

MSCC Techniques Speed Championship

MIRA 26th May 2012

Weather:- Hot, Sunny, Strong Breeze

There was a good entry of ten speedmog competitors for the championships annual visit to MIRA, the top secret testing establishment situated on the A5, just outside Nuneaton. The weather decided to be kind to us for a change, remaining hot all day with a pleasant breeze. The course at MIRA is challenging, in that it is very fast, demanding power, a degree of bravery and a smooth style to achieve good times. The organisers MAC, format was to complete three practice runs before lunch, with two competitive runs in the afternoon. The consensus of the speedmogs was to include practice 3 as a competitive run, giving us three competitive runs to decide the points.

After first practice it was apparent there were gremlins in the timekeepers equipment, Ian Hargrave and John Stephens having no time recorded, Paul Clarke taking twice as long as he would normally expect to in his 4/4 Roadster hybrid. In the second practice session everyone improved, Paul Clarke being the fastest at 55.66, Andrew Miller 57.22, everyone else in the low to high 60`s. John Stephens and Chris Bailey were close to their handicaps and looking like contenders for overall victory along with Andrew Miller.

Third practice session was deemed our first competitive run. Anne Miller posted a very impressive 58.93, taking 2.6 secs off her practice times, unlike Chris Bailey who to his dismay did the opposite, on what he thought was a perfect run. Further investigation into the 64feet times revealed the cause to be the car rolling forward on the line, the standard sprinters excuse for a slow time. Everyone else improved upon their practice times significantly.

The highlight of run 2 was the speed of Paul Clarke through the speed trap at 109mph, Paul also showing great determination in getting his car back facing the right direction after the ensuing high speed spin at the right hand bend immediately after the speed trap.

The third and final runs provided best times of the day for Ian Hargrave, Andrew Miller, Michelle Bailey, Chris Bailey and Alan Foster, it would also have been Nigel Housley`s best time but unfortunately it went unrecorded, is there no justice!

The final results was a deserved win for Andrew Miller, who consistently chipped away his times to get under handicap and earn that extra point, John Stevens was a close 2nd and Chris Bailey was 3rd having got a trained start line crew to restrain the rolling Rudolf.

This concluded an enjoyable days motorsport for all, with much close competition throughout the field.

It should be noted that the MAC official results which determine their awards are based upon the final two runs of the day, which has the affect of giving John Stevens 3rd place and Chris Bailey 2nd place.