

Extension on leaded fuel will help Canadian racing community

Racers competing with leaded gasoline in Canada will be allowed to use the fuel past January 2009.

According to the April 30 publication of the Canada Gazette, the amendments for the importation, production and sale of leaded fuel used for competitive purposes in Canada has been once again extended, this time until January 1, 2010.

The deadline for this exemption from Environment Canada has been amended six times before this latest date, from 1994 through to January 1, 2009.

The racing community was quite concerned about the 2009 date, and provided the government with data demonstrating the severe economic impact to racing teams and facilities in Canada if the issue was not addressed.

While most forms of racing have developed power plants to work



Tim MILLER

with unleaded fuel, several classes of drag racing must use the high-octane leaded gasoline. Three of the country's largest races, in terms of fans, are the IHRA (International Hot Rod Association) national meets, which bring millions of dollars into the host communities.

The majority of the teams are from the U.S., which has no ban on leaded fuels. As racing in Canada is so closely linked with the U.S., the American teams would not come to the country if they could not run the same fuel as

in their home country.

In 2006, 1.34 million litres of leaded fuel was imported into Canada for competition vehicles. This volume is 1.5 per cent of all leaded fuel used in Canada (the rest was for aviation, which has a permanent exemption), and 0.003 per cent of all gasoline, leaded and unleaded, produced or imported into Canada.

"Yes, there's an obvious sigh of relief after hearing about the new date," said Scott Wildgust of Stratford, who is the Ontario distributor for Torco Racing Fuels. "Despite what others think, it's hard to produce unleaded fuel over a 108 octane rating."

He added that fuel suppliers are adding other chemicals, such as benzene, to boost the rating of the unleaded gas, which is very volatile and almost impossible to transport due to safety regulations.

"It's a great day for the racers," Wildgust went on to say. "We can continue on"

He added that Torco is currently working on high-octane unleaded gas for several racing applications.

He estimated about 60 per cent of the fuel he sells, which comes from a blending plant in Michigan, is leaded with octane ratings of 104 to 118 for high compression, nitrous-fed Pro Modified race cars. By contrast, the octane rating of regular pump gas is 87, and premium carries a rating of 91 to 94.

Torco, along with fuel distributor VP Fuels, offers a range of unleaded gasolines for oval, drag and high-performance street cars, which ranges in octane ratings from 96 to 108.

"There's going to be some tough challenges for 2010 if the exten-

sion is not there," said IHRA President Aaron Polburn from his Norwalk, Ohio office recently.

Classes of cars using leaded fuel include Stock and Super Stocks, along with the Pro Stock and Pro Modified cars. Other classes use different fuels such as alcohol and nitromethane.

Methanol is a possible leaded fuel replacement, according to Polburn.

With three of its 11 national events in Canada and a strong presence in this country, the IHRA realizes it has a commitment to provide the best possible show in Canada and will continue to work on the leaded fuel issue.

"We are looking into every possibility in keeping the same show in Canada that is in the U.S.," Polburn said.

"We are working on options if the extension is not met."

Hockey

NHL Stanley Cup Playoffs

Conference Finals

(Best-of-7)

EASTERN CONFERENCE
Pittsburgh (2) vs. Philadelphia (6)

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Detroit (1) vs. Dallas (5)

Tomorrow
Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday Game
Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, May 13
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 15
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, May 18
x-Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 3 p.m.

Today
Dallas at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday Game
Dallas at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Monday, May 12
Detroit at Dallas, 8 p.m.
Wednesday, May 14
Detroit at Dallas, 8 p.m.
Saturday, May 17
x-Dallas at Detroit, 1:30 p.m.

x-if needed

OHL Playoffs

2008 J. Ross Robertson Championship

(Best-of-Seven) (E1) Belleville vs. (W1) Kitchener
(Kitchener leads series 3-1)

Game 4 — Tuesday
Belleville 5 Kitchener 4 (OT)
Game 5 — Today
Belleville at Kitchener, 7:30 p.m.

Previous Results
G1 — Kitchener 5 Belleville 2
G2 — Kitchener 5 Belleville 2
G3 — Kitchener 5 Belleville 3

AHL Calder Cup Playoffs

Division Finals

(Best-of-7)

Atlantic Division Final
(1) Providence vs. (3) Portland
(Portland leads series 3-2)

North Division Final
(1) Toronto vs. (2) Syracuse
(Syracuse leads series 3-1)

Game 6 — Tomorrow
Portland at Providence, 7:05 p.m.
Previous Results
G4 — Portland 3 Providence 2 (OT)
G5 — Portland 3 Providence 2

Game 4 — Yesterday
Syracuse 5 Toronto 4 (OT)
Game 5 — Tomorrow
Syracuse at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.
Previous Results
G3 — Toronto 8 Syracuse 2

East Division Final
(1) Wilkes-Barre/Scranton vs. (2) Philadelphia
(Wilkes-Barre/Scranton lead series 3-1)

West Division Final
(1) Chicago vs. (2) Rockford
(Series tied 2-2)

Game 4 — Yesterday
WB/Scranton 8 Philadelphia 4
Game 5 — Tomorrow
Philadelphia at WB/Scranton, 7:05 p.m.
Previous Results
G3 — WB/Scranton 3 Philadelphia 2

Game 4 — Yesterday
Rockford 3 Chicago 2
Game 5 — Tomorrow
Rockford at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Previous Results: G3 — Rockford 3 Chicago 1

* — if necessary

Men's World Championship

Preliminary Round

| Group A | GP | W | L | OW | OL | GFGA | Pts |
|---------------|----|---|---|----|----|------|------|
| Switzerland | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 4 9 |
| Sweden | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 9 6 |
| Belarus | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 9 3 |
| France | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 16 0 |
| Group B | GP | W | L | OW | OL | GFGA | Pts |
| Canada | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 5 9 |
| United States | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 6 6 |
| Latvia | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 11 3 |
| Slovenia | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 13 0 |
| Group C | GP | W | L | OW | OL | GFGA | Pts |
| Finland | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 5 8 |
| Norway | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 10 4 |
| Germany | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 10 3 |
| Slovakia | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 8 3 |
| Group D | GP | W | L | OW | OL | GFGA | Pts |
| Russia | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 16 | 6 8 |
| Czech Rep. | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 16 | 9 7 |
| Denmark | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 11 3 |
| Italy | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 20 0 |

Yesterday
Switzerland 4 Sweden 2
Finland 3 Slovakia 2
Belarus 3 France 1
Norway 3 Germany 2
Tuesday's Results
Russia 4 Denmark 1
Canada 5 USA 4
Czech Republic 7 Italy 2
Latvia 3 Slovenia 0

Qualifying Round

| Group E | GP | W | L | OW | OL | GFGA | Pts |
|---------------|----|---|---|----|----|------|------|
| Switzerland | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 4 9 |
| Russia | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 16 | 6 8 |
| Czech Rep. | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 16 | 9 7 |
| Sweden | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 9 6 |
| Belarus | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 9 3 |
| Denmark | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 11 3 |
| Group F | GP | W | L | OW | OL | GFGA | Pts |
| Canada | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 5 9 |
| Finland | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 5 8 |
| Norway | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 10 4 |
| United States | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 6 6 |
| Germany | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 10 3 |
| Latvia | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 11 3 |

Today
Sweden vs. Denmark, 3 p.m.
Switzerland vs. Czech Rep., 7 p.m.
Switzerland vs. Norway, 3:30 p.m.
Canada vs. Germany, 7:15 p.m.

QMJHL Playoffs

2008 President Cup Championship

(Best-of-Seven)
(W1) Rouyn-Noranda vs. (E3) Gatineau
(Gatineau leads series 3-1)

Game 4 — Wednesday
Gatineau 4 Rouyn-Noranda 1

WHL Playoffs

2008 Ed Chynoweth Cup Championship

(E3) Lethbridge vs. (W3) Spokane
(Spokane wins series 4-0)

Game 4 — Wednesday
Spokane 4 Lethbridge 1

Previous Results

G1 — Spokane 4 Lethbridge 1
G2 — Spokane 5 Lethbridge 2
G3 — Spokane 2 Lethbridge 1 (OT)

Soccer

Italy

Coppa Italia

Lazio 0 Inter Milan 2

Spain

Primera Division

Deportivo La Coruna 1 Levante 0
Getafe 4 Almeria 2
Mallorca 2 Osasuna 1
Racing Santander 0 Sevilla 3
Real Betis 1 Valladolid 1
Real Murcia 1 Athletic Bilbao 2
Recreativo Huelva 0 Villarreal 2
Valencia 1 Zaragoza 0
Real Madrid 4 Barcelona 1

Germany

Bundesliga

Bayer Leverkusen 1 Hertha BSC 2
Bayern Munich 2 Arminia Bielefeld 0
Eintracht Frankfurt 2 Wolfsburg 3
Hamburger SV 0 Werder Bremen 1

Holland

Play-Off

FC Zwolle 1 FC Den Bosch 0
RKV Waalwijk 4 MVV Maastricht 0
Den Haag 2 VVV Venlo 0

Basketball

NBA Playoffs

Conference Semifinals

(Best-of-7)

Eastern Conference Semifinals

(Best-of-Seven)

(1) Boston vs. (4) Cleveland
(Boston leads series 1-0)

Game 2 — Tomorrow
Cleveland at Boston, 7 p.m.

Game 3 — Saturday, May 10
Boston at Cleveland, 8 p.m.

Game 4 — Monday, May 12
Boston at Cleveland, 8 p.m.

Game 5 — Wednesday, May 14*
Cleveland at Boston, TBD

Game 6 — Friday, May 16*
Boston at Cleveland, TBD

Previous Results

G1 — Boston 76 Cleveland 72

(2) Detroit vs. (3) Orlando

(Detroit leads series 2-1)

Game 3 — Yesterday
Orlando 111 Detroit 86

Game 4 — Saturday, May 10
Detroit at Orlando, TBD

Game 5* — Tuesday, May 13
San Antonio at New Orleans, TBD

Game 6* — Thursday, May 15
Detroit at Orlando, TBD

Previous Results

G1 — Detroit 91 Orlando 72

G2 — Detroit 100 Orlando 93

Western Conference Semifinals

(1) L.A. Lakers vs. (4) Utah Jazz

(L.A. Lakers lead series 1-0)

Game 2 — Yesterday
Utah at L.A. Lakers

Game 3 — Tomorrow
L.A. Lakers at Utah, 9:00 p.m.

Game 4 — Sunday, May 11
L.A. Lakers at Utah, 3:30 p.m. (ABC)

Game 5* — Wednesday, May 14
Utah at L.A. Lakers, TBD

Game 6* — Friday, May 16
L.A. Lakers at Utah, TBD

Previous Results

G1 — L.A. Lakers 109 Utah 98

(2) New Orleans vs. (3) San Antonio

(New Orleans leads series 2-0)

Game 3 — Today
New Orleans at San Antonio, 9:30 p.m.

Game 4 — Sunday, May 11
New Orleans at San Antonio, 8 p.m.

Game 5* — Tuesday, May 13
San Antonio at New Orleans, TBD

Game 6* — Thursday, May 15
New Orleans at San Antonio, TBD

Previous Results

G1 — New Orleans 101 San Antonio 82

G2 — New Orleans 102 San Antonio 84

x — played only if necessary.

Magic 111 Pistons 86

DETROIT (86)
Totals 31-77 22-28 86. Maxiell 0-2 0-2 0, Prince 8-14 6-6 22, Wallace 4-15 2-4 11, Billups 1-1 0-0 2, Hamilton 10-20 4-5 24, Stuckey 5-13 9-9 19, Rattliff 0-1 0-0 0, McDyess 0-2 0-0 0, Herrmann 1-3 1-2 4, Afflalo 2-4 0-0 4, Hayes 0-2 0-0 0, Johnson 0-0 0-0 0

ORLANDO (111)

Totals 42-78 16-23 111. Lewis 11-15 6-8 33, Turkoglu 7-18 1-2 18, Howard 8-13 4-7 20, Nelson 7-14 3-3 18, Evans 2-4 1-2 5, Bogans 1-5 0-0 3, Dooling 4-6 1-1 10, Arroyo 0-0 0-0 0, Gortat 1-1 0-0 2.

DETROIT 16 26 27 17 —86
ORLANDO 30 24 19 38 —111
Detroit - Percentages: FG-.403, FT-.786. 3-Point Goals: 2-10, .200 (T Prince 0-2, R Wallace 1-4, R Hamilton 0-2, W Herrmann 1-1, J Hayes 0-1). Rebounds: 35, Assists: 12, Fouls: 20
Orlando - Percentages: FG-.538, FT-.696. 3-Point Goals: 11-24, .458 (R Lewis 5-6, H Turkoglu 3-5, J Nelson 1-5, M Evans 0-1, K Bogans 1-5, K Dooling 1-2). Rebounds: 41, Assists: 18, Fouls: 23
Technical fouls: None. Flagrant fouls: None. T—2:24.

Att. at Orlando, Fla.—17,519.