



NATHAN ANTUNES

Racing Profile

February 2017

NATHAN ANTUNES

- Motor Racing Driver & Brand Ambassador
- NAME Nathan Antunes
- BORN 23 April 1988
- NATIONALITY Australian
- RACES ENTERED 126
- WINS 14
- PODIUMS 34
- POLE POSITIONS 10
- FASTEST LAPS 13
- AMBITION To win the Australian GT championship, the Nürburgring 24 Hour and the Dubai 24 Hour.



IN BRIEF

Nathan Antunes (pronounced Antune-es), born 23 April 1988, is an Australian motor racing driver, currently driving in the Australian GT Championship in the Audi R8 LMS with GT Motorsport supported by Audi Sport customer racing Australia.

He is a former Red Bull factory team driver, former Australian GT Champion Trophy Class, and winner of the 2016 Liqui-Moly Bathurst 12 Hour - Class A-Am.

He has competed in more than 480 races (including karting) on 46 racing circuits in 16 countries and raced in British Formula BMW, German Formula 3, European and East European Formula Renault 2.0, A1 Grand Prix of Nations, GT3, tested World Series by Renault and GP2.

Antunes is among the most talented GT3 drivers in the world today.



EARLY CAREER

1996 – 2003

- Karting

Antunes began his career in 1996 aged 8 and was Goulburn Kart Club Champion in 1997, 1998 (midget karting) and 1999 (rookie karting). He was also the North Shore Kart Club Champion and ACT Junior Sprint Classic Champion in 1998 and 1999.

In 2001, Antunes made his first appearance in National Championships Junior National Light and placed seventh in the Junior Clubman NSW Championship.

In 2002 he placed fifth in the Junior ICA Australian Championship, fourth in the Junior Piston Port NSW Championship (Junior ICA) and fourth in the Junior Clubman NSW Championship improving on his seventh place the year before.

In 2003, Antunes placed fifth in the ICA Australian Championship and competed in the Formula 100 Light Australian Championships aged 14. Unfortunately he was unable to complete the season due to an accident in the semi-final of Clubman Light.

RECENT CAREER

2004 – 2006

- Formula Ford

Following his successful karting career, Antunes joined the 2004 New South Wales Formula Ford Championship. Contesting five rounds out of six due to age restrictions, he took sixth position in his first Formula Ford Championship.

- Formula BMW

At age 16, Antunes moved to England to contest the 2005 Formula BMW UK Championship with Motaworld Racing. He took three Pole positions, one win, three third positions and came seventh in the UK Championship. He also contested the first ever Formula BMW World Championships in Bahrain where he finished in fifth position.



RECENT CAREER

- Formula Renault

His performance impressed many including Red Bull, who signed him on as a contracted driver for the Red Bull Junior Team for Formula Renault 2.0 for 2006. During 2006 Antunes also competed in Formula Renault Eurocup and Formula Renault NEC.



- Formula 3

After leaving Red Bull, Antunes raced in Formula 3 Recaro Cup, German F3 Championship. He won his third F3 race and secured pole positions and podium finishes. With team HS Technik he achieved one eighth, one sixth, one fourth, one third, one win and one Pole position. In the same year, he tested for World Series by Renault, Eurointernational at Valencia and Paul Ricard.



RECENT CAREER

2007 – 2009

- Grand Prix 2
- Toyota Racing Series
- A1 Grand Prix of Nations

Tested in Grand Prix 2 for Super Nova Racing at Paul Ricard Circuit raced in Toyota Racing Series NZ and was Rookie in A1 Grand Prix of Nations for Team Australia.

Returning to Australia, Antunes spent the next three years reshaping his racing career as a successful and well respected professional driver from open wheelers in Europe to GT3 racing in Australia and Southeast Asia.



RECENT CAREER

2010 – 2013

From 2010 to 2013 Antunes was a professional driver and instructor, coaching racing and race craft. He conducted specialised track days for car manufacturers such as Mercedes AMG, Jaguar, Aston Martin, Audi and Volkswagen, Radical Race cars and V8 Experience track days with Fastrack Racing. During this time, he also drove demonstration laps on specialised sports car track days in a variety of sports cars including McLaren, Porsche, Ferrari, Mercedes SLS AMG 63, Aston Martin, Lamborghini, Lexus ISF and Jaguar XKR-S.

From 2012 to 2013 Antunes competed in five Radical V8RS Category events as co-driver, qualifying the car in four pole positions and taking four wins. He is current lap record holder in the category at Sydney Motorsports Park (formerly Eastern Creek Raceway) Brabham International Circuit.



Audi



GT3 CAREER

In 2013 Antunes was given the co-driver seat for round 4 of the Australian GT3 Championship in an Audi R8 LMS GT3 Ultra. His qualifying and racing was stunning. Recording a time of 1.27.5421 from pole sitter time 1.27.4848, Mercedes AMG SLS 63, Antunes brought the car home in race 1 to a podium finish.



GT3 CAREER

In 2014 Antunes competed in the Australian GT Championships with car owner Rod Salmon in the Skwirk / Beechwood Homes Audi R8 LMS GT3 Ultra. Together they won the 2014 Australian GT Trophy Championship.



GT3 CAREER

In the 2014 season Antunes also drove for the Dilango Racing team in a Lamborghini Gallardo FL2 GT3 in the GT Asia Series at the Autopolis Circuit in Japan and Sepang International in Malaysia.



GT3 CAREER

2015

Following his successful 2014 GT3 season, Antunes entered the 2015 Australian GT Championships in the Skwirk / Beechwood Homes Audi R8 LMS Ultra as a solo driver.



GT3 CAREER

In Round 1 at Adelaide he came first in the first two races and third in the third race, winning the round and the prestigious Murray Walker Trophy. In Round 2 at Phillip Island he was eleventh. In the two races in Round 3 in Townsville he came fourth and first. In Round 4 in Sydney he took second in race one and third in race two. In Round 5 at Sandown he was seventh in race one and ninth in race two.

In strong contention for the Championship, at the final Round 6 at Highlands NZ, another competitor made contact with Antunes forcing him out of the final race of the season, effectively handing the championship to another Audi team driver. Antunes finished the 2015 Australian GT Championships in fourth place.



GT3 CAREER

During the 2015 season Antunes also contested rounds 5 and 6 of the GT Asia Series Championship at the Fuji International Speedway in Japan, racing for the first time in the McLaren 650S GT3 of the FFF Racing Team by ACM.

After Fuji, he raced again with the FFF Racing Team by ACM at the Sepang International Circuit in Malaysia and in rounds 8 and 9 of the championships at the Shanghai International Circuit in China.



GT3 CAREER

2016

Antunes opened the 2016 motor racing season with a win at the Liqui-Moly Bathurst 12 hour endurance race on Mount Panorama, finishing first in AA class and in sixth place overall with co-drivers Greg Taylor, Barton (Bart) Mawer in the new Audi R8 LMS.



GT3 CAREER

2016

In the 2016 season, Nathan Antunes is competed in the 2016 Australian GT Championship with Tekno Autosports, driving a McLaren 650S GT3.



GT3 CAREER

2017 Bathurst 12 Hour

Nathan was the only Audi driver to make the Top 10 shootout in qualifying. Fastest Audi in the race and placed as high as 3rd during Nathan's drive. DNF due to contact by another car at the 6 hour point.



C O N T A C T

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