

MSCC Techniques Speed Championship 2024

Snetterton

25th August 2024

Snetterton Circuit was originally built as an RAF airfield and used by the USAF between 1943 and 1948. The race circuit was created in 1951 from the network of runways and over the years the circuit configuration changed considerably although it essentially consisted of 2 long straights joined at each end by a series of corners. In 2010, under the ownership of MSV, the circuit was changed significantly to provide 3 track configurations. The 100 circuit consisting of the new infield section, the 200 circuit which retained the character of the older circuit with the 2 long straights and the 300 circuit combining both the 100 and the 200 circuits.

This provides the option to run separate events on both the 100 and 200 circuits and on the weekend of the 24th / 25th August, BARC Midlands staged 2 events, the Citroen CV 24 Hour Race on the 200 circuit and a double header of sprints on the 100 circuit. Speedmog had chosen the Sunday as a round of the championship and with that came perfect weather conditions, unlike the Saturday that had been a day of continuous rainfall.

11 Speedmoggers parked up in the busy paddock - shared drives of Chris and Michele Bailey and Mike and Tom Meredith, Steve McDonald making the longest trek from the North East, closely followed by Simon Baines from the North West, together with "locals" Paul Bryan, Andy Hatch and Clive Nicholls, and finally George Proudfoot and Philip Cowpland, who were both drying out after making a weekend of it by entering for both days.



The course consists of 1.85 laps of the 100 circuit, the circuit consisting of a combination of slow and high speed corners and a long straight before starting the 2nd lap. Perfect track conditions with plenty of run off would allow everyone to gain confidence and speed with every run so with a single practice completed, we were soon into the timed runs.

Michele and Chris Bailey preparing for Timed Run 1

Timed Run 1 brought the expected improvements over the practice times for almost everyone, with the exception of Mike Meredith who unfortunately watched his right hand exhaust system part company with the car on a left hander so had to abort his run. The exhaust was retrieved and over the lunch break, all offending parts were re-attached. A quick look at the scores during the lunch break showed that Simon was in the lead but Chris and Steve were snapping at his heels, only a tenth or 2 behind. George was 3rd and Andy Hatch and Philip Cowpland were joint 4th. It was all very close!

Timed run 2 brought only marginal improvements for most with a few who were slightly slower. Mike Meredith now had a time on the board and he slipped "quietly" into 2nd place, nudging Chris Bailey down to 3rd and George to 4th.



The 3rd and final run brought significant improvements for many, with all bar Mike and George recording their fastest time of the day. When the scores were entered into the “Speedmog Deep Thought”, Simon was in 1st place, closely followed by Chris in 2nd with Mike and Steve in equal 3rd place. 5th was Philip Cowpland who had been chipping away at his time throughout the day, Andy was 6th and George was 7th.

Philip Cowpland making some final adjustments.

A special mention to Tom Meredith in 8th place who, on his last run, managed an improvement of 4 seconds, finishing only 2.9 seconds behind his father Mike. One to watch for the future.



Mike and Tom Meredith with “the Beast”

An excellent day’s sport with great organisation by BARC Midlands (who also organised the Cadwell Park sprint).

Simon Baines