

The refurbishment program of the Kyalami Grand Prix Circuit announced on the 11th May has entered its seventh week. The announced upgrades are all progressing according to the construction program. An increase in the scope of the upgrades and refurbishment, specifically relating to circuit safety, is however likely to extend the construction period originally anticipated.

As part of the circuit safety upgrades (not only in the newly constructed areas) it has been agreed to replace, rather than refurbish - debris fencing, safety barriers and gravel arrestor beds on the entire circuit. This process includes the replacement of all of the spectator fencing in public viewing areas around the circuit. The replacement of all of the safety systems has both cost and timeline implications for the project. The decisions made regarding safety upgrades are partly due to the requirements in terms of the stated objectives in obtaining a FIA grade 2 license. Extensive research is also being done regarding the best solutions for the replacement of kerbs on the circuit to satisfy the requirements for various motorsport categories.

A “no compromise” philosophy in terms of track safety systems for both competitors and spectators will ensure risks are minimized in a sport that always has an element of danger. As can be seen from the images in the newsletter other aspects of the project are moving forward at a great pace.



Barriers and uprights being removed between Clubhouse and The Esses as part of an extensive safety upgrade on the full circuit.



Soil is excavated from the various areas on the site for fill in the new areas.



The old Clubhouse boma being stripped in preparation for demolition.



An aerial photograph showing the extent of work in The Crocodiles.



Excavations on the retaining wall at The Crocodiles, stripped bomas above.



The walls of the new underpass are in place. The new underpass will allow for 2 way road traffic (transporter height) plus 2 pedestrian lanes.



Replacement of kerbs at Sunset corner, paint stripped from the walls and fencing removed. Debris fence poles and cables still to be removed.



Debris fencing around the circuit is being replaced to conform to the latest FIA requirements. Over 50 km of cable is currently being manufactured.



Stripping of all old paint from the concrete retaining walls and kerbs continues. Speculation on the new curb colours for the circuit continues.



The service road around the back of the circuit will be tarred using the top layers of tar removed from the actual circuit.

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The underpass as viewed from the main entrance. The extended main straight will run over the top of the wide new underpass.



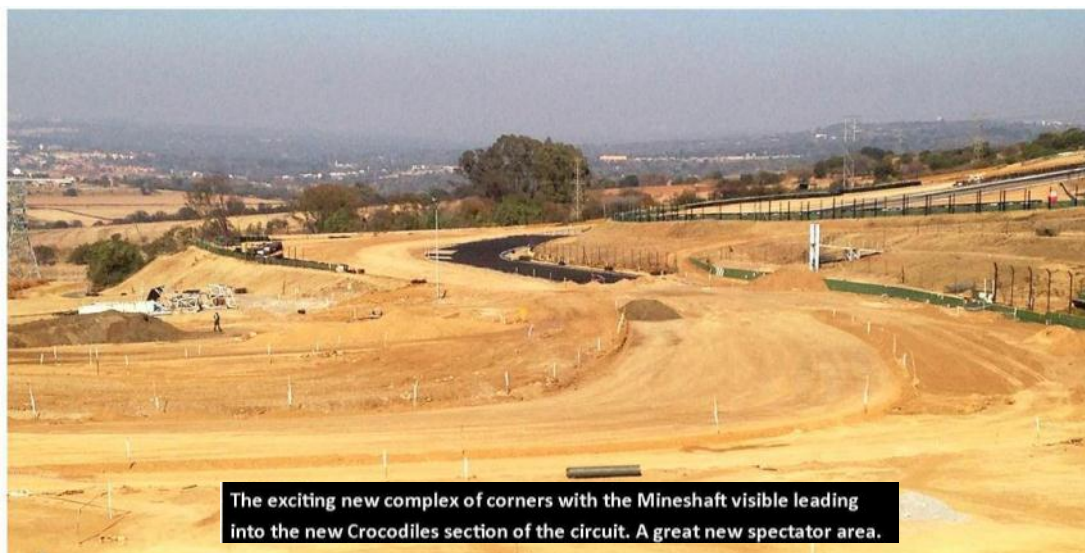
The view of the exciting new main straight from the Kink. The new Crowthorne corner can be seen in the distance.



The heavy equipment on site clearly demonstrates the extent of the refurbishment programme at the circuit.



Part of the approximately 35 000 old tyres being removed from the circuit ready for collection by Redisa. All will be replaced as part of the upgrade.



The exciting new complex of corners with the Mineshaft visible leading into the new Crocodiles section of the circuit. A great new spectator area.