



BMCRC

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

The BMCRC will be hosting a new championship in 2012 and the club organisers believe it heralds a new dawn for young riders starting out in the world of road racing. The National Junior Cup will see 13-18 year olds contesting the race series on a standard four-stroke Kawasaki Ninja 250-R, the same bike that's featured in the European Junior Cup (see page 53).

There are eight rounds planned for the inaugural season and whilst most of these will be hosted at BMCRC events between March and September, at least one will be hosted as part of the British Superbike season.

The final package price for wannabe racers should fall somewhere between £5,000 and £5,500 for the ready to race bike, and the aim of the series is firmly on putting together a cost-effective package for young riders so they can focus on learning their craft. Mike Dommatt CEO of the BMCRC says that entrants should enjoy lower running

costs and easier maintenance than those associated with racing two-stroke 125s – a class that is being replaced by Moto3 (four stroke 250cc) bikes globally over the next few years. Gerrard Spear from the BMCRC agreed; "This is in line with the moves in the premier classes away from the frighteningly expensive 125cc two strokes to a far more reliable and cheaper four-stroke 250. I know a race winner this year that spent over £30,000 with all the engine rebuilds needed and this move can only increase grid sizes and bring in more young talent for us to nurture and take to British and International levels."

In reality it may not be that straightforward to create a hot bed of future champions, but it sounds like a good starting point and, as long as the club gets enough entrants to ensure a decent number of bikes on the grid, it should make for some interesting racing.

The ACU have Ok'd the concept of letting 13 year olds loose on 250cc bikes, so if you're 13 on or before 1st March 2012, all you

need is the money and a novice licence – oh yes apparently you might need something called "parental consent" too! For those who've never raced before, there's an Open Day in December and a two day race school for complete beginners in late February, scheduled to get newbies up and running just before the season starts.

But it's not just ambitious kids on a budget that the BMCRC are trying to appeal to. The technical regulations controlling their Thunderbike class are being shaken up for next season – to step away from the class being dominated by Ducatis and suffering diminishing grids. The new regs move away from the current production bike styled rules and now allow a whole host of different motorcycles to race, including Harris, Bimota, Spondon and Rob North chassied kit. And if you have a non-standard bike that is "technically interesting" the organisers are happy to talk – as long as the engine conforms to class rules. There are basically three categories controlled by power to weight ratios, from single cylinder machines to the

Extreme class where anything up to 130bhp is allowed.

This means you could see a smorgasboard of bikes out there racing at BMCRC meets next year, and a number of potential entrants have all ready been spotted lurking in the back of their garages, checking out what project bikes are hiding there, gathering dust, that might fit the new regs. We reckon there are going to be some very contented blokes spending a lot of tinkering time this winter and we can't wait to see what and who makes it onto the Thunderbike grid next season.

For more details on either series, check out www.bemsee.net or call the BMCRC office on 01494 872 107. **racer**

» NINJA 250

» THE SPEC

Included in the Race Package from Nominated Kawasaki Dealers:

- A Brand-New Kawasaki Ninja 250R
- Full set of Race Fairings
- Race 'Double Bubble' Screen
- HEL Front & Rear brake lines
- Race Clip-ons inc. Grips
- Race spec brake & clutch levers
- Race Rear Sets
- Quick release Tank Cap
- Maxton GP20 Cartridge Fork Internals
- Maxton RT10 Rear Shock
- Explosafe fitted in tank
- Secondary Carbon/Kevlar Clutch Cover
- Power Commander 5 (Inc. Custom Map)
- Full Arrow Race Exhaust System
- Race air filter
- Tsubaki Chain
- Renthal Front & Rear Sprockets
- Chain guide (Shark Fin)
- Set of Pirelli Diablo Rosso 2 tyres
- Full prep and build by your Kawasaki Dealer
- Inc: Lockwire of oil filler cap, sump and oil filter
- 25% discount on spares
- £5,415.00 +VAT

The deal includes supply of the bike direct from one of six nominated Kawasaki dealers throughout the country. These dealers are selected by Kawasaki UK as being ideal to help as they are all experienced in assisting or running race teams. The bike will be fully race prepared and ready to go, all the standard requirements, sump and filter lockwired, race fairings fitted, rearsets added, race exhaust and suspension installed, race tyres fitted... everything!

In association with Kawasaki, the bike in full race trim will be on display at the NEC Bike Show, November 19-27th, Hall 4, Stand G420 and the BMCRC Open Day at Brands Hatch Sunday 11th December.

» THE PRIZE

The prize for the winner of the 2012 series is a fully paid ride in every round - bike supplied - in the 2012 European Junior Cup!

» INTERESTED?

Are you an interested rider, parent or team? You can get all the information you need by contacting Mike by email on mikedommett@hotmail.com.

All in all, it sounds like colossal fun to take part in, but we can't help but feel slightly hard done by because we're just - only just - over the age limit.

