



THE 320 CHALLENGE

3 RACES > 10 ROUNDS > 2 CLASSES > 1 CHAMPIONSHIP

DATE 16.03.11 > TRACK BUCKMORE PARK > TRACK CONDITION DRY > DRIVERS FASTEST LAPS STANDARD 50.076 IAIN MCMILLAN – LIGHT 49.954 MATT JONES

A JONES'S DOMINATION!

STAR PUPIL MATT FOR LIGHTWEIGHT AND STUART FOR STANDARD

Wednesday 16th March 2011 and welcome to you all "new and old" for our first round of the new season and using the new RX390 karts, which had only been taken out of the box the week before.

Every December we say goodbye and Happy Retirement to "The Old Buck – Haydn Brown" and every March we welcome him back out of retirement and this year was to be no different!

The 320 Challenge format is 3 x 20 minute endurance races, with a 10 minute practice/qualifying session. The grid is split into Lightweight and Standard weight classes which are determined by an average weight of the day.

As many of the drivers had not raced since the end of 2010 there was great anticipation as they hovered over the scales. The average weight for the first round would be 85.5kg. Tonight this would split the grid in half.

Before our Race Director Phil Ling begins the driver briefing, we have a little presentation to complete. Norman Kenvyn was unable to attend the Annual Awards evening last month to collect his 2nd Place Championship trophy for 2010, so we have saved this for tonight. Congratulations Norman.

After the driver briefing the 12 drivers make their way "excitedly" to the pits for their 10 minute practice/qualifying in the new karts.

Although it was dry there was a damp/fogginess in the air so the drivers had a little bit to contend with, but with the times of 0.149 seconds between 1st and 12th this would show how close the evening would be. No kart changes and end of the session.

#(denotes Standard Class)

Glenn Marrison took pole with a time of 49.976 with Matt Jones 2nd, #Iain McMillan (first of the Standard drivers) 50.284 3rd, Peter Sharp 4th, #Stuart Jones 5th, Paul Griffith 6th, #Malcolm Clark 7th, Reiss Khan 8th, #Adrian Matthews 9th, Haydn Brown 10th, #Norman Kenvyn 11th and #Simon Gammage 12th.

For the first time in the DJmotorsport 320 Challenge 2011 the lights go to green and Glenn leading the pack, Peter now into 2nd, and #Iain holding 3rd. With the middle of the pack so evenly matched a casualty of the huddle was #Malcolm Clark who was now at the back.

Although the karts are very even, little groups started to form. Peter took the lead for a lap, before Matt Jones was at the front putting in the time fastest lap of the heat at 50.036 with Peter Sharp and Glenn Marrison still in the game.

CHAMPIONSHIP AFTER R1

1	Matt Jones	90
2	Stuart Jones	87
3	Haydn Brown	85
4	Glenn Marrison	84
5	Iain McMillan	83
5	Paul Griffith	83
5	Adrian Matthews	83
8	Malcolm Clark	82
9	Simon Gammage	81
10	Norman Kenvyn	79
11	Peter Sharp	77
12	Reiss Khan	76



Phil Ling presents Normans 2010 Championship trophy



THE 320 CHALLENGE

3 RACES > 10 ROUNDS > 2 CLASSES > 1 CHAMPIONSHIP

The next group was #Iain McMillan 4th (1st in class) with Haydn Brown 5th and #Adrian Matthews 6th. Next there were Reiss Khan, Paul Griffith and #Stuart Jones with #Norman Kenvyn knocking on the door.

The last battle on track was at the back between #Simon Gammage and #Malcolm Clark. Both experienced drivers but didn't get the best start but seemed to be playing the swappseys game only 0.614 behind the lead pack.

Reiss was taking a while to get used to the karts as he found himself a little close the tyres on a couple of occasions and unfortunately gathering a driver or two! But the gentleman he is made a mistake and contact and gain he waved Paul back through as they approached the hill.

An incident at the bottom of the circuit saw Peter Sharp who had 3rd in the bag now arrive and pass the start line in 10th! #Iain was now 3rd with Glenn 5th.

Very little change in the last 5 minutes with 11 of the drivers in the 50s and 8s dividing the top 5 drivers.

After 24 laps, Matt Jones takes the chequered, Haydn Brown 2nd, Glenn Marrison 3rd, #Iain McMillan 4th (1st in Class) #Adrian Matthews 5th, Paul Griffith 6th, Reiss Khan 7th, #Norman Kenvyn 8th, #Stuart Jones 9th, Peter Sharp 10th, #Malcolm Clark 11th and #Simon Gammage 12th.

Heat 2 is a reverse grid of the heat 1 result, always exciting.

Pole sitter #Simon Gammage waits patiently for the lights to go green and takes the pack round with #Norman Kenvyn close behind, #Stuart Jones and Peter Sharp once again up with the front runners. All round safely and Haydn on a mission in this heat from 10th now upto 6th but both #Malcolm and Reiss losing a few places.

As the pack makes its way round for the 3rd time and all drivers still quite tightly packed, a little bit of late breaking in the now damp conditions see a collection of karts spinning and avoiding the spinners at hairpin one seeing Peter Sharp again being edged out and now last and playing catch-up.

As Peter passes #Adrian it is clear he has a problem. #Adrian who started near the back of heat 2 seemed to be going backwards – not literally but he was definitely “off the pace” – a phrase I've heard!

At the front of the pack #Stuart Jones was holding his position but with the fastest lap of 4.954 (this was to be a new lap record on the night) by his triplet brother Matt (it also includes a sister) he passes at garda with one lap to go to take the lead. As different classes #Stuart now 2nd on track can feel a faster driver gaining on the straight and waves him past. Paul Griffiths now 2nd on the final lap tries to catch Matt.

For the second time tonight the chequered goes to Matt Jones who takes the win from Paul Griffith 2nd by 0.58s. #Stuart Jones (1st in Class) 3rd, Haydn Brown 4th, Glenn Marrison 5th, #Simon Gammage 6th, #Malcolm Clark 7th, #Iain McMillan 8th, Peter Sharp a gallant drive 9th, Reiss Khan 10th, #Norman Kenvyn 11th and #Adrian Matthews 12th.

With all points added together for heats 1 and 2 Matt Jones took pole (60 points), Haydn Brown 2nd, #Iain McMillan 3rd, #Stuart Jones 4th (same points 57 fastest lap order) Paul Griffith 5th, Glenn Marrison 6th. #Adrian Matthews 7th, #Malcolm Clark 8th, #Norman Kenvyn 9th, #Simon Gammage 10th, (same points 54, fastest lap order) Reiss Khan 11th and Peter Sharp 12th (same points 51, fastest lap order).

For the final time tonight the Red lights go Green! The Buckmore Park 2010 Star Pupil Matt Jones goes for gold and sprints off into the distance with Haydn Brown 2nd, #Stuart Jones now 3rd and #Iain McMillan 4th all bumper to bumper. #Simon Gammage moves from 10th to 6th with Glenn dropping to 9th but on a mission and Reiss now last.

THE 320 CHALLENGE

3 RACES > 10 ROUNDS > 2 CLASSES > 1 CHAMPIONSHIP

With temperatures dropping all drivers are now in the mid 50s and all very closely packed. The word of the night was "in gaggles". The lighter drivers did seem to have the advantage in the last 10 minutes with a great drive by Glenn moving him up to 3rd passing both #Simon then #Stuart with relative ease.

It seemed to be #Norman's turn to have the kart with more ponies and less horses, but as the true professional he is he carries on.

As we reach the final few laps Reiss in 5th position tries to make a move into 4th at hairpin one which doesn't quite work, and he does collect some of the pack who were arriving there at the same time. With the drama over and everyone round the right way continuing, Reiss is facing the wrong way in the tyres and him awaiting pit-crew he is now relegated to last position.

For the third and final time tonight, the chequered flag goes out for a well deserved win to Matt Jones, Glenn Marrison 2nd, Haydn Brown 3rd, Paul Griffith 4th, #Stuart Jones (1st in class) 5th, #Adrian Matthews 6th, #Malcolm Clark 7th, #Simon Gammage 8th, Peter Sharp 9th, #Iain McMillan 10th, #Norman Kenvyn 11th and Reiss Khan 12th.

Getting used to both the handling and braking and also the change in weather conditions (foggy/damp) there were a few minor contacts throughout the night but on every occasion all the drivers showed great sportsmanship and either apologised and/or waved the driver back through. The experience of the drivers was also shown when the quicker drivers were waved safely past those who were on a mission in class. Thank you to everyone this makes for a great and enjoyable race. No Black Flags or kart changes. A great start to the 2011 season.

Our Driver of the Day goes to Peter Sharp who on every heat started well but got caught out with spinners but carried on. All the points for all three heats are added together for all three heats.



Glenn, Matt and Haydn(!)



Iain, Stuart and Adrian



Driver of the day
Peter Sharp

ROUND 1 RACE RESULT LIGHTWEIGHT CLASS

- 1 Matt Jones
- 2 Haydn Brown
- 3 Glenn Marrison
- 4 Paul Griffith
- 5 Peter Sharp
- 6 Reiss Khan

ROUND 1 RACE RESULT STANDARD WEIGHT CLASS

- 1 Stuart Jones
- 2 Iain McMillan
- 3 Adrian Matthews
- 4 Malcolm Clark
- 5 Simon Gammage
- 6 Norman Kenvyn

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU FOR ROUND 2 ON
WEDNESDAY 6th APRIL 2011 AT 7PM**