

# Morgan Sports Car Club Speed Championship 2007

## Event Report

Isle of Man 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> April

### Bray Hill

Weather – Warm, dry for practice, gentle drizzle for the timed run.

Due to delays in the closing of the road, the one and only practice did not take place until it was twilight. Despite everyone walking the course in daylight to pick out the braking point for the hairpin at the end of the course, at speed and in the twilight the reference points merged into the gloom of everything else. Consequently a number of the drivers missed the crucial point and overshot. The practice times were possibly therefore, an inappropriate indication of the performance levels.

The first and only timed run, although not much better in terms of finesse, was quicker, although with a gentle drizzle developing at the top of the hill, several drivers were again unable to correctly judge the braking point. Due to difficulties with the timing equipment, the organisers had to abandon the 2<sup>nd</sup> timed run.

Only 3 runners managed to improve on their practice times, these being Jim Mountain – 1<sup>st</sup>, Stephen Dickinson – 2<sup>nd</sup> and Richard Smith – 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### Sloc Hill

Weather – Warm, dry and windy.

Bleary eyed from the late finish the previous evening, many arrived at the hill early to get the chance for a sneak preview of the route. For those that did not manage a preview, this meant that the first practice run was done with caution, particularly due to the less than billiard table smooth road surface and the blind left hander at the top of the hill near the finishing line. Tim Hill had a moment when he almost met the previous runner returning down the course after a spin on his first practice, sadly causing Tim to miss one practice run, whilst Norman Wheat was struggling with a misfire that has also plagued him on the previous evening.

The afternoon runs went without incident for everyone, and most continued to improve with each run. Thanks to the hard work of the organisers, we all managed 3 timed runs despite a lengthy delay whilst a Nissan 200ZX was removed from atop a stone wall after an off track excursion.

As we all returned to the paddock after the final run and the results were calculated, the top three placings, Messrs Bailey, Baines and Dickinson were only split by 0.19 seconds, with the next 9 places being split by less than 2 seconds – it couldn't have been much closer.

### Lhergy Frissell

Weather – Warm, dry and windy

Another early start with a drive over the mountain course of the TT circuit in the wrong direction to Lhergy Frissell, a hill that climbs steeply out of Ramsey and consists of a hairpin, two right handers before a twisty run up to the Goose Neck, which is another hairpin just before the finishing line.

This was the longest of the 3 courses and certainly the most entertaining. Tim Hill set the target for the Class 3 runners with Simon Baines doing similar honours with the Class 9 and 10 runners.

Stormin Norman gave the spectators a "moment" as he exited the 1<sup>st</sup> hairpin but managed to get it together and record a time whilst everyone else managed to make major inroads to their time. Due to the lack of time as the end of the event approached, Jane Hill was unable to take a 2<sup>nd</sup> timed run but Tim Hill managed to gain himself a 2<sup>nd</sup> place, with Chris Bailey a 3<sup>rd</sup> whilst Stephen Dickinson took the win.

Our overall winner of the weekend, Stephen Dickinson, was determined by taking the aggregate score of days 2 and 3 as day 1 was considered inappropriate due to the lack of sufficient practice and timed runs.