



CLASH ENDS MCNALLY'S RUN AT BATHURST
11 October 2008

Mark McNally was set for a top ten finish today in the Fujitsu V8 Supercars at Bathurst before a clash with Jose Fernandez broke a wheel rim and forced him to pit.

The race started in bizarre circumstances with heavy rain at the bottom of the circuit while it was completely dry at the top.

The safety car led the field for three laps before the race-proper got underway.

Mark was able to pass Matthew White on the first turn, to take him to 10th place, and get on with chasing those in front.

It was only two laps later that an out of control Fernandez clipped the rear of Mark's car before ending up in the sand trap himself.

Left with a broken wheel and deflated tyre Mark was forced to pit, fortunately under the safety car.

Picking up the back of the field Mark felt that he could make up ten or so places in the remaining 8 laps but was hampered by further safety car periods.

Finally, ending up 22nd didn't reflect the speed Mark had shown over the meeting.

"While my race was ruined I was lucky that the car only sustained minimal damage from the incident.

"We achieved our goal in race 1 and we wanted to attack in race 2 but didn't really get the chance.

"It was good to finish both races though."

Mark is now confident that he has what it takes to do a fast lap around Bathurst and is looking at the possibilities for the 1000km race next year.

"It all depends on getting a budget together for next year.

"There is a possibility that 5 Fujitsu teams will be able to run in the 1000 next year and we would love to be one of them," he said.

"I really want to thank all my sponsors and supporters this weekend, especially John Silverthorne who was kind enough to lend me the car."

Mark's next race is the Grand final at Sydney's Oran Park in early December.

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