

MSCC Techniques Speed Championship 2011

Event Report

Venue: Prescott

Date: 2nd October 2011

Weather: Dry and very warm

An uncharacteristically warm start to the day greeted the Morgan contingent to Prescott. With a selection of entries in 8 classes from Class 1 runner Nigel Housley through to Class 12 runner Mike Hall, it promised to be an interesting day for drivers and spectators alike.

First practice times showed that everyone was making the most of the ideal conditions as Clive Hall and Greg Dixon Smith were both less than 1.5 seconds from their respective bogey times. Mike Hall was also looking to be on form with a storming time of 48.6 seconds. Others trying equally as hard but with lesser results were Martin Whaley who had a spin at Orchard Corner and Paul Clarke whose day came to a premature end at Pardon.

Second practice runs produced improvements from most of the field, Clive H and Greg DS still nudging ever closer to their bogeys, whilst Simon Baines had now gained the upper hand over Jonathan. Nigel Ledger Lomas was suffering fan belt problems but repairs were being ably assisted by Rob Toon who had come along to add support and encouragement.

The lunchtime break gave us an opportunity to have a good wander around the paddock to admire the All American Weekend display of vehicles and sideshows, including a collection of vintage Hot Rods, a CART Racing Car and a Wall of Death Show

And so to the timed runs.

First off the line was Jonathan Baines who threw the gauntlet down to Simon with a time 1 second quicker than in practice. Nigel Housley was next to go with his fastest time of the day closely followed by Clive Hall who was clearly still getting used to his recently rebuilt 4/4 as he went 0.5 secs under bogey. Greg DS was also pushing hard managing a time 0.56 secs under bogey – close or what!

Philip Parkes also produced his fastest time of the day with a time that would eventually nett him a 7th place overall.

On the 2nd and final timed run, Clive was the first to lay down his marker, going faster still and giving Greg a target of 0.88 secs under bogey to beat. Lining up before Greg was Ian Hargrave, sporting a new aero screen that helped him to an impressive 6th place overall. Greg clearly was not going to give up without a fight and went quicker again taking another 0.23 secs off his 1st run time but it wasn't enough and he ended the day in 2nd place, only 0.09 secs behind Clive. Mike Hall produced his fastest timed run closely followed by Simon Baines, but a missed gear by Simon on the exit of Ettores resulted in a time that netted 4th place, leaving Jonathan with a well deserved 3rd place overall and the fastest time set by any Morgan on the day.

Simon Baines