar Racing Season, we might be confronted with similar challenges like those that we have encountered in 2020. The focus in the 2021 Speedmodelcar Racing lays probably more in local, domestic races, than in big international events. In the past couple of years, FEMA intended to de-conflict the Race Calendar in order to have big international events, with many participants, where friendships could be cultivated, know-how transferred and race battles fought. Due to the current situation, we would like to encourage all clubs to hold more local races on their racetrack to keep the motivation up and give all members the possibility to race as much as possible. At the same time, we hope that all clubs stay ready to host international participants if the situation permits it.

Grand Slam or European Trophy

Due to the above-mentioned uncertainties, it seems unrealistic to plan a Grand Slam (GS), or new European Trophy series in 2021. If the situation allows it in 2022, a European Trophy series will be proposed in due time.

European Championship 2021

The European Championship is the main event of the Speedmodelcar Racing Season.

Prerequisite for a fair European Championship, are lifted travel restrictions. Everyone who would like to attend a European Championship should be able to do so. If certain member States were restricted from traveling to the venue of the European Championship due to the pandemic, the competition would not be fair, nor would it meet the standard of a European Championship.

Last year this prerequisite was not given. Thus in a long history since 1952, 2020 was the first year; no European Championship could be held.

After the cancellation of the 2020 European Championship in Switzerland, the Swiss Model Car Club (SMCC) volunteered to host the 2021 European Championship. However, taking the current and the anticipated situation in summer 2021 into account, and after long discussions, the SMCC Board concluded, that a European Championship from 23rd to 25th July 2021, with the above-mentioned prerequisites, is not feasible and thus must be canceled. Due to the non-availability of SMCC members and volunteers in autumn 2021, a postponement of the European Championship in Switzerland had also to be ruled out.

The FEMA Board understands the SMCC's point of view and its concerns about the European Championship 2021 in Switzerland, regretting at the same time that this difficult decision had to be taken.

The FEMA Board will explore alternative options for a European Championship 2021 whether in summer or autumn 2021. **It is vital to our sport and especially in these difficult times, to have a major event to look forward to, keep the motivation high and preserve a long running tradition.**

Therefore, we encourage all FEMA member states to discuss the possibility to host the European Championship in summer or autumn 2021. Please contact the FEMA Board under fema.board@speedmodelcar.org as soon as possible.

Furthermore, the FEMA Board will contact FEMA member states individually to explore any options.

In due time, the FEMA Board will inform about an alternative venue for the European Championship 2021.

Please do not hesitate to contact us for any question.

Sincerely

Your FEMA Board
Fédération Européenne du Modélisme Automobile