

POINTS, PODIUMS, HEROES AND FIRE AT SNETTERTON



Taylor Mackenzie on fire at Snetterton

The fourth round of the British Superbike Championship at Snetterton was something of a roller coaster for Team WD-40 Superbike and the STAUFF Connect academy.

Jack Kennedy was making his much anticipated return after surgery Taylor and Tarran Mackenzie were excited after their testing results and Joe Irving was looking for much needed improvements

Practice did not really go according to plan for the superbike boys both falling early, putting the team under pressure for qualifying, where the intense competition in BSB found them low down the grid with work to do. Unfortunately in race one Taylor was forced to pull out with a problem from his crash but Jack was a different story. Starting 25th on the grid for the 16 lap race Jack made a good start and started to push forward finding himself in a race long battle with Championship leader James Ellison

and former Champion Ryuichi Kiyonari for the final point. Jack did a fantastic job scoring his and our first Superbike points of the season.

Race 2 was a different affair with all our luck deserting both Jack and Taylor retiring early with a similar problem, Taylors much more visible than Jacks. The resulting video has gone viral and Taylor was perfectly OK

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BWgFZ8hifYO>

The STAUFF Connect Academy riders Tarran Mackenzie and Joe Irving continued their excellent form and progress. Taz is on a real roll with his growing confidence as his talent shines through. Throughout practice and qualifying Tarran was with the front group finally qualifying on the front row in 3rd. Joe had his best qualifying in 18th all part of a young riders learning curve. The race was shaping up to be a classic with all the top riders in contention. A good start by Taz saw him in contention when championship leader Mason Law went down in



Jack Kennedy leads Broc Parkes

the early laps leaving Taz and Ben Curry to fight over the spoils. Taz broke the lap record twice to take the lead only to lose it on the last lap though no fault of his own and having to settle for 2nd place, moving to 3rd overall in the championship. Joe came home in 20th place.

Josh Bannister fresh from his first national win was with the Team enjoying the British Superbike Championship atmosphere with his family when he was introduced to the legend 15 times World Champion Giacomo Agostini who signed his Team WD-40 shirt.

The next race is at Knockhill in Scotland something we all and particularly the Mackenzies are looking forward to.

Tarran Mackenzie: “Snetterton for me was really good, I had a great qualifying ending up on the front row with good consistent lap times. In the race I didn’t get the best of starts but I managed to catch the leader by breaking the lap record within a few laps and I felt really comfortable sitting behind him. I led a few laps but in the end I finished 2nd moving up to 3rd in the championship. I am feeling confident for Knockhill and the rest of the season”

Joe Irving: “ Me and my Team made some big steps forward with my best qualifying of the season so far. I was aiming for points in the race but a slow start left me with a lot of work to do. I am looking forward to Knockhill which is one of my favorite circuits.

Brent Gladwin: “Snetterton 2014 is where we turned our season around and we seem to have started that process again this year. The crashes put us back a little with Jack unfortunately keeping his 100% record but Joe and Taylor joining in.

Jack did a great job to score our first points and T-Mac’s stunt riding sent the Team image viral. Tarran is doing a fantastic job in a very competitive class and Joe is learning but he needs to push a little harder.

Our Josh Bannister is becoming something of a star and typical of a 6 year old does not quite know his P’s and Q’s when meeting Legends ! when meeting Ago josh said “ Are you as good as Tom Sykes?” Ago smiled and said “I used to be” what a gentleman. Our next race is in Scotland where we will be involved with some great BSB PR for the event. 