# AutoAction
SINCE 1971
.com.au

# AUTO ACTION'S 2023 TASMANIA SUPERCARS TEAM-BY-TEAM GUIDE

**Supercars goes on its annual trip to Tasmania this weekend where all will be watching to see if Gen3 can end Triple Eight's crushing grip on the small circuit.**

**TRIPLE EIGHT** Race Engineering has enjoyed at least one win at Symmons Plains in 14 of the last 15 years.

The exception was 2013 when Brad Jones Racing scored a clean sweep in the opening year of the Car of the Future era.

The field hopes the roll out of Gen3 has a similar effect, but the stats suggest otherwise.

Six of the last seven races have been won by Triple Eight cars with Shane van Gisbergen smoking the field last year.

On their day both van Gisbergen and Broc Feeney have both been near unbeatable in the Gen3 Camaro and will be some of the favourites.

Ford is hopeful of finally beating a Camaro to P1 on track this year at Symmons Plains, but it would have to be a track where it has recorded just two wins from the last 24 races at the circuit.

Due to the track characterised by two long straights, acceleration and straight line speed is vital for extracting maximum time from the 2.4km layout.

With this in mind, the new Ford engine map being rolled out to improve throttle response will be put under the microscope.

Hoping to lead the Ford charge is Chaz Mostert, who scored his first win in Walkinshaw Andretti United colours at Tasmania in 2021, whilst Grove Racing also cannot be discounted.

But if Ford is to defy history and outpace the Camaros at Symmons Plains, it must find a way past the all-conquering Coke Camaros.

Erebus Motorsport has taken full advantage of the Gen3 reset and hopes to extend its advantage in the drivers' and teams' championships.

Despite never recording a win or a pole in Tasmania, the Perth and Albert Park success mean the team enters each round in a fearless frame of mind.

Brodie Kostecki has been the man to beat manhandling his Camaro, while Will Brown finally reached the top step at Wanneroo after experiencing some bad luck.

The sprint format will be retained at Symmons Plains where qualifying will be key with eight of the last 20 races won by pole position.

**SYMMONS PLAINS** raises the bat for its 50th Supercars/ATCC round this weekend and first with Gen3 machinery. The 2.4km is a short and fast layout done in 50s, highlighted by its ultra-tight hairpin and long straights. As a result brakes are put to the test and the hairpin's banking promotes nose-to-tail racing. Three sprints will be showcased across the first two-day round of the season.

# TRACK STATS

**QUALIFYING LAP RECORD:**
- Shane van Gisbergen 50.4840
- Triple Eight Race Engineering
- Holden ZB Commodore (2022)

**RACE LAP RECORD:**
- Mark Winterbottom 51.2276
  Team 18
  Holden ZB Commodore (2019)

# TRACK FACTS

**TRACK LENGTH:**
## 2.4KM

**DIRECTION:**
## ANTI-CLOCKWISE

**AVERAGE SPEED:**
## 169KPH

**TOP SPEED:**
## 270KPH

**FIRST EVENT:**
## 1969

DOUBLE TAP TO ZOOM

**Track map labels:** T6 BUNNINGS TRADE CORNER, T7, T5 BP ULTIMATE CORNER, BP ULTIMATE PIT LANE, DUNLOP BEND T3, T1, T2, NED WHISKY HAIRPIN T4

# TRACK SCHEDULE (ALL TIMES AWST)

**FRIDAY,** APRIL 28

| TIME | CATEGORY | SESSION |
|---|---|---|
| 1025-1045 | Tassie Tin Tops | Practice |
| 1055-1125 | Porsche Challenge | Practice 1 |
| 1135-1155 | Formula Ford | Practice 1 |
| 1205-1225 | Aussie Race Cars | Practice |
| 1235-1305 | Porsche Challenge | Practice 2 |
| 1320-1340 | Tassie Tin Tops | Qualifying |
| 1350-1410 | Formula Ford | Practice 2 |
| 1420-1440 | Aussie Race Cars | Qualifying |
| 1450-1510 | Porsche Challenge | Qualifying |
| 1510-1520 | Supercars | Demonstration |
| 1530-1545 | Formula Ford | Qualifying |

| TIME | CATEGORY | SESSION |
|---|---|---|
| 0855-0915 | Formula Ford | Race 1 |
| 0930-1000 | Supercars | Practice 1 |
| 1020-1040 | Tassie Tin Tops | Race 1 |
| 1050-1110 | Aussie Race Cars | Race 1 |
| 1125-1155 | Supercars | Practice 2 |
| 1210-1230 | Porsche Challenge | Race 1 |
| 1240-1300 | Formula Ford | Race 2 |
| 1320-1335 | Supercars | Q1 Race 10 |
| 1340-1355 | Supercars | Q2 Race 10 |
| 1400-1415 | Supercars | Q3 Race 10 |
| 1435-1435 | Aussie Race Cars | Race 2 |
| 1445-1505 | Porsche Challenge | Race 2 |
| 1550 | Supercars | Race 10 (42 laps) |

| TIME | CATEGORY | SESSION |
|---|---|---|
| 0835-0855 | Aussie Race Cars | Race 3 |
| 0910-0930 | Tassie Tin Tops | Race 2 |
| 0945-1000 | Supercars | Qualifying Race 11 |
| 1010-1025 | Supercars | Qualifying Race 12 |
| 1040-1105 | Formula Ford | Race 3 |
| 1115-1135 | Aussie Race Cars | Race 4 |
| 1145-1230 | Porsche Challenge | Race 3 |
| 1305 | Supercars | Race 11 (42 laps) |
| 1435-1455 | Tassie Tin Tops | Race 3 |
| 1550 | Supercars | Race 12 (42 laps) |

# LIST OF RACE RESULTS

**2022**
R1: Shane van Gisbergen
R2: Shane van Gisbergen
R3: Shane van Gisbergen

**2021**
R1: Shane van Gisbergen
R2: Jamie Whincup
R3: Chaz Mostert

**2019**
R1: Scott McLaughlin
R2: Shane van Gisbergen

**2018**
R1: Jamie Whincup
R2: Craig Lowndes

**2017**
R1: Shane van Gisbergen
R2: Fabian Coulthard

**2016**
R1: Shane van Gisbergen
R2: Will Davison

**2015**
R1: Craig Lowndes
R2: Craig Lowndes
R3: Jamie Whincup

**2014**
R1: Jamie Whincup
R2: Jamie Whincup
R3: Craig Lowndes

**2013**
R1: Fabian Coulthard
R2: Jason Bright
R3: Fabian Coulthard

**MOST WINS**
13 Jamie Whincup
10 Craig Lowndes
7 Peter Brock,
  Garth Tander,
  Shane van Gisbergen

**MOST POLES**
8 Peter Brock
7 Jamie Whincup
6 Mark Winterbottom,
  Craig Lowndes

**MOST PODIUMS**
20 Jamie Whincup
15 Peter Brock
12 Craig Lowndes

# LIST OF POLE POSITIONS

**2022**
R1: Cam Waters
R2: Shane van Gisbergen
R3: Will Davison

**2021**
R1: Shane van Gisbergen
R2: Cam Waters
R3: Cam Waters

**2019**
R1: Mark Winterbottom
R2: Shane van Gisbergen

**2018**
R1: Shane van Gisbergen
R2: Craig Lowndes

**2017**
R1: Scott McLaughlin
R2: Jamie Whincup

**2016**
R1: Mark Winterbottom
R2: Mark Winterbottom

**2015**
R1: Craig Lowndes
R2: Craig Lowndes
R3: Craig Lowndes

**2014**
R1: Jamie Whincup
R2: Jamie Whincup

**2013**
R1: Jamie Whincup
R2: Jason Bright
R3: Mark Winterbottom

## EREBUS MOTORSPORT // TEAM PRINCIPAL: BARRY RYAN

### 1ST
784 POINTS

### BRODIE KOSTECKI - CHEVROLET CAMARO ZL1

For the third event in a row Brodie Kostecki has the orange numbers as he continues to cement himself as a star. Despite losing out to SVG in a battle for the ages, Kostecki won a lot of fans for his unrelenting defence and has vowed his approach to racing will change after the episode. Even though he did not win at Perth, the #99 driver increased his podium hit rate to an impressive eight from nine. Only one top 10 result from six starts at Tasmania, but it was a strong one. All eyes will be on Kostecki to see if he can snap Triple Eight's Symmons Plains stranglehold.

**99**

ENGINEER: George Commins
AGE: 25
DEBUT: BATH 2019
STARTS: 80
BEST QUAL: 1ST (X3)
PODIUMS: 13
BEST RESULT: 1ST (X2)
AVG 2023 FINISH: 2.56
BEST TAS: 4TH 2022

---

## WALKINSHAW ANDRETTI UNITED // TEAM PRINCIPAL: BRUCE STEWART

### 2ND
684 POINTS

### CHAZ MOSTERT - FORD MUSTANG GT

ENGINEER: Adam de Borre
AGE: 30
DEBUT: Perth 2013
STARTS: 301
BEST QUAL: 1st (x23)
PODIUMS: 83
BEST RESULT: 1st (x21)
AVG 2023 FINISH: 5.67
BEST TAS: 1st 2021

**25**

Chaz Mostert still holds second place, but only just and knows he must start winning if he is to remain a championship challenger. He hopes returning to the scene of his maiden WAU win could spark something after an up and down Perth, which was salvaged by a solid Sunday.

---

## TRIPLE EIGHT RACE ENGINEERING // TEAM PRINCIPAL: JAMIE WHINCUP

### 3RD
648 POINTS

### SHANE VAN GISBERGEN - CHEVROLET CAMARO ZL1

ENGINEER: Andrew Edwards
AGE: 33
DEBUT: Oran Park 2007
STARTS: 492
BEST QUAL: 1st (x49)
PODIUMS: 171
BEST RESULT: 1st (x78)
AVG 2023 FINISH: 3.5
BEST TAS: 1st 22,21,19,17,16

**97**
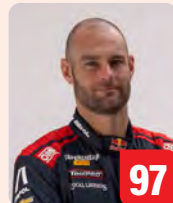
Despite battling for consistency in Perth, Shane van Gisbergen knows Tasmania is Triple Eight territory. SVG has won at five of the last six Symmons Plains rounds including a clean sweep last year. But this year he is slightly on the back foot after backing up a Saturday win with a strange Sunday in Perth.

---

## EREBUS MOTORSPORT // TEAM PRINCIPAL: BARRY RYAN

### 4TH
613 POINTS

### WILL BROWN - CHEVROLET CAMARO ZL1

ENGINEER: Tom Moore
AGE: 24
DEBUT: Sand 2018
STARTS: 83
BEST QUAL: 1st (x2)
PODIUMS: 9
BEST RESULT: 1st (x2)
AVG 2023 FINISH: 789
BEST TAS: 5th 2021

**9**

Watchout for Will Brown because he is a man on the move. After misfortune got in the way at Melbourne, Brown broke through for his first win in two years. He backed it up with another second to ensure he is not forgotten about in the championship chat.

---

## TRIPLE EIGHT RACE ENGINEERING // TEAM PRINCIPAL: JAMIE WHINCUP

### 5TH
569 POINTS

### BROC FEENEY - CHEVROLET CAMARO ZL1

ENGINEER: Martin Short
AGE: 20
DEBUT: Bath 2020
STARTS: 45
BEST QUAL: 1st (x2)
PODIUMS: 6
BEST RESULT: 1st (x3)
AVG 2023 FINISH: 5.5
BEST TAS: 2nd 2022

**88**
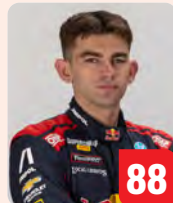
Perth 2023 was the latest example in Broc Feeney's growing portfolio as a leading Supercars driver. A commanding Wanneroo win was his third success in four rounds, but it was far from a complete weekend. However, he will be a contender at the scene of his maiden podium.

### DAVID REYNOLDS - FORD MUSTANG GT

**6TH**
533 POINTS

ENGINEER: Alistair McVean
AGE: 37
DEBUT: Sand 2007
STARTS: 413
BEST QUAL: 1st (x16)
PODIUMS: 40
BEST RESULT: 1st (x7)
AVG 2023 FINISH: 10.89
BEST TAS: 3rd 2019, 22

26

David Reynolds continued to lead Grove Racing's rise at Wanneroo where he qualified in the top four in all three races. The highlight was putting the #26 Mustang onto the podium on Saturday, while the only downer was getting forced off by De Pasquale. Took a while to crack Tassie, but has found form recently.

### CAM WATERS - FORD MUSTANG GT

**7TH**
523 POINTS

ENGINEER: Sam Potter
AGE: 28
DEBUT: Bath 2011
STARTS: 232
BEST QUAL: 1st (x19)
PODIUMS: 43
BEST RESULT: 1st (x9)
AVG 2023 FINISH: 10.67
BEST TAS: 3rd 2022

6
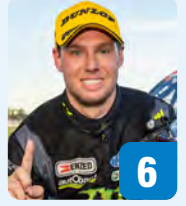
Cameron Waters hopes to get his Monster Mustang back to the front having not cracked the top five since the first race of the year. After a P22 on Saturday, Waters salvaged his Perth SuperSprint with an improved Sunday. Tasmania not his happiest place with just one podium from 14 starts.

### ANDRE HEIMGARTNER - CHEVROLET CAMARO ZL1

**8TH**
492 POINTS

ENGINEER: Tony Woodward
AGE: 27
DEBUT: Bath 2014
STARTS: 225
BEST QUAL: 1st (x2)
PODIUMS: 10
BEST RESULT: 1st (x1)
AVG 2023 FINISH: 13.11
BEST TAS: 8th 2022, 15

8

Tasmania is an important one for Andre Heimgartner, who saddles up for his 100th round. Despite a AusGP podium, the #8 Camaro went backwards dropping four spots in the championship with only one top 20 finish. Arrived at Tasmania with a bang, finishing eighth in his second full-time round, but did not repeat the result until last year.

### WILL DAVISON - FORD MUSTANG GT

**9TH**
463 POINTS

ENGINEER: Richard Harris
AGE: 40
DEBUT: Winton 2004
STARTS: 527
BEST QUAL: 1st (x28)
PODIUMS: 78
BEST RESULT: 1st (x22)
AVG 2023 FINISH: 8.89
BEST TAS: 1st 2012,16

17

Although Dick Johnson Racing has not been at its best so far, Will Davison has quietly collected some consistent results. Four straight top 10 results has ensured Davison is flying the flag for DJR and now heads to a track where he won at for teams such as Tekno.
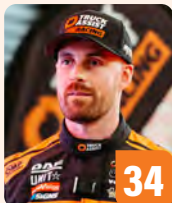
### JACK LE BROCQ - CHEVROLET CAMARO ZL1

**10TH**
433 POINTS

ENGINEER: Jack Bellotti
AGE: 28
DEBUT: Sand 2015
STARTS: 179
BEST QUAL: 2nd (x1)
PODIUMS: 2
BEST RESULT: 1st (x1)
AVG 2023 FINISH: 10.88
BEST TAS: 5th 2018

34

Jack Le Brocq hopes for similar speed to last year where he put a Matt Stone Racing car on the front row for the first time. A P4 grid on Saturday at Perth was another example of the #34 Camaro's speed, while Le Brocq hopes to add to his sole Symmons Plains top 10 recorded in 2018.
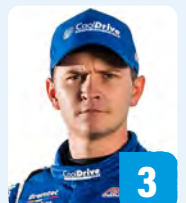
### TODD HAZELWOOD - FORD MUSTANG GT

**11TH**
408 POINTS

ENGINEER: Mirko De Rosa
AGE: 27
DEBUT: QR 2017
STARTS: 166
BEST QUAL: 1 (x1)
PODIUMS: 1
BEST RESULT: 3rd (x1)
AVG 2023 FINISH: 12.25
BEST TAS: 5th 2022

3

Todd Hazelwood will be pushing for podiums in his BRT Mustang after rising up eight positions in the championship at Perth, highlighted by an impressive P4 on Saturday. The result has given him confidence to chase more and can be buoyed by a solid Tassie top five last year.
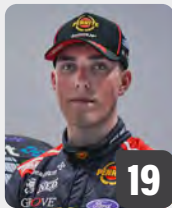
## 12TH
**405 POINTS**

### MATT PAYNE - FORD MUSTANG GT

ENGINEER: Jack Bell
AGE: 20
DEBUT: Bath 2022
STARTS: 9
BEST QUAL: 5th (x2)
PODIUMS: 0
BEST RESULT: 6th (x2)
AVG 2023 FINISH: 13.56
BEST TAS: N/A

**19**

The onlookers of Matt Payne continue to be impressed after another productive round at Perth. Payne equalled his career best qualifying and race results at Wanneroo to rise from 17th to 12th in the championship. The young Kiwi now heads to Tassie for the first time looking to continue his momentum.
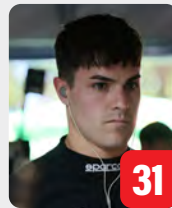
## 13TH
**404 POINTS**

### JAMES GOLDING - CHEVROLET CAMARO ZL1

ENGINEER: Geoff Slater
AGE: 27
DEBUT: Sand 2016
STARTS: 80
BEST QUAL: 3rd (x1)
PODIUMS: 0
BEST RESULT: 4th (x2)
AVG 2023 FINISH: 15.22
BEST TAS: 15th 2019

**31**

The Perth SuperSprint had the potential to be a disappointing weekend for James Golding. Golding battled for one-lap speed, but was a bull when racing began, completing 28 overtakes across the three races to continue collecting points. Last raced a Supercar at Tasmania in 2019, but took an S5000 podium there in 2021.

## 14TH
**399 POINTS**

### TIM SLADE - CHEVROLET CAMARO ZL1

ENGINEER: Phillip De Fazio
AGE: 37
DEBUT: Adel 2009
STARTS: 408
BEST QUAL: 1st (x2)
PODIUMS: 17
BEST RESULT: 1st (x2)
AVG 2023 FINISH: 14
BEST TAS: 4th 2012

**23**

Despite a gear shifter drama forcing him to get creative, Tim Slade still strung together a solid weekend in Perth with a pair of top 10s. Slade has a steady Symmons Plains record and hopes some extra experience racing Trans Am there in February pays off.
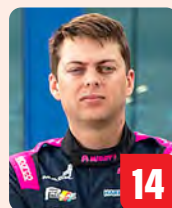
## 15TH
**168 POINTS**

### BRYCE FULLWOOD - CHEVROLET CAMARO ZL1

ENGINEER: Phil Keed
AGE: 24
DEBUT: Sand 2018
STARTS: 110
BEST QUAL: 3rd (x1)
PODIUMS: 1
BEST RESULT: 3rd (x1)
AVG 2023 FINISH: 13
BEST PERTH: 17th 2021

**14**

Brad Jones Racing had an off weekend in Perth, which has left Bryce Fullwood looking to regain some ground. After strong Australian Grand Prix Fullwood sat 10th but dropped back with a middling Wanneroo. Yet to do something special at Symmons Plains and hopes it can arrive in 2023.
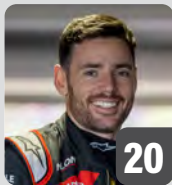
## 16TH
**378 POINTS**

### SCOTT PYE - CHEVROLET CAMARO ZL1

ENGINEER: Richard Hollway
AGE: 33
DEBUT: Sand 2012
STARTS: 321
BEST QUAL: 1st (x1)
PODIUMS: 10
BEST RESULT: 1st (x1)
AVG 2023 FINISH: 15.22
BEST TAS: 7th 2014, 22

**20**

After finishing a tough Perth round with a breakthrough top 10 in the final race, Scott Pye is confident Tasmania will be better for Team 18. Although many may remember Pye's time at Symmons Plains for his scary 2013 crash, it is one of his more consistent venues with at least one top there since 2017.

## 17TH
**367 POINTS**

### JAMES COURTNEY - FORD MUSTANG GT

ENGINEER: Sam Scaffidi
AGE: 42
DEBUT: Sand 2005
STARTS: 535
BEST QUAL: 1st (x10)
PODIUMS: 65
BEST RESULT: 1st (x15)
AVG 2023 FINISH: 9.33
BEST TAS: 2nd 2014

**5**

Tickford veteran James Courtney has a spring in his step in Tasmania after turning his 2023 season around at Perth. Three top 10s including a podium helped him rise seven spots in the championship. Courtney has never won at Tasmania, but collected five podiums within three years there for HRT.

## MARK WINTERBOTTOM - CHEVROLET CAMARO ZL1

**18TH**
367 POINTS

ENGINEER: Manuel Sanchez
AGE: 41
DEBUT: Sand 2003
STARTS: 602
BEST QUAL: 1st (x36)
PODIUMS: 117
BEST RESULT: 1st (x38)
AVG 2023 FINISH: 15
BEST TAS: 1st 2010

Despite being at the centre of celebrations, the Perth SuperSprint was a tough time for Mark Winterbottom. "Frosty" could only mark his 600-race weekend with a best result of 18th across the three races. Admitting the pain Perth caused, Winterbottom hopes to bounce back at a place where he has 15 podiums.

## ANTON DE PASQUALE - FORD MUSTANG GT

**19TH**
349 POINTS

ENGINEER: Ludo Lacroix
AGE: 27
DEBUT: ADEL 2018
STARTS: 161
BEST QUAL: 1st (x16)
PODIUMS: 29
BEST RESULT: 1st (x8)
AVG 2023 FINISH: 14.38
BEST TAS: 3rd 2021, 22

The pressure will be mounting on Anton De Pasquale after another disappointing campaign at Wanneroo where he finished 13th, 22nd and 15th. De Pasquale qualified third for Race 8, but threw away a potential podium with a dive-bomb at the final corner. Would like to replicate the form he showed at Tassie over the last two years.
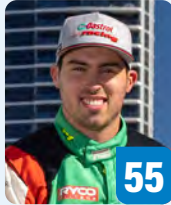
## THOMAS RANDLE - FORD MUSTANG GT

**20TH**
342 POINTS

ENGINEER: Raymond Lau
AGE: 26
DEBUT: Bend 2019
STARTS: 60
BEST QUAL: 2nd (x1)
PODIUMS: 1
BEST RESULT: 3rd (x1)
AVG 2023 FINISH: 13.38
BEST TAS: 12th 2022

Perth started well for Thomas Randle with a P9, but things went downhill from there. Randle was the last car on the lead lap in Race 8 and retired from Race 9 due to a gear-shifting drama. Only Supercars trip to Tasmania included a crash and a P12 finish.
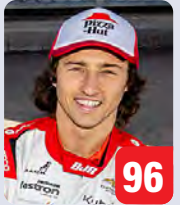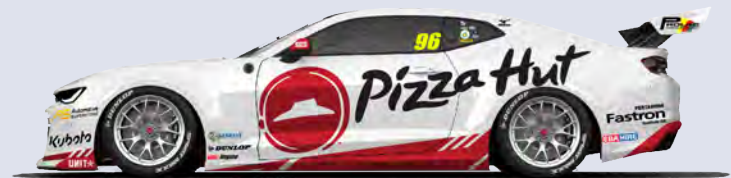
## MACAULEY JONES - CHEVROLET CAMARO ZL1

**21ST**
298 POINTS

ENGINEER: Andrew Donnelly
AGE: 28
DEBUT: Sand 2015
STARTS: 155
BEST QUAL: 8th (x2)
PODIUMS: 0
BEST RESULT: 6th (x2)
AVG 2023 FINISH: 16.25
BEST TAS: 16th 2022

Not even all the glitzy gold paint in the world was enough for Macauley Jones to make a massive impact at Perth. Despite a solid drive in race 2 climbing up seven spots to 16th, Jones and BJR struggled to find any pace from their Camaros.

## JACK SMITH - CHEVROLET CAMARO ZL1

**22ND**
266 POINTS

ENGINEER: Julian Stannard
AGE: 23
DEBUT: Tas 2019
STARTS: 114
BEST QUAL: 10th (x2)
PODIUMS: 0
BEST RESULT: 10th (x1)
AVG 2023 FINISH: 19.89
BEST TAS: 15th 2021

Jack Smith returns to the scene of his Supercars Championship debut. Smith first raced a Supercar at Tasmania in 2019, while on his next visit to the Apple Isle he recorded his only top 10 qualifying result. Would love to unlock some similar pace in 2023.

## DECLAN FRASER - FORD MUSTANG GT

**23RD**
259 POINTS

ENGINEER: Chris Stuckey
AGE: 23
DEBUT: Bath 2022
STARTS: 10
BEST QUAL: 16th (x3)
PODIUMS: 0
BEST RESULT: 8th (x1)
AVG 2023 FINISH: 18
BEST TAS: N/A

Tickford rookie Declan Fraser suits up for his first shot at racing at Symmons Plains. Fraser is still coming to grips with life as a Supercars driver and is only eight points ahead of lowest placed rookie Cam Hill. Can draw confidence from his equal best qualifying effort on Saturday at Perth.
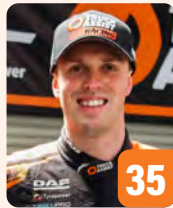
## MATT STONE RACING // TEAM PRINCIPAL: PETER VALE

### CAMERON HILL - CHEVROLET CAMARO ZL1

**23RD**
251 POINTS

ENGINEER: Paul Forgie
AGE: 26
DEBUT: Bath 2022
STARTS: 10
BEST QUAL: 12th
PODIUMS: 0
BEST RESULT: 15th (x1)
AVG 2023 FINISH: 19.38
BEST TAS: N/A

35

Another rookie making his Tasmania debut will be Cameron Hill. Hill has never raced around the Symmons Plains circuit, but knows how important qualifying will be. He can draw confidence from his best good start of 12th at Perth. Hill hopes to reel in fellow rookie Fraser in the championship.
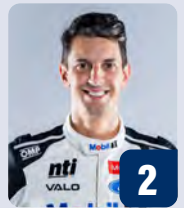
## WALKINSHAW ANDRETTI UNITED // TEAM PRINCIPAL: BRUCE STEWART

### NICK PERCAT - FORD MUSTANG GT

**25TH**
229 POINTS

ENGINEER: Adam Austin
AGE: 34
DEBUT: PI 2010
STARTS: 297
BEST QUAL: 1st (x2)
PODIUMS: 6
BEST RESULT: 1st (x2)
AVG 2023 FINISH: 17.43
BEST TAS: 7th 2019

2

Nick Percat will compete his 300th race in Race 12 at Tasmania. Despite a challenging start to 2023, he can draw confidence from races #100 and #200 where he scored a special Bathurst podium for LDM in 2016 and victory for BJR at SMP in 2020 respectively. But his form suggests a similar result in race #300 is unlikely.