

MOSS EUROPE MGCC BCV8 CHAMPIONSHIP

Race Report Oulton Park Round 2 – MGCC Saturday 9th May 2009

The Moss Europe MGCC BCV8 Championship race had been blighted for the second time this year with lower numbers than usual with only fifteen entries on the programme. With their initial organisation the MGCC had missed the new MSA Blue Book protocol of having a 20 minute practice at circuits over 2 miles long so had to drop a complete race to accommodate the revised timings. BCV8 with only 15 entries was the obvious choice so BCV8 classes A, AB and B were included with the Cockshoot Cup grid and the BCV8 C and D classes were included with the Midget Challenge grid.

The weather was again on our side as despite forecasts of rain the wind blew and the sun shone and the track stayed dry for the whole day. Practice for both races was completed without incident for both Championships, with the BCV8 additions showing their usual speed superiority and gaining front row positions for both races.

In the Midget Challenge race the BCV8 and Midgets were initially set to run as fully integrated but after discussions at the 'Special Drivers Briefing' the drivers felt it would be more sensible to have the BCV8 go first and then the Midgets ten seconds later, a safer option which all the drivers agreed to. Paul Sibley again had a choice to make to come out in his D class BCV8 or his A class Midget. This time he chose the beautifully prepared BCV8 D class car.

The Cockshoot Cup race saw all six of the BCV8 B class drivers all qualify within the top eight places.

Practice was completed without problem for the 4 x D class, 1 x C class, 6 x B class, 1 x AB class and 2 x A class cars who practiced. Fourteen in total as Chairman Mike Breedon had to pull out due to a trapped nerve making it impossible for him to drive.

Practice Classes C and D - 09.23

Row one and Pole Position for the BCV8 race was Paul Sibley with a 1.52.201 who sat alongside Peter Collis with a 1.53.495. Row two the gulf coloured V8 of Joe Parrington on a 1.55.927 alongside the first outing for BCV8 this year of Roy McCarthy on a 1.58.929.

The lonesome Phil Walker came out as the only entrant in the C class to support the Championship but hopes to see more C class drivers out soon. Phil's time was 2.02.346 and he was placed on the third row of the first part of the split grid.

Practice Classes A, AB and B - 10.41

Row one of the integrated grid saw Simon Cripps in his newly acquired class B Roadster place himself First with BCV8 Pole on a 2.03.654. Second, the welcome return of Tom Jones on 2.04.095 then Third and Fourth the 'Wheeler Brothers' Jonnie and James with a

2.04.296 and 2.04.996 respectively and Fifth Ian Prior on a 2.06.242 and finishing the B class another welcome return of Brian Cakebread on a 2.08.485.

Further back now without Mike Breedon the only AB class contender Brian Smethurst with a 2.18.685 and then for class A the welcome return of Steve Okines on class A Pole with 2.23.213 and then Victoria Stones on 2.25.046.

The Race Classes C & D

The grid assembled and the lights changed to red and off stormed Peter Collis to lead Paul Sibley, Joe Parrington, Roy McCarthy and Phil Walker. Going round Island order still the same Roy slid off and returned at the back of the full field. Peter Collis held off Paul for six of the eleven lap race but by lap six Paul was on a charge and pulled past Peter where he hoped to stay to the flag. On lap nine at Druids a midget had gone off into the kitty litter and out came the yellows, Paul slowed but Peter dived through not seeing the yellows until too late. Peter continued to the flag to take the Overall win. Further down the field Joe was having a lonely race as was Paul and Roy after rejoining at the back of the field trying to keep out of everybody's way and just manage a first race finish of the year.

Both Peter and Paul were called to see the Clerk of the Course to explain the yellow flag infringement but Paul didn't hear the announcement and didn't go. Peter received a warning but as the result was not challenged the race win stayed with Peter.



The Race

Classes A, AB and B

This was a really hum dinger of a B class race. Up front the lights changed to red and Poleman Simon Cripps went backwards with gearbox problems and retired on lap one. Jonnie Wheeler first took charge with Tom Jones and then Ian Prior within spitting distance, next time round it was Tom Jones leading the field with Jonnie second and Ian next until lap six when Ian passed Jonnie to hound Tom. James Wheeler, just a few lengths behind waiting for a problem so he could sweep past to glory. However, it didn't happen despite very close racing for the whole race Tom lead from lap two to the flag with Ian Prior and Jonnie Wheeler just unable to pass him. Brian Cakebread stayed within view of the leaders for the majority of the race retiring on lap 8 with problems.

Brian Smethurst had a lonely AB race but had a few interesting moments with some of the Cockshoot racers as did Victoria Stones both managing to finish with good times. Steve Okines retired on lap six with distributor problems again, which, he says, he is determined to correct before the next round.

Round 2 Race Results

Class D

Peter Collis	FL	1.51.878
Paul Sibley		1.52.575
Joe Parrington		1.55.040
Roy McCarthy		2.00.920

Class C

Phil Walker		2.04.370
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Class B

Tom Jones	FL	2.02.342
Ian Prior		2.03.419
Jonnie Wheeler		2.03.489
James Wheeler		2.04.870
Brian Cakebread	DNF	2.07.119
Simon Cripps	DNF	2.21.080

Class AB

Victoria Stones	FL	2.22.111
Steve Okines	DNF	2,26,378

Congratulations to

Peter Collis	- Overall and 1 st in Class D
Phil Walker	- 1 st in Class C
Tom Jones	- 1 st in Class B
Brian Smethurst	- 1 st in Class AB
Victoria Stones	- 1 st in Class A

Pam McCarthy