



Whilton Mill MSA and ABkC Championships Round 5

Congratulations to Mark Litchfield and Roy Johnson who have provisionally won the MSA British Kart Championship, and the ABkC S1 Cadet title respectively. It is Litchfield's fourth senior title, making him one of the most successful drivers on the British scene. For Johnson, it is his third major title this year.

The inclement weather, combined with the new venue, made for an unusual form book early on, but not in KF1 where Chris Rogers and Litchfield took the honours. Carl Stirling won the first KF3 final, but the weather aided Taylor's successful challenge for the second. They will battle it out for the title at the last round. Simpson's winning streak came to an end in KF2, with a fairly disastrous day, leaving the wins to be both claimed by Ben Cooper from Jake Ball. Lindsay Butcher's early promise faded with off's in both finals. A frantic battle between Ben Barnicoat and Roy Johnson resolved in the formers favour in the Cadet class.

B4/Renault Elf MSA British Kart Championship for KF1

Qualifying: Litchfield (44.05), Lee Bell, Elliott Burton.

Heat 1: Bell, Burton, Gorman

Heat 2: Litchfield, Gorman, Chris Rogers.

Final 1: Bell and Rogers left Gorman struggling to keep Litchfield at bay. Once past, Litchfield traded the lead with the outgoing champion, who regained the front into Parker. Litchfield's last try on Rogers at the Boot was thwarted when Bell nipped into the open door for second.

Results Final 1: Rogers, Bell, Litchfield, Richard Bradley, Gorman.

Final 2: As it started to dry Litchfield had the edge, rapidly moving to the front with Rogers just about clinging on, until an engine failure intervened. That elevated Bell and Bradley, the latter exclaiming it had been a horrendous day.

Results Final 2: Litchfield, Bell, Bradley, Nicholas Yelloly, Sam Tordoff.

B4/Renault Elf MSA British Junior Kart Champs for KF3

Qualifying: Sam Blake (44.97), Carl Stirling, Macaulay Walsh.

Heat 1: Ashley Sutton, Lewis Hall, Carl Stirling.

Heat 2: Sam Jenkins, Jake Dennis, Walsh.

Heat 3: Sutton, John Norris, Walsh.

Heat 4: Stirling, Mackenzie Taylor, Sam Snell.

Repechage: Blake, James Webb, Chris Swanwick, Oscar Tunjo.

Final 1: Jenkins made the better start over Sutton, Snell and Stirling but after a short pace flag intervention for a three kart smash, Stirling quickly snatched the lead from Sutton, who fell back. Jenkins fell off, Taylor the beneficiary, and Norris leapfrogged Snell for third, with Sutton following. Snell dropped to 14th.

Results Final 1: Stirling, Taylor, Norris, Sutton, Dennis.

Final 2: Feeling the pressure of having one hand on the championship trophy, Stirling became embroiled in a battle with Norris, letting Taylor escape for the win. Amazingly Jenkins came from almost last to join the fourth place fight, but he came off again. Sutton cleared them and nipped into third ahead of Stirling.

Final 2: Taylor, Norris, Sutton, Stirling, Snell.



Images courtesy www.kartpix.net

B4/Renault Elf ABkC KF2

Qualifying: Lindsay Butcher (44.2), Jack Harvey, Shaun Carter.

Heat 1: Carter, Harvey, Jake Ball.

Heat 2: Carter, Charles Bonsey, Ben Cooper.

Final 1: Ball's early advantage became eroded by Cooper once he had cleared polesitter Carter. A good run up to Christmas corner saw Cooper take the lead. Michael Simpson's title challenge took a dent when a wheel fell off,

but in truth he'd been off the pace all weekend.

Results Final 1: Cooper, Ball, Carter, Bonsey, Rob Foster-Jones.

Final 2: The top four circulated in Final 1 race order throughout with much attrition behind. Jordan Chamberlain stormed up to fifth and Simpson salvaged sixth.

Results Final 2: Cooper, Ball, Carter, Bonsey, Chamberlain.



KF2 Winner Ben Cooper

ABkC Formula Cadet

Heat winners: George Russell, Matty Graham, Ben Barnicoat x 2.

A Final: An on-form Barnicoat led much of the race, until Roy Johnson threw off Graham's challenge for second. Barnicoat and Johnson had everyone on tenterhooks, swapping the lead some seven times until Barnicoat finally made a move stick, Graham always there ready to pick up any pieces. Ricky Collard had another good but lonely run in fourth.

Results: Barnicoat, Johnson, Graham, Collard, James Armitage.

Whilton Whispers

KF3 title contender Alexander Albon missed the event, due to having broken his arm at Larkhall on the Saturday evening. Jordon Lennox-Lamb endured a painful day in KF1 with damaged ribs following a practice day altercation with Lee Bell.

Max Cornelius was initially excluded from the meeting for failing to hand in his scrutineering card, but an appeal allowed him to race from the back, missing the first KF3 heat. Sam Blake, fastest in KF3 qualifying, was excluded from the first heat when his clutch failed the 'step' test. He explained it overheated after he'd spun on cold tyres coming out of the grid.

The next & last MSA round is at Sherington on 5th October.