



BMCRC CHAMPIONSHIPS CADWELL PARK June 28-29th Powerbike title chase on for Lister?



Mark Lister dominated the latest rounds of the BMCRC Powerbike Championship at Cadwell Park, and he has possibly now given himself an even chance of hauling in leader Peter Baker before the season is out, writes Terry Howe

City businessman Lister powered the Orwell Motorcycles Suzuki GSX-R to victory over Stephen Thomson, Suzuki GSX-R, in Saturday's opener. Championship leader Baker was third. But initially a Saturday double for Lister looked far from on as Baker fired his Morello Roofing Suzuki GSX-R into a race two lead with Lister buried in the early stages.

Sam Bishop, (no 2) Cunningham Kester John Yamaha R1, shadowed Baker in the early laps but dropped off the pace as the race progressed. By lap three Lister had moved into fourth and the battle for third went from warm to hot as Thomson and the Suzuki GSX-R mounted Michael O'Brien contested the spot. Salisbury businessman Thomson has been a very consistent rider over the last few seasons and this year is no exception; and proving he can cut it with BSB riders as well.

But mid distance Lister was into the zone and broke up the Thomson/O'Brien conflict and Bishop was now his target. In the meantime Luke De La Cour, the Suzuki GSX-R mounted Channel Islander in his first season of Powerbike racing, was looking very effective darting into sixth on lap five. Lister was now into second and made his move on Baker into Hall Bends stick on the penultimate lap to take another win.

Lap two in Sunday's opener saw Lister get the better of Bishop at Mansfield for second then a move on O'Brien at Park on the final lap brought about more success for on form Enfield rider Lister. It was on the cards all weekend so it was no surprise to see De La Cour grab a podium third, but in this final encounter O'Brien had no answers to Lister who had a great weekend on the LCS supported Suzuki GSX-R.



Simon Peyto increased his lead at the head of the Thunderbike UK series by virtue of four from four in a barnstorming winning display. Saturday morning brought about an excellent start for championship leader Peyto. The Bexley rider took a 31-point advantage to round four of this series and this was quickly added to at the expense of direct rival Garry Budgen, who was off the pace a little on his Honda CBR 'Steelie'. Andy Burbidge, Ducati, and Phil Read (no 5), Vyrus, were second and third respectively in this opening encounter. Gyles Fairclough powered his mighty Moto Guzzi MGS 01 into a race two lead but Peyto quickly nipped ahead and opened up a decent advantage on the HM prepared Diablo 666 Suzuki SV, but this time taking Burbidge with him. For a while Peyto had met his match here with Burbidge's NVR Fleet Ducati 748 appearing to have more straight line speed. But by mid distance Peyto had made the wooded section count and had eased out a cushion which was maintained to the flag. In the meantime Read had powered the Alto Performance Vyrus into second and held off Burbidge to take the position.

It was a very convincing victory for Peyto in race one on Sunday, so much so he dismantled James Wainwright's two year old lap record in the bargain. Read got the drop on his rivals in the final race but Peyto, in sparkling form, was quickly in charge once more. The battle for third saw 29-year-old electrician Burbidge having some troubles with Fairclough in the early stages and he eventually lost the place to the Guzzi mounted Scot. This time the round belonged to Peyto who has given the opposition plenty to do in the forthcoming rounds.

The BMCRC F1 and F2 Sidecar Championships are fast becoming a Holland /Belgian affair as Ben Holland and Ricky Stevens, LCR Suzuki GSX-R, and Marc and Rik Vannieuwenhuysen (no 88), Shellbourne Honda, dominated the F1 and F2 classes respectively. After grabbing a big load of points Holland and Stevens moved a little closer to the head of the F1 standings, a position held by John Holland and Tim Worsfold prior to the event. In race one on Saturday young Norfolk crew Bygrave and Ryder took the hole-shot, powering their LCR Suzuki GSX-R into an early lead. But this was short lived as Holland senior took up control on lap two.



Half distance and the Holland/Stevens duo had made it to the front, but not without some resistance from the Holland/Worsfold crew. Norwich teamsters Bygrave and Ryder maintained third ahead of Belgians Marc and Rik Vannieuwenhuysen, who finished fourth overall and first in the F2 category. Holland and Stevens, the Havant youngsters, got away very briskly in race two and quickly established a sizable advantage over Holland senior. Craig Chaplow and Dan Evans had done well to get their Red Line Superbike LCR Suzuki GSX-R into third, but were forced to retire on the final lap. Atkinson and Wheatcroft were the best F2 team on this occasion.

In Sunday's opener it was a 1-2 again in favour of Holland junior, but this time it was the closest we had seen the Turner/Ransley partnership overhauling the Belgians in the F2 division. But they unfortunately later retired leaving the Vannieuwenhuysens with another class victory. It was all change in a soggy second encounter when early leaders Holland/Stevens and Holland/Worsfold eventually gave way to Bruce Munroe and Carol MacBride, Windle Yamaha, who added this F1 class win to the pair they recently claimed in France. But the ride of the day went to the Belgian wet weather experts who clinched the F2 class and overall victory in this rain wrecked end of the day encounter.



Adam Lyon increased his advantage at the head of the EDI Asia Formula 400 championship standings, but like rival Max Exton both suffering DNFs in this drama packed televised round. Despite establishing fastest laps Guildford teenager Exton was ultimately unable to tame series leader Lyon as the Kawasaki ZXR mounted pair circulated the Cadwell Park mountain circuit as one for the most part.

Exton did get the better of Lyon in Saturday's opener only to receive a ten-second penalty for a jump start infringement. Problems with a water leak on Lyon's machine were rectified between races and once again Lyon had his hands full with Exton in race two. Exton was shadowing Lyon in the early laps and close by a big battle for third was manifesting. Despite suffering with injuries received in a tumble during the recent French races Colchester racer Mark Parbury had powered the Stephens prepared YPVS into third, but then had clutch hassles to contend with.

In the meantime Steve Palmer, Kawasaki ZXR, had got the better of Parbury for the third spot while Parbury was concentrating on fending off a great top six battle, which included Stephen Murphy, Colin Martin and David Scott. Out front though, after exchanging the lead on a number of occasions, Lyon ran out the winner once more.

Lyon grabbed Sunday's opener from Steve Palmer after Exton retired his Kawasaki towards close. Parbury was third again. Palmer got away well in race two and no one, not even Exton, could live with the Bournemouth rider as he eased out a ten-second buffer before the cameras. Scottish youngster Lyon retired his Kawasaki in this one but nevertheless commands an enviable advantage at the head of the group.

Words & pictures Terry Howe
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