

MSCC Techniques Speed Championship 2012

Event Report

Venue: Ty Croes National

Date: 5th May 2012

Weather: Dry & Cold

Ty Croes is a venue that has demonstrated, on several occasions, to have it's own microclimate and this weekend was to be no exception.

Saturday dawned, bright, clear and windswept as 7 Morgans were being prepared for a busy day at this fast and undulating track. A lot of attention was being paid to the "Team Miller" creation, hot from the workshop, having only been completed 4 days earlier.

Practice was soon underway and as the course includes 2 laps of the circuit, only one practice was provided for all entrants.

Most took the practice steadily, the Baines pairing were saving their tyres as this grippy track is notorious for tyre wear. The Millers however were already getting to grips with the added performance of their new engine with Andrew already setting a time only 2 seconds off their bogey.

1st timed runs brought predictable improvements from most although Ray Eatock, who was in his first event since June 2011 was still a little rusty and forgot that it was a 2 lapper and pulled in after the first lap. Andy Miller however, was showing just how fast the new car was by taking 2 seconds off the bogey.

On the 2nd timed run, drama in the Miller camp. As Andy was going at full tilt down the Tom Pryce Straight No 1 piston made a bid for freedom. Despite laying a smoke screen that a Chieftain Tank would have been proud of, with the exhaust spraying the contents of the sump onto his rear tyre, Andy managed to keep control around the last hairpin and posted a winning time of 130.43 seconds. Jonathan Baines, following Andy was given a re-run but, running light on fuel, suffered what was thought to be fuel surge rounding the tight left Seamans corner. Strong words in the Baines camp!

With what appeared to be first place secure, the remaining positions were fought out with a further 2 timed runs. Simon & Jonathan Baines secured 2nd & 3rd places with Anne Miller taking 4th place from her first timed run! 5th place was shared between Ray Eatock who was now managing to complete 2 laps, and a constantly improving Simon Moore.

Paul Clarke had been suffering braking issues all day and was still uncomfortable with the brakes but managed to improve throughout the day, pipping Clive Glass for 7th place on his final run. Local boy Gavin Rintoul was another who had improved with every run, clearly the 4 runs allowing everyone to get the best out of the day.

Simon Baines