

A1 Grand Prix of Nations – Durban 2008: Circuit map



Plan in place to cut traffic trouble

METRO REPORTERS

THE A1 GP is just two weeks away and with preparations at full throttle, motorists have already begun to feel the effects of traffic restrictions and road closures.

A phased introduction of restrictions began last month to ensure the track, crash barriers, stands and other crucial infrastructure is in place for the 22 February start of the three-day event.

Vehicle access to the race area, including the Suncoast Casino and hotel complex is still possible, but as the race weekend gets closer, this will become more difficult, with the period from 19 February to 24 February, the day of the main race, experiencing peak restrictions.

In an effort to keep disruption to a minimum, Metro Police pointsmen will be deployed at affected intersections. If necessary, they will override traffic signal timings to ensure traffic flows as smoothly as possible.



WINNING WAYS: Team SA's Adrian Zaugg in Sydney Picture: A1GP.com

advised to avoid the area and affected roads, particularly from 19 February.

Residents of the nearby flats will be allowed access by foot to and from Suncoast Casino until midnight on Thursday,

until midnight 14 February. The southern side will then be closed.

Argyle Road, northern carriageway (between the Ruth First Freeway and Brickhill Road) closed on 12 February, when the southern side will be converted for two-way traffic until midnight 21 February, when it will be closed off.

Argyle Road, northern carriageway (between Umgeni Road and Masabalala Yengwa Avenue), will be closed on the night of February 21.

Argyle Road, northern carriageway (between Umgeni Road and Masabalala Yengwa Avenue) closed to traffic during racing times, from 6am to 8pm on 23 and 24 February.

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Suncoast Boulevard and Snell Parade (between casino VIP parking and Snake Park circle), closed on 14 February. Public transport will be allowed to run north from Snake Park to the casino rank until midnight 19 February.

The following road closures will be in effect during the construction phase:



HOT SPOT: The paddock area for the A1 GP takes shape on Snell Parade, near the Suncoast Casino this week Picture: THEMBA KHUMALO

The eastern carriageway of Masabalala Yengwa Avenue southbound (between Battery Beach and Argyle Roads) will be closed on the night of 19 February. The western carriageway will become a two-way road, with the middle lane being a contra-flow lane.

In the morning peak hours, there will be two lanes townbound and one lane out-bound, and from 10am, there will be two lanes outbound and one townbound.

Battery Beach Road (between Masabalala Yengwa Avenue and Suncoast Boulevard) will be closed on the night of 19 February. Vehicular access to the casino will be via Snell Parade and the Blue Lagoon interchange from 6am-6pm.

Motorists can then use the intersection of Masabalala Yengwa Avenue and Battery Beach Road. For traffic leaving the casino, access to the Ruth First Freeway will be from Snell Parade opposite Walter Gilbert Road.

The western carriageway of Suncoast Boulevard will be closed on the night of 19 February with the eastern road becoming a two-way road.

The Northern Freeway (M4) (between Walter Gilbert interchange and Argyle Road) will be closed on the night of 21 February.

Masabalala Yengwa Avenue (between Walter Gilbert and Argyle Roads) will be closed from 9am-5pm on 23 February and from 6am-5.30pm on 24 February. Alternative routes are Goble, Walter Gilbert and Umgeni roads.