

MSCC Techniques Speed Championship 2016

Event Report

Venue: Harewood

Date 5th June 2016

Weather: Hot, hot, hot.

One of the great benefits of the Speedmog Championship is the variety of beautiful venues we are privileged to visit during the season. Harewood must be near the top of the list. The paddock is located on top of a hill that has panoramic views across the valley eastwards towards Harrogate and beyond. We competed under the watchful eye of circling red kites that flew across the hillside in search of nourishing wildlife and small spectators!

Many had travelled a long way to enjoy this climb and an excellent entry of fifteen Morgans ensured a great days sport. For once we were in the first batch of runners which meant no long periods of hanging about and professional and efficient marshalling made the day run very smoothly.

The previous day's competition meant that the circuit was well rubbered in but did have some patches of "dropped oil" to catch out the unwary. New comer Adam Roper was made welcome and was quick to make his presence felt with a first practice time of 73.21 that warned of his future intentions! Mr Baines broke the 70 sec barrier straight away and was getting to grips with the Toyo R888 tyres that superseded the long standing Khumos.

Nigel Housley and Gavin Rintoul engaged in a battle that was to last all day with Nigel coming out on top by 0.97secs after two practice and three timed runs!

The sun shone in a cloudless sky and it got extremely warm inside the race suits but no one complained and the times fell as the grip got even better. Exhausted by his efforts Mr Hargrave briefly fell into the arms of Morpheus with his snoring matching the noise of a well sorted Jap V Twin! The nap worked and he was delighted to achieve a personal best of 78.90 a full 5.71sec faster than his first run of the day. Rob Stones chased a target of 70.71 and with a best time of 72.31 ended seventh on the day and pocketed some useful points. The Carnforth flyer (McHugh) pushed on and broke the 70sec barrier on his final run with a fine 68.91 having spent some of his first run grass cutting in the field next to the track! John B Stephens produced his best performance on the first timed run of the day ending up 5th overall with a 73.03. Your scribe managed to get under bogey on practice two but Adam remained dangerously close. Fuel feed problems on run two resulted in my car being attacked by many willing helpers and the problem was eventually resolved by McHugh who belted the pump with a hammer thus coaxing it back into life!!

Mr "Shiny" (Chris Bailey) was another who recorded his best time of the day on run one sliding his way to 4th with a clean 72.07 and 98.6 points. Mrs "Shiny" improved by 1.45 secs throughout the day and in between runs knitted three pairs of socks and force fed brownies to the opposition!!

Paul Clarke was one of four who broke into the sixties achieving a best time of 69.40 on his very final run. At the end of the day the top three positions were occupied by Simon Baines 3rd, Adam Roper 2nd and your scribe "Toony" who managed a win beating bogey by 0.93secs and take the top spot.

The Ty Croes double header is next and the changeable Anglesey weather will inevitably make life interesting! Let's see how "Menai" turn up on the day!



New boy Adam Roper approaching Chippies



Chris Bailey attacking the Esses



A busy paddock



Toony