

A1 DRIVERS BCV8 CHAMPIONSHIP RACE REPORT ROUND 4

750MC Race Meeting,
DONINGTON 14TH May 2006

Practice Session

I arrived at a very wet and greasy Donington park race circuit just as the BCV8 were heading out on the track for qualifying. They were out to get grid positions for rounds **4 & 5**.

The one practice session determined the grids for rounds 4 and 5, each driver being given their two best times. MVB

The wet conditions played right into the hands of professional world touring car driver Rob Huff who loves getting his Wilshire Garages MGB B class into the most spectacular power slides round all the corners. His superb car control put him on overall pole ahead of the much more powerful Class D and C cars for the first race and second overall in the 2nd race. Most of the D class went out on slicks hoping the track may dry out. However Peter Collis took advantage of his wets and got pole for the 2nd race. Adrian Beer made a return to the BCV8 with the number 1 on his modified D class car, but struggled to learn his new car in such greasy conditions on slick tyres and with oil on his windscreen.

Also having problems with his car was Mike Breedon, after practice he was looking at everything under his bonnet, he felt something electrical was causing the problems, I'm sure he will fill in the actual problems in brackets right about now (*dead starter motor, thanks to all who helped push start the car all day MVB*)

Ian Prior had a puncture dropping him right down the grid positions for the race!

All in all though there was a great turn out of cars and a very full grid!

RACE REPORT ROUND 4

A dry track for round 4 was sure to give a spectacular race. Rob Huff lined his car up on pole position surrounded by D class V8's. As the lights changed everyone charged away to Red Gate, Rob Huff dropping back to 6th by the first corner but still well in front of his class. The D class powered there way down the hill towards the old hair pin. Under the bridge Peter Collis was in the lead followed very closely by Tom Stewart, John Wilson and Adrian Beer. The rest of the field were trying equally hard behind them all fighting for position in the first laps.

Class A

Class A saw Rob Muir and Richard Dawe back racing together both very competitive drivers. Rob Muir took advantage of his good grid position and a great start to win the race. It wasn't an easy win though Richard Dawe fought hard in the early stages and tried a few moves down the inside at the chicane. However Rob Muir dealt well with the pressure. John Wreghitt rounded up the field.

Class AB

Tom Smith looked like he was sure for a win in the first race of the day, but a d.n.f on lap 9 handed the win to Marc Yates. Marc Yates drove well and finished in a very strong 1st place position. A solid second place was seen by Dawn Marie Cox, who told me she suffered in the morning practice session because her car wasn't set up for the wet conditions. The AB class was rounded up by Ian Longhurst. Bob Fisher unfortunately had to pull off on lap 5.

Class B

Class B once again saw amazing scraps throughout the field and was as close as ever. Rob Huff took advantage of his fantastic grid position and lead from start to finish even nibbling at the C and D class cars of Brian Halford and Joe Parrington round the corners. Rob couldn't afford to make too much of a mistake though because a fast charging Russell McCarthy wasn't too far behind him. Peter Samuels finished in a strong third position behind Rob and Russell. The battle was on behind Peter though with Tom Jones, Barry Holmes, Mike Harris and a fast charging Ian Prior all close together in the early stages. Mike Harris made a mistake on lap 3 spinning at the chicane allowing Ian Prior to get in front of him. Barry Holmes managed to get in front of Tom Jones to take 4th in class. Tom took a strong 5th place in class with Ian Prior taking 6th in class. Mike Harris finished 7th, & behind Mike, John Hutson and Mike Breedon had a good scrap with under a second between them across the line! Kevin Swann and Howard Grundon rounded up Class B.

Class C

Joe Parrington dominated class C in qualifying and did much the same in the race leading from start to finish. Piers Townsend did have a strong race finishing 2nd in class but found Russell McCarthy all over him around the corners. Martin Hall and Phil Walker looked as though they were trying hard but they just couldn't seem to match the pace of Joe. Paul Audley and Andrew Riley rounded up Class C.

Class D

Class D saw fantastic racing between the whole group. From the lights Peter Collis led the first lap. The group stayed close together all through the next lap and then on lap three Adrian overcooked it on the left hander under the bridge going up the hill and put it in the gravel. Tom Stewart also dropped well back down the field but wasn't going to give up and gave a very fast charge. John Wilson led for the remainder of the race driving really well throughout with pressure from Roy McCarthy and in the last two laps amazing pressure from a very quick Tom Stewart.

JAMES WHEELER