

MEDIA RELEASE

19 October 2020

Electric Vehicle challenge comes to Perth's north in 2020

The 2020 *eV Challenge - powered by Synergy* has drawn a field of 26 entries from schools throughout the State's south-west, as they race for top honours in their self-built electric vehicles (EVs).

Juggling the event date to cater for COVID-19 impacts to school activities, means this year's event will take place at a new home, the Wanneroo International Kartway, on Saturday evening.

The eV Challenge has attracted both new and repeat entries this year, from teams who have designed and built their own single-seat EVs.

The students, and some adult teams, will hit the racetrack to see who can complete the most laps in one hour, powered only by a controlled-capacity battery.

Synergy Chief Executive Officer Jason Waters said he is pleased the eV Challenge is going ahead once again, despite the challenges associated with COVID-19.

"Not only is the eV Challenge a fun and fast-paced event; it piques students' interests in innovative energy technologies and highlights the importance of STEM subjects in their application," Mr Waters said.

"Synergy is supportive of an EV framework for Western Australia and the social and economic benefits EVs can provide, including contributing to a cleaner electricity supply chain.

"Helping students harness their understanding of energy, while also tackling a challenge and having some fun on the track, will be knowledge they can use for years to come."

Three new schools have entered the event this year, including Safety Bay Senior High School, Frederick Irwin Anglican School and John Septimus Roe Anglican Community School.

The full list of schools participating this year is as follows:

1. Ashdale Secondary College
2. Comet Bay College
3. Donnybrook District High School
4. Frederick Irwin Anglican School
5. John Septimus Roe Anglican Community School
6. Safety Bay Senior High School
7. Wesley College

Established in 2001, the *eV Challenge - powered by Synergy* is Australia's longest running electric motorsport competition.



It has also become one of Australia's best STEM education competitions, along with being named as WA's best motorsport event in 2018.

To encourage students to become more interested in STEM subjects, some schools are even offering subject credit for those students who take part.

Admission for spectators on Saturday is free and to find out more about the eV Challenge, visit <https://evchallengewa.wixsite.com/website>

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Notes to editor:

The event will be held at the Wanneroo International Kartway, 1 Wattle Ave, Neerabup WA.

Gates will open at 12pm, with the on-track action getting underway from 5pm.

About Synergy

As Western Australia's leading energy generator and retailer, Synergy is an essential and trusted provider of electricity and gas. Utilising our diverse energy generation portfolio, Synergy supplies reliable and affordable energy to more than one million residential and business customers.

Synergy owns and operates electricity generating assets, including thermal power stations, spanning from Kalbarri in the north, out to Kalgoorlie in the east and down to Albany in the south – an electricity network known as the South West Interconnected System (SWIS).

Owned by the Government of Western Australia, Synergy proudly supports the people of Western Australia and plays an active role in the communities in which we operate. Synergy's purpose is clear – to lead Western Australians to their intelligent energy future. For more information visit www.synergy.net.au.