

MSCC Techniques Speed Championship

Venue: Ty Croes Anglesey Sprints

30th April 2022

National Circuit

Weather Breezy and Chilly

8 Morgans and 10 Morganeers arrived to a somewhat empty car park. There was plenty of room to spread out, although most kept their steeds in the garage. It is quite impressive to see the Morgans snuggled up together in the garage. I think we managed 6, but could we do more? Perhaps a new party game.....

Although Ty Croes is a long way for most of us it is really worth the effort for 2 days and a fantastic circuit.

The Morgan class was out early; all the cars were lined up beautifully with the double drives of Bailey and Baines at the front and the rest following in numerical order. The paddock marshal was suitably impressed.

There was only one practice run, as it amounted to a double lap. John "B" Stephens ('JBS') set the pace, followed by Simon and Baines Jnr. Rob Stones was tentative in his first outing here in his new roadster (how sensible) and George was flat out – of course.

First timed runs saw most improve on their practice times, some by a little and Chris Baines by 5 seconds to be right on Simon's tail, being only 0.3 slower. Rob was still finding the Roadster's feet (so to speak) so was a tad slower, as was Paul.

Run 2 and Steve was now 6 seconds faster than practice as was George. Howard was an impressive 8 seconds quicker, whilst Rob had improved by 10 second! JBS posted what would prove to be his fastest time of the day, and Chris Bailey had finally gone faster than in practice. Baines Jnr was 2 seconds faster, and was now ahead of Baines Snr. The brownies were obviously doing the trick?

Run 3: Paul was Mr Consistent with another time within a second of his other times, but the rest of us were all slower due to the deteriorating conditions.

4th timed run saw the times dropping again, with both Howard and Rob lopping chunks of time off. Baines Jnr remained ahead of Baines Snr, and Howard was less than 2 seconds behind JBS.

The final timed run saw George produce his best run of the day as did Chris Baines. Steve had a moment or three and the rest of us were there or thereabouts.

Results:

1. JBS
2. Chris Baines
3. Simon Baines

No doubt it was interesting in the Baines Bus on Saturday night!

May 1st 2022

International Circuit

Weather? Shocking, cold with horizontal rain drying slightly later.

When the weather is good, Ty Croes is wonderful and when the weather is as it was on Sunday, Ty Croes can be ghastly. Sunday dawned wet and windy; why couldn't the weather have been like it was on Friday – glorious sunshine, shorts and ice creams? Oh well it wasn't and we were all in the same boat with sufficient water to float.

There were 2 practice runs of 1 lap of the international circuit.

Between P1 and P2 Chris Bailey was the only one to go slower having had a moment in the wet. Rob lopped off 10 seconds, George 9, Steve 8 and Howard 5. Paul and Simon reduced their times by 4 seconds, with Baines Jnr 3 and JBS 2.

George was heading the field on his skinny tyres as we went into T1 and was another 9 seconds quicker! Chris Bailey was 7 seconds quicker and Rob 6. Clearly everyone was getting the hang of the conditions and the circuit. Steve and Paul were battling for class 9 honours and seemed to be enjoying themselves, with Steve heading it. Chris Baines had pipped Simon by less than half a second.

Second timed run: Howard continued to steadily chip his time, whilst the class 9 boys were both slower. Paul had on off on the way up to Rocket but fortunately only cosmetic damage suffered. Baines Jnr was now almost 2 seconds ahead of his father (was his dad over the hill as being suggested and already peaked?), whilst George and Rob were persistently reducing their times. Both Chris Bailey and JBS were slightly slower.

Run 3 and Paul had decided to head off home. Chris the Older (Bailey) had a spin at the first corner and a DNF, fortunately no damage as he stayed on the circuit. Howard's time was faster than JBS, and Simon managed to get ahead of his tyre warmer and son Chris. Rob took an astonishing 14 seconds off and Steve a hefty 6.

We were onto timed run 4 and the circuit was continuing to dry in places in the stiff breeze (I mean howling gale), although parts remained wet. George had a moment as did JBS, with both slower times than R3. The Baines 'Boys' (liberal libelling in Simon's case) were now separated by 0.07, and Howard had his fastest run of the day. Steve and the other Chris (Bailey) continued to improve, as did Rob.

So we were down to the last run, would anything change? George had his fastest run of the day to maintain his place at the head of the pack so the answer was no. Steve, John and Chris Bailey also had their fastest runs of the day, as did Rob, who had gone quicker by some 40 (yes 40) seconds from beginning of the day to the end. Simon finally managed to get ahead of "cold tyres" Chris (Baines), making it a very pleasant return home for wife/mum Julie who must have been the biggest winner of the weekend.

Results:

1. George Proudfoot
2. Simon Baines
3. Chris "tyre warmer" Baines

Some final observations:

- 1 Rob is clearly getting to grips with the Roadster, so watch out.
- 2 Howard and Baines Jnr are improving fast, again watch out.
- 3 George was faster than a Porsche 911 GT3!!

Finally very well done everyone on a difficult day – most impressive.

Michele Bailey