

ESMEE HAWKEY

PRESS RELEASE

2 February 2018

Esmee Hawkey confirms 2018 Porsche Carrera Cup GB campaign

Esmee Hawkey (19, Chislehurst) will be stepping up to the Porsche Carrera Cup GB for a full campaign in 2018 after reaching the final five of the Porsche GB Junior Shootout in November last year.

Supporting Hawkey in her debut season will be multiple race-winning team GT Marques. The team has an established history with the championship and will be returning for the first time since 2016, a year when they fought for the overall drivers' title. Hawkey and GT Marques have their own background of success, campaigning a Porsche Cayman GT4 in the GTA category of the GT Cup championship to second in the standings.

Following the Junior Shootout, Hawkey was determined to make the grid for 2018: "I've really enjoyed racing the Cayman and have learned so much about driving a GT car. The ultimate goal for me was to step up to Carrera Cup as it's such a competitive series and I first tested a 911 GT3 Cup with GT Marques at the end of 2016. I was really proud to make the final five for the Shootout last year and gave it one hundred percent. It was a great experience and I proved to myself and my sponsors that I can compete with the best.

"With help from my sponsors we've put together a strong package for 2018. I am dedicated and determined to follow on the path of the Porsche Motorsport Pyramid and this is the next step in my journey. I'm really looking forward to getting started and seeing our 2018 car for the first time."

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The Junior Shootout saw five finalists put through a challenging assessment programme that took place over a gruelling 24 hours. From over 40 applicants, Hawkey was invited with 11 others for interview before making the cut for the final five to attend the assessment day.

Under the watchful eyes of a panel of experts in their respective fields, Hawkey undertook a series of on- and off-track assessments that included sessions in the second-generation 485 hp 'Type 991' 911 GT3 Cup, high-intensity fitness evaluation tests and media workshops. Although the ultimate prize eluded her, Hawkey was described as 'supremely talented'.

In addition to progressing through the Porsche motorsport ranks, Hawkey has achieved other successes with the Stuttgart-based manufacturer. In September 2017, Hawkey took victory in class C4 at the Brighton Speed Trials in an unmodified four-wheel drive 911 Turbo S. Not only was a class victory secured, but Hawkey and the 911 earned a surprise place in the shootout finale, with only the fastest six cars overall invited to take part.

For the 2018 season, Hawkey will be supported by one of the latest additions to the Porsche Centre network, Porsche Centre South London.