

BARC North Western Centre report for BARC Magazine 2017 Summer edition

Since the last edition of this magazine the CNC Heads sports saloon championship has completed five more rounds and the demand for places on the grid has not diminished. Rounds two, three and four were held at Anglesey's Trac Mon, a big favourite with us all in the NW Centre including the drivers. The CNC races were run on the International circuit there to benefit from the maximum grid size with 46 cars taking to the track for qualifying. One qualifying session decided the grids for the first two races with the result of race two sorting it for race three.

The first three places in qualifying were taken by the usual drivers with Paul Rose on pole in his Saker, Joe Spencer's Locosaki in second and Garry Watson third in his Westfield. Fourth was our sponsor Ric Wood in his BMW GTR 4000. It was not the same in the results though as Paul broke a drive shaft off the grid and Garry started from the pit lane and tagged another car dropping him to 17th with bent steering giving Joe a comfortable win and the class C lead. Dave Harvey (Locosaki) beat Roddie Paterson (Caterham) to third place with Roddie taking the class B lead.

Luke Armiger featured massively in his Vauxhall Tigra by reaching 17th on the first lap from 41st on the grid! He then added to this with a 7th place finish. With a grid this size there were dozens of races going on within the field. Tim Foxlow is making a very successful change from stock car ovals to turning both ways and his ability to overtake in a tight pack has certainly helped. Starting 18th he finished 11th in his lovely Mk1 Escort RSR 2500.

Paul Rose managed to get off the grid in race 2 but as usual was beaten into the first corner by a flock of smaller lighter cars and spent the race catching Joe spencer and eventually taking the win. Alistair Stenhouse was working hard for points in class D in his BMW M3 having been beaten by Oliver Thomas in his Subaru Imprezza in race 1 he was pipped to 12th place by Mike Hurst in his Seat Leon.

Peter Davies won the sports racer battle to 6th place in his Spire GTR with Danny Bird in his Pell Genesis 7th. Piers Grange won class E for the second time in his Mk2 Escort 2300 with Graeme Laslett second for the second time in his Lotus Elise 1800.

Signs of wear and tear were starting to show by the end of the second day but 41 cars still made it to the grid for race 3. It was Danny Bird's turn to delay the proper start on the grid for race 3 when his drive shaft broke. Eventually everyone got moving and to say that the usual drivers occupied the first 4 places in the results does not do justice to the fighting racing it took to get there. For these guys a grid of this size also means a lot of slower cars to negotiate on the way through lapping the field. This creates a massive amount of excitement for the spectators of course and all the drivers should be congratulated on handling the situation on such a busy track with relatively little trouble and incident. However discussions have started on the possibility of booking two grids at each race meeting next season to satisfy the big demand for entries. This would also allow the specials to run together and the modifieds to have their own grid.



*A varied group of cars in the CNC Heads Championship in Anglesey
(Photo : Marvin Hall)*

Reigning champion Paul Rose won race 3 and class A from Joe Spencer who leads class C and the championship overall after 4 rounds. Roddie Paterson's third place

gives him the class B lead and third overall by 1 point from Piers grange who won class E and is 2nd overall by one point from Spencer. It could not be closer!

Alistair Stenhouse may struggle to win his class but his reliability gives him the class D lead. Clive Dix took two class F wins and one second in his Ford Puma to Iain Gorrie's one win and two seconds but after 4 rounds Iain leads the class and is 4th overall. The closeness in overall points at the top and only 6 points between 4th and 10th overall bodes well for another exciting season's racing.

I look forwards to letting you know how it has all worked out in the autumn!

Peter Gorrie NW Centre Secretary