

Gennaro Bonafede



Bridgestone Production Cars
Class T



Personal

Birthdate:

18 September 1990

Interests:

Motorsport, Golf (6 handicap), Athletics and all sports

Studying:

3rd year Industrial Engineering at Pretoria University

Education

UK Schooling:

1st Team Rugby, Cricket, Tennis and Hockey. Captained the Berkshire County Cricket Team

Primary School:

Deputy Head Boy, 1st Team Football &, Cricket

High School:

Head of House, Prefect, Member of the School PR team

High School Sport:

Captain 1st Team Cricket, Hockey, Athletics, Football, Golf. Sports Honours in 2007 and 2008.



GENNARO BONAFEDE RACING PROFILE



KARTING 1995/1999

Gennaro started karting at the tender age of 5, and starting winning early in his career. In 1997 he won the Cadet Class Championship. He then stopped for one year but on his return finished 4th in the WTP SA Championship. He then moved to the UK.



KARTING IN THE UK

Gennaro raced Junior GP Karts in UK for 2 years, finishing regularly in the top 5. He raced against top competitors like Will Stevens who currently races formula Renault in UK and has been signed him up for Brawn GP's development program, the late Henry Surtees who raced in Formula 2 in the UK and Adam Christodoulou a British Karting Champion.



Racing at Buckmore Park, England

KARTING IN SA 2003/2004

Gennaro won the Junior Max Regional Championship in 2004 and consistently finished in the top 5 in the SA Championship, winning the round in PE. He was awarded Northern Region Motorsport Colours in 2004.



Leading in Junior Max PE National

WORLD FINALS 2006

As the youngest driver competing in the Rok World Finals, Gennaro, finished a fantastic 4th overall. The overall winner, Christiaan Waangaard is now racing European Formula 3.



KARTING 2007

2007 was Gennaro's last year in Karting. His height prevented him from continuing to compete, in what was a short but very successful career. Gennaro finished a close 3rd in the South African Championship after leading for most of the year. A chain that came off cost him the SA National Championship after winning in PE and Vereeniging.



Winning in PE in the rain



A chain cost him the SA Championship



Winning in Vereeniging

VW Polo Cup 2007

Gennaro started his Saloon Car racing career in 2007 competing in the ultra competitive VW Polo Cup Championship. He competed against all the 'old' and experienced drivers like Lee Thompson, Graham Donker, Koosie Swanepoel and Curt Alchin. Gennaro qualified Pole in one race and had a podium finish in his first year. He went on to win the Rookie Cup and was invited to race at Hockenheim.



Pole position at Wesbank



At 16, the youngest Driver ever in Polo Cup

European Polo Cup

Having never seen Hockenheim in Germany and with an unknown car he had never driven, Gennaro came a very credible 10th out of 27 in the VW Polo Cup Championship Race.



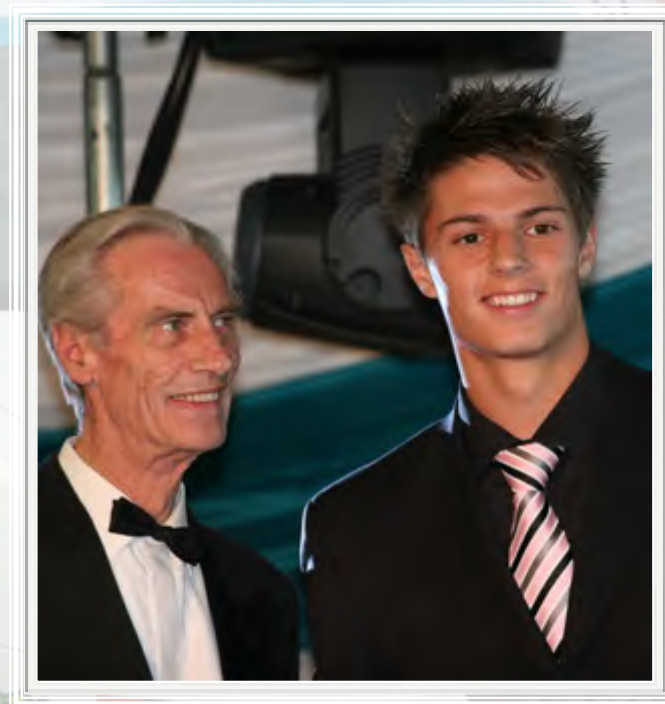
Racing at Euro Championships at Hockenheim



Proud of his new toy

SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL COLOURS

In 2007, Gennaro was awarded his South African National Colours for achievements in Motorsport locally and Internationally.



Engen VW CUP 2008

Federal Mogul approached him with Ferodo and Champion sponsorship for his second year. Gennaro's goal was to make the top 5. He won 4 races, had 10 podium finishes, lead the championship from race 2 until the last race. Winning the championship was a reality, but his final school year came first, he was writing his Matric school exams and missed out on Friday's practice, limiting him hugely. Gennaro finished tied 2nd in the SA Championship by only 5 points short.



Engen VW CUP 2009

With a renewed Sponsorship from Champion and a new car, 2009's goal was to win the SA Championship. With a very bad start after engine failure, he found himself miles back from the leaders but after a fighting end to the season Gennaro ended up 2nd in the Engen VW Cup.



Bridgestone Production Cars 2010

At the age of 19 and after 3 years in the ultra-competitive Engen VW Cup, it was time for Gennaro to move up the motorsport ladder in South Africa. With backing from Volkswagen SA, Gennaro was given a VW Golf 5 GTI to race in Class T. The 2010 season started off with a bang that nobody expected, in the first race at Kyalami, Gennaro pulled off a stunning win in the Feature Race. This immediately opened the eyes of many as it was his first race in the car and in the class.





Bridgestone Production Cars 2010

After the tremendous start to the season, at the half-way mark, Gennaro was leading the championship. After some bad luck hit the team, through no fault of Gennaro, he lost his lead in the championship and was relegated to 3rd. With the final round at Kyalami left to go, he was very much within striking distance of the Championship. Gennaro won the final race of the season in tremendous style and cemented his 2nd place in the Bridgestone Production Car Class T Championship. This was an incredible achievement in his first year in this top series of racing.



2011

For 2011, Gennaro has once again secured sponsorship from Ferodo which is his 4th year with this brand and Volkswagen have provided a brand new Golf 6 GTI to race. This is a massive opportunity for him and he aims to win the championship after a great first season in this class.

Furthermore, Monster Energy have come on board with Gennaro by signing him as an Athlete for 2011.

Big things to come in 2011 and beyond!





CONTACT DETAILS

WEBSITE: www.gennarobonafede.co.za

EMAIL: gennaro@bonafede.co.za
gfresh@mweb.co.za

CELL NO: +27 827706398



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