

Club Formula Ford

Club Formula Ford – MS Race Report 01 Issued 16th April 2009

MS Round: 1
Venue: Silverstone International
Date: 12th April 2009

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Introduction



The first round of the 2009 BRSCC Club Formula Ford (Midlands South) Championship in association with Richard Egger Insurance resulted in one of the most dominant wins so far seen in Formula Ford. Despite that, a great race was had through out the field, with most managing to find the finish line in a damp and greasy track affected by rain throughout the day. With new competitors from other championships and existing well known combatants, the race for 2009 looks like it will be a season long battle for

honours. Some of these new competitors have their own stories to tell, one in particular of Jonathan Hoad from the Castle Combe Championship of interest with his support of the local air ambulance as well as an unusual helmet motif (see him for explanation of that one!).



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Qualifying

With conditions extremely greasy and wet, the 2.249 mile Silverstone International circuit provides plenty of very fast and extremely slow corners to challenge the best drivers out there, but it was no surprise that Ian Gough managed the quickest time overall. He left it to the last flying lap though, as Matt Shawyer held the best tie previous for all but 15 seconds of the allocated time. Ian said he didn't know how he did it, but he hoped he could maintain it for the race..... First spinner in the conditions was Keith (Simon) Davey – his inexperience in these cars and with tyres a couple of years old counting against him as he spun into the gravel at Brooklands; fortunately a tow back onto track enabled him to continue his qualifying!

Throughout the rest of the field the conditions showed those who had experience here from previous years, as Jim Morris and Stuart Kestenbaum (both exponents of Formula Ford for some time – with Stuart surely the longest serving competitor today?) getting superb 2nd row slots demonstrating that experience beats youth! An expected front runner, Adam Quartermaine in his Team West Tec car had serious problems a few minutes into the session with a broken engine curtailing his qualifying early, and Pete Booker also failing to make the car last more than a few corners. Jonathan Fay managed to get the sole Class D car to 16th, with the final spread of time over 30 seconds promising that the front runners would have quite a battle with overtaking even if it was those in slower modes.

BRSCC Club Formula Ford MS Championship in association with Richard Egger Insurance

QUALIFYING - RACE 17 - CLASSIFICATION

POS	NO	CL	NAME	ENTRY	TIME	ON	LAPS	GAP	DIFF	MPH
1	29	A	Ian GOUGH	Ray GRS07	1:50.887	8	8			73.01
2	12	B	Matt SHAWYER	Van Diemen RF90	1:52.814	4	8	1.927	1.927	71.76
3	44	A	Jim MORRIS	Van Diemen RF05	1:55.308	5	8	4.421	2.494	70.21
4	69	C	Stuart KESTENBAUM	Reynard FF89	1:56.065	2	8	5.178	0.757	69.75
5	66	B	Martin GALPIN	Swift SC94	1:56.508	8	8	5.621	0.443	69.49
6	72	B	Jonathan HOAD	Van Diemen RF90	1:58.132	8	8	7.245	1.624	68.53
7	95	A	Dave CONNOR	Van Diemen RF03	1:58.227	7	8	7.340	0.095	68.48
8	4	B	Paul MASON	Swift SC94	1:58.764	5	7	7.877	0.537	68.17
9	8	A	John LOEBELL	Van Diemen RF99	1:59.688	6	8	8.801	0.924	67.64
10	33	B	John OWEN	Swift SC92F	2:02.783	5	7	11.896	3.095	65.94
11	91	A	John MURPHY	Van Diemen RF99	2:03.496	4	4	12.609	0.713	65.55
12	82	C	Ashley CLIFFORD	Van Diemen RF88	2:03.725	7	7	12.838	0.229	65.43
13	5	A	Adam QUARTERMAINE	Van Diemen RF99	2:04.022	1	2	13.135	0.297	65.28
14	24	B	Simon AUSTIN	Swift SC94	2:05.105	4	7	14.218	1.083	64.71
15	25	B	Keith DAVEY	Swift SC92	2:06.304	5	5	15.417	1.199	64.10
16	26	D	Jonathan FAY	Van Diemen RF84	2:19.272	6	6	28.385	12.968	58.13
17	36	B	Pete BOOKER	Swift SC95	2:20.899	1	1	30.012	1.627	57.46

Silverstone International Circuit Length = 2.2490 miles. Weather / Track : Raining / Wet. Start: 12:27 End: 12:44

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Race



As we neared the tie for the race, late in the afternoon, the weather improved to a point of almost dry...but still extremely slippery both on and off line; some drivers were about to find out just how slippery even experience wouldn't help! A superb start from Ian Gough meant that his qualifying pace was in no doubt, as he led by an ever increasing margin to finish at the flag some 12 seconds up the road from the cars behind. Despite trying his hardest, Ian Shawyer had no answer for the Ray's pace of Gough, and he dropped steadily back, although fast

enough to ensure that the battles behind were never close enough for any change to the first two. Third place though, now that was a different story, with the result not in the bag until late in the race.

But first – at Abbey hairpin on the first lap the inevitable occurred, and it was the most experienced driver in the field who spun and bogged down in the gravel, not to restart. Stuart Kestenbaum's spin also led to Simon Austin attending the same gravel trap and into retirement as he failed to negotiate the tricky hairpin. Fortunately a local waved yellow enabled removal of the stricken cars without affecting the rest of the racing.

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Meanwhile the mid field battles raged on for most of the race, with Martin Galpin, Dave Connor and Jim Morris the foremost entertainment for the spectators. Constant dicing and slipstreaming, with out braking the rule of thumb to employ here, meant that only as 6 laps had past did they become spread out, with Galpin leading Morris and Connor in that order. Behind them another battle between the rest of the field initially lead by John Lobell, but Jonathan Hoad managed to slip past him and lead by the second lap; after that Lobell had behind him John Murphy and Adam Quartermaine, racing up through the field with his new engine. A few laps alter it all ended in tears for John Lobell as he got hit going into Copse and into retirement with broken suspension, letting Hoad and Quartermaine to continue to fight it out for 6th overall.

Unfortunately Paul Mason's good qualifying came to naught as he went backwards through the field after an incident on the seventh lap after looking safe for a top ten placing, finishing 12th and last runner after Ashley Clifford failed to finish and Jonathan Fay was counted as a non runner with a finish in the pits on the last lap with technical issues. Finishing just in the top ten was John Owen, behind Keith Davey making a good run (with new tyres after qualifying!) and John Murphy – all with their own battle with Paul Mason but not finishing until the chequered flag! Final results then in Class A was Ian Gough, with fastest lap and pole position to round off an excellent race, followed by Jim Morris and Dave Connor in second and third. In Class B Matt Shawyer lead home Martin Galpin in second and third, with Jonathan Hoad 3rd in class in 7th overall. No finishers were recorded in any other class.

So now onto Snetterton and rounds 2 and 3; with the National Championship as well there is bound to be more battles, hopefully in dry conditions at the circuit with the longest straight in British motorsport.



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RACE 17 - CLASSIFICATION

POS	NO	CL	NAME	ENTRY	LAPS	TIME	GAP	DIFF	MPH	BEST	ON
1	29	A	Ian GOUGH	Ray GRS07	11	19:47.096	75.02	1:46.325	9		
2	12	B	Matt SHAWYER	Van Diemen RF90	11	19:59.446	12.350	12.350	74.25	1:46.844	10
3	66	B	Martin GALPIN	Swift SC94	11	20:15.808	28.712	16.362	73.25	1:48.664	8
4	44	A	Jim MORRIS	Van Diemen RF05	11	20:22.150	35.054	6.342	72.87	1:48.392	7
5	95	A	Dave CONNOR	Van Diemen RF03	11	20:34.652	47.556	12.502	72.13	1:50.008	5
6	5	A	Adam QUARTERMAINE	Van Diemen RF99	11	20:38.002	50.906	3.350	71.93	1:48.835	9
7	72	B	Jonathan HOAD	Van Diemen RF90	11	20:38.506	51.410	0.504	71.90	1:48.750	8
8	91	A	John MURPHY	Van Diemen RF99	11	21:06.551	1:19.455	28.045	70.31	1:52.233	11
9	25	B	Keith DAVEY	Swift SC92	11	21:06.779	1:19.683	0.228	70.30	1:52.239	11
10	33	B	John OWEN	Swift SC92F	11	21:15.011	1:27.915	8.232	69.85	1:50.886	11
11	36	B	Pete BOOKER	Swift SC95	11	21:19.750	1:32.654	4.739	69.59	1:52.855	10
12	4	B	Paul MASON	Swift SC94	11	21:19.794	1:32.698	0.044	69.58	1:51.490	11

NOT CLASSIFIED

DNF	26	D	Jonathan FAY	Van Diemen RF84	9	19:34.009	2 laps	2 laps	62.06	2:00.936	6
DNF	82	C	Ashley CLIFFORD	Van Diemen RF88	6	12:09.760	5 laps	3 laps	66.56	1:53.947	6
DNF	8	A	John LOEBELL	Van Diemen RF99	4	7:52.325	7 laps	2 laps	68.56	1:54.312	4
DNF	2	4 B	Simon AUSTIN	Swift SC94	0						
DNF	69	C	Stuart KESTENBAUM	Reynard FF89	0						

FASTEST LAP

29	A	Ian GOUGH	Ray GRS07	9	1:46.325	76	.14 mph	122.5	4 kph
12	B	Matt SHAWYER	Van Diemen RF90	10	1:46.844	75.77 mph	121.9	5 kph	
82	C	Ashley CLIFFORD	Van Diemen RF88	6	1:53.947	71.05 mph	114.3	5 kph	
26	D	Jonathan FAY	Van Diemen RF84	6	2:00.936	66.94 mph	107.7	4 kph	

Silverstone International Circuit Length = 2.2490 miles. Weather / Track : Cloudy / Drying. Start: 17:13 End: 17:34

You can keep up to date with all the championship news at the official website, www.clubformulaford.co.uk

Peter Ritchie
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