

BKMS Racing

Superkart Racing Team



BKMS Racing Retain British Title

Paul Prevails In Crucial Cadwell Crunch Clash

BKMS Racing arrived at the penultimate round of the British Superkart Series at Cadwell Park with a good chance for Paul to win the series for Neil to consolidate 3rd place.

The event was also host to the final round of the MSA British Superkart Series for 250 National (mono-cylinder) for which the championship would be decided between 2007 European Superkart Champion Gavin Bennett (Bennetts Coaches / GB Racing) and 2007 MSA British Superkart Grand Prix winner Trevor Roberts (Team Viper Racing UK).

Neil's weekend started shakily as some final alignment checks revealed a slightly bent axle. Locally based Graham Barker was kind enough to provide Neil with a replacement axle.

Qualifying was dry and conditions were good. Paul managed to take pole by 0.1sec from Steve McAdam (Salad Fayre) – his 4th pole from 4 rounds in the series. Neil was in a tentative 6th, still struggling with his chassis. Gavin Bennett posted the mono-cylinder pole time with championship rival Trevor Roberts behind.

Race 1 was all set for Paul to take the title. All he had to do was to finish in 8th place or better and the title was his. Neil needed to beat Simon Holloway to take points to maintain his 3rd place. Steve McAdam took the lead with Paul slotting in behind Simon Holloway (www.adultjoy.co.uk). Neil held station in 6th spot. Soon enough, Paul was into the lead and pulling away. Neil was maintaining the gap to the others quite nicely and was much more confident with the chassis.

Then, disaster struck – Paul's engine blew on the way down the pit straight. A seized conrod put paid to any chance of taking the title in this race.

Paul's nearest title rival Dave Harvey (Harvey Fabrication) then took the lead from Simon Holloway but Steve McAdam, recovering from an early spin at Mansfield, soon leap-frogged them both to take the lead. Dave Harvey kept him honest but Steve took the race. Neil was in 5th looking to limit his losses in the points series but on the final lap a dismal race for the team was complete – a chain failure saw Neil sidelined on the very last lap. Fastest lap of the race went to Paul but that was scant consolation for what should have been much more.

In the mono-cylinder race, this was hotly contested between Gavin Bennett, Trevor Roberts, Dean Hawley (Team Viper Racing UK) and the 'Fife Flyer' Matthew Bett. Trevor retired near the end and the race bunched up on the last lap as they came to pass Division 1 race tail ender Bob Hosier (VH Racing Team). Matthew Bett had a useful gap over the others as they caught Bob at Charlies but by the time they came through the Gooseneck the trio were line astern. Matthew made a committed move into Mansfield to pass Bob and it proved to be the race-winning move. He took a well-deserved win ahead of Dean Hawley and Gavin Bennett.

For race 2 Paul had changed to the spare engine and Neil had solved a few minor problems. The race, however, was a lacklustre showing for both drivers. From the start, Neil led Paul into Charlies but Paul managed to get in front of him and Steve Briggs (Future Cleaning Services) in the early stages.

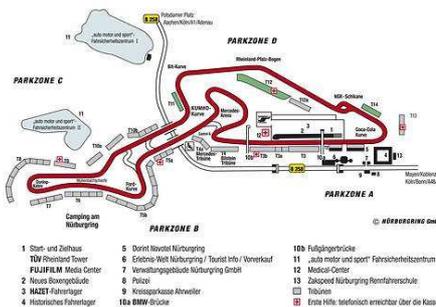
It was soon clear that Paul was not going to progress any further so he decided to play it safe and settle in for the points which would be enough to secure the British title. Steve McAdam and Dave Harvey were, again, at the head of the field. These two were very close all race and Dave finally managed to win as Steve retired in the closing stages.

Simon Holloway finished 2nd completing a very credible showing for him with Steve Briggs coming in a fine 3rd. Paul and Neil trailed in 4th and 5th respectively, both drivers disappointed with their pace. However, despite a poor day by the team's standards they achieved what they'd planned to do – come away with the British Championship Series win and held onto the 3rd place.

In the mono-cylinder class it was a dramatic end to proceedings. Trevor Roberts and Gavin Bennett were head to head for the MSA British Superkart title with Gavin starting on grid 3 and Trevor on grid 14. In the very final sequence of bends the two drivers came together. Trevor was victorious and Gavin limped home in 3rd behind Matthew Bett. Matthew took a well-deserved meeting victory but the main prize, the MSA British Superkart Championship title, belonged to Trevor Roberts and Ian Harrison's Viper Racing UK. Gavin could console himself with fastest race lap of the day (of all classes) but it's not the result he was looking for.

So a dramatic end to the MSA British Superkart Championship (mono-cylinder) sees the title go to the former World Champion. The Division 1 Superkart Championship (twin-cylinder), although concluded in the favour of BKMS Racing and Paul Kennings, rolls onto the grand finale at the Nürburgring where Neil hopes to hold onto 3rd place in series. The team will now look to try and make both drivers podium finishers in this series.

Next race (final race of 2007) – Nuerburgring 20-21st October (British Superkart Series Round 5)



Race 1 Victor Steve McAdam



Dave Harvey leads Simon Holloway in Race 1



2007 MSA British Superkart Champion Trevor Roberts



'Fife Flyer' Matthew Bett - MSA Class Winner on the day

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