



26th August, 2008 – Newsletter

Dear All,

Snetterton 2008

Snetterton played host to round five of the Fun Cup last weekend, with a thirty one car grid and a four hour race.

Team O'BR/Perrys were drawn fourth on the grid, after the random ballet and had charged into the lead by the end of lap one. It was Eugene O'Brien and Neil Walker who paired up in the 221 car for this race and they dominated from the start. Having set the fastest time in qualifying, with a 1.36.143, it was clear that they were going to be a serious contender for the race win and indeed first place was where the pair finished, a whole lap ahead of the second place Team Ram.

They also set the fastest lap of the race, with a staggering 1.25.286.

Meanwhile, in car 245 Team Ram, Austin Kinsella, who interrupted a holiday in Denmark for the race and flew to Snetterton in time for qualifying, partnered Richard Ince, as the team were minus regulars Mark Owen and Austin Reynolds.

After recording tenth fastest time in qualifying, with a 1.38.791, Team Ram were drawn twenty ninth on the grid, with Austin taking the first stint. He took advantage of the wet weather conditions and quickly moved through the field to hand over to Richard in sixth place, during the first pit stop.

As other front runners struggled with the changeable conditions and encountered troubles of their own, a combination of

consistent lap times and quick pit stops, found the team in third place at the halfway point.

They then pushed their way into second place after three hours and Richard completed the final stint in that position, a lap clear of the third placed Trucks 2 Go car, to register the team's best result of the season so far.



Team Ram – Second place

From sixth on the grid, Alistair Stenhouse in the Prestige Motorsport car 41, managed to stay in the top six on the extremely wet track, during the first stint.

Their first pit stop was quick and Steven Darbey took over to force the car into second place, where the pair stayed for the next few hours and even increased the gap to over a minute from the third place team.

After a few tussles with some cars further down the field, disaster struck fifty minutes from the end, when a collision with car 152

West Norfolk Racing, resulted in car 41 spearing off at Corum and collecting a puncture on the way.

After hobbling into the pits, an awesomely fast tyre change saw them back out behind the safety car and in fourth position. They were now behind Phil Martindale in car 210 of Trucks 2 Go, with fourteen minutes remaining and a nine second gap.

“It looked as though we were destined to finish in fourth place, until Phil Martindale was given a ‘stop and go’ penalty for an earlier incident under the safety car and so we managed to salvage our third spot in what was an amazingly fast and furious race,” said Alistair.



Prestige Motorsport – Third place

In car 101, Team Norsound’s Dan Jones and Alex Ashby were joined by Nick Pascoe, who replaced regular Lance Robson.

As race day provided heavy rain and a slippery track, Alex was putting in the best times thanks to his karting experience, so the team decided it was time for him to take his first ever start in the Fun Cup.

They drew eighteenth on the grid and by the end of the first stint, Alex had climbed into ninth place. When Dan took over for the second stint, the rain had stopped and

the lap times were coming down. When Nick took over for the third stint, the track had dried and the team were storming through the field.

Dan had a fantastic battle with Tim Wheeldon in the Credit Crunch car number 103, during his fourth stint and they swapped places several times.

However, after this, they messed up a driver change and although they were still in tenth place, they were a lap behind the leaders in the fifth stint. Luckily for the team, a safety car was deployed and a great drive from Nick meant that they unlapped themselves and were now back in contention.

Alex took the last stint, as Team Norsound realised that they only had to pass Maverick Motorsport, car 146, to win the ‘Highest Placed JPR Rental Team’ trophy. But, Maverick Motorsport were twenty five seconds ahead with at least ten cars in between. Alex picked off the slower cars one by one and about thirty minutes into the stint he had charged past the 146 car of Maverick Motorsport, to finish in seventh place and take home the trophy for ‘Highest Placed JPR Rental Team’ for the third time this season.



Team Norsound – Highest Placed JPR Rental Team

Nathan Luckey, David Harrison and Mark Gillam, in car 99, Team Tasman, achieved their best ever result with a fifth place. However, the team would not have even made it to the start line, were it not for the superb efforts of the team to repair the rear chassis and suspension mount that came adrift during qualifying, in the two hours before the start of the race.

Mark Gillam, who filled in for regular Peter Burrige, had a great opening stint, moving through the field from twenty seventh up to ninth. The team emerged in third, after a great pit stop where Mark practically dived out of the car, and David Harrison, following strict instructions not to ruin Mark's efforts, continued with a few places lost, but the team stayed in the top ten.

For the majority of the remaining time, Team Tasman, had a trouble free race, reaching fifth place with one hour to go. However, fear gripped the team when Nathan Luckey was issued a 'stop and go' penalty for speeding in the pit lane. Fortunately the team were sufficiently ahead of the following cars to keep the place and win the trophy for 'Team of the Day'.



Team of the Day – Team Tasman

Congratulations to all five teams.

Snetterton TV Coverage

Please be aware that the television coverage from Snetterton will be a ten minute race report only.

The TV viewing times for this coverage will be added to the latest news section on our website www.funcup.co.uk when they have been confirmed.

Oulton Park

As many of you are aware, we will be dedicating the final race of our season to helping raise money for Cancer Research UK, as we did so successfully last year.

A separate email will be issued regarding this event nearer the time. However, I would like to set the ball rolling by

informing you all now about a raffle/auction that we will be holding in order to try and raise even more than last year (approx £2,500 after the final count and last minute donations).

Fun Cup UK will be contributing by offering a complementary hog roast and drinks on the Friday night before the race (10th October) and we would like to invite all teams to this, as we will also be holding a raffle/auction that night to try and raise even more money.

If any teams or sponsors have anything that they can contribute to the raffle/auction, please ring me on 01538 306921 and I will be extremely grateful for anything that you can offer. The more that we can raffle/auction on the night, the more successful the fund raising will be. The finer details of the event will be confirmed nearer the time.

Pembrey, 5th and 6th September, 2008

Friday 5th October

Sign on: From 08.00 onwards (teams can sign on all day)

Fun Cup testing available from 09.00 to 17.00. Open and closed wheel sessions every twenty minutes.

Lunch 12.30 – 13.30

All private teams must book their car(s) in with me, by Monday 1st September.

Saturday 6th September

Sign on: 07.35

Scrutineering: 07.40 – 08.10

Qualifying: 09.00 – 10.00

Race: 11.50 – 17.50

Finally...

I am sure you will all join me in congratulating Chris Hart and his wife Charlene on the birth of their first child, Charlie Hudson Hart. Does this mean there could be two naked Harts racing a scooter round the paddock in a few years to come?

I look forward to seeing you all at Pembrey. Please be aware that there will be no pit garages at this event, so all

teams that have awnings are advised to bring them.

If any teams need details about accommodation for the event, please call me on 01538 306921.

Kind regards

Roxie Marandi
Race Co-ordinator