

Triumph Triple Challenge Round 3



Venue: Thruxton – Hampshire.



Following a wet and windy Cadwell Park spirits were high as our first 2009 BSB round arrived at a sunbathed Thruxton circuit. This ultra fast and bumpy circuit was new for almost everyone so circuit knowledge was no advantage. Around the super fast back section of the circuit from Village to Woodham the bikes would reach maximum revs in top gear producing speeds in excess of 160mph.

Saturdays qualifying got off to a flying start with Jamie Devine taking Pole position whilst Tommy Dale and Lance Carey occupied second and third virtually a full second behind, it was also interesting to see the two Irish lads in the form of Emmet O'Grady and Phillip Erwin (Phillip began his charge back at Cadwell Park) upping their game with competitive times that placed them on the first and second row of the grid respectively. Duncan Knox headed up Pole for the TDG Cup boys with Rhalf Le Turco and Ricky Chadwick taking second and third.

Race one on Saturday and Lance Carey lead into the first corner with Emmet O'Grady, Alex Olson and Jamie Devine lying in his slipstream, Lance managed to hold off these three young pretenders for just over a lap of this awesomely fast circuit before Pole position man Jamie slipped underneath him and commenced to pull away. Lance said "I couldn't understand how Jamie was able to gap me so quickly, he was hellishly quick and I had nothing to come back with". Lances question was answered towards the later part of lap two when Jamie lost the front end at Cobb Corner just after the start finish straight. Lance then went on to lead the race with O'Grady and Olson battling in second and third respectively until lap seven when a crash involving Nicholas Blockley brought out the red flags. Nicholas was treated for concussion which brought his race weekend to an end but is recovering well.



Further down the field the TDG Cup runners had swapped around their qualifying places with Rhalf Le Turco once again heading the field a healthy margin second place runner Duncan Knox who had something of a lonely race whilst Ricky Chadwick kept Stephanie Waddelow close company to finish in third. A special mention goes to Luke Lawrence who after a difficult start to the season is beginning to find some of his previous form.

As the sun set so the barbecues spread out across the paddock like a rash, that distinctive smell must surely have drifted across to the local village that night whilst the riders and their teams took the opportunity to swap stories and relax in the evening sun.

Sunday greeted us again with fine weather and you could feel the anticipation of the riders as the 25,000 BSB crowd gathered to watch the days races.

First in to Allard for race two was Lance Carey with Jamie Devine, Emmet O'Grady, Alex Olson and Reece Rothwell in close quarter battle, from lap one you knew this was going to be a close race now the riders had a feel for the circuit and a chance to adjust their set-up. As the race closed on lap one Jamie Devine hit the front with Alex and Emmet pushing hard in third and fourth, lap two saw Emmet and Alex commenced battle with Emmett taking the advantage on drive out of the corners whilst Alex climbed all over him like a rash under the brakes. On lap three Jamie once again lost the front end leaving Emmet and Alex to covet the slot, a mighty battle took place between these two young riders whilst Phillip Erwin nudged himself in to fourth with a great ride only to suffer a blown engine which saw him having to retire.



As the flag dropped on this 10 lap race the top three of Emmet, Alex and Reece all crossed the line within 1.5 seconds of one another. Rhalf Le Turco once again took first place for the TDG Cup runners whilst Duncan Knox took his podium slot for second and wildcard rider Adam Kemp brought up the rear in third.

It was the best race of the season so far and T3 Racing would like to thank all those in the Championship for putting on such a great show. Hats off to you all.

Championship Table

Rider:	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	Totals
TDG Cup										
Rhalf Le Turco	75	50	50							175
Duncan Knox	52	61	36							149
Allistair Haynes	40	49	20							109
Ricky Chadwick	42	30	13							85
Paul Hughes	36	22	24							81
Luke Lawrence	9	35	26							70
Sean Noice	31	22	11							64