

Mike Jenvey – Round 1 news letter

26th April 2010



Snetterton – 3rd on a successful debut.

A fruitful day's testing on Friday put us in good hopes for the weekend although it was clear all Sports 2000 runners had made significant improvements over the winter and resurfacing of the track had reduced lap time by 1.5 seconds.

A very early start on Sunday but a big relief that qualifying had been put back from 9 to 9.40am. The team had done a huge amount of work since Friday and we were able to spend time checking over the car. Scrutineering went without a hitch as expected (but still nerve-wracking especially with a new car).

Qualifying was slightly compromised by trying to bed in a new set of tyres gently. I did 4 slow laps then came in to check tyre pressures. Back out again and managed to get a good tow down the back straight to get down to a 1:08.25. Thereafter I was frustrated by traffic and a slow puncture in the right rear tyre.

3rd on the grid! An excellent result on the cars competitive debut. Pole went to Neil Burroughs in the new Gunn TS11 an impressive 0.8 seconds quicker with Patrick Sherrington taking 2nd spot.

Heavy rain was the order of the next few hours but as we lined up for the start it was looking fully dry. In an effort to claw back 0.8 seconds we had made a lot of changes after qualifying a gamble worth taking at this stage of development.

I got a good start and slipped into 2nd when Patrick ran wide at the first corner. Crossed the line at the end of lap one and already the Gunn was pulling away. I barrelled into the first corner with just a lift but got a large amount of understeer as I got back on the power. By the time I had collected it I was off the circuit rejoining in 4th. Another few big moments, dropping back to 6th, with Robert Oldershaw (having had one big spin) just ahead. This became 4th when Harry Chapman and Rupert Russel clashed and I started closing in on Robert. Just as I caught him up he had a huge spin right in front of me out of the first corner. Just scraped by into 3rd.

Thereafter it was a lonely race. Unfortunately with all the action Patrick in 2nd had escaped too far up the road to catch. With the Gunn pulling away in the lead.

So an excellent 3rd place. So competitive were we that it was easy to forget that this was the very first outing for both a new car and a new team. Congratulations must go to the team for an excellent result and for providing a highly tuned racing car that is strong enough to survive crossing the rough ground outside the first corner at 100mph.

That said 3rd is not enough for us. Kieron, the cars designer from KW Motorsport, and John are already working flat out on the car in preparation for the next race at Brands Hatch on Sunday 23rd May.

Updates:

- March are now taking orders for the first customer cars and can be contacted via: Kieron Salter at www.kwmotorsport.com or Alan Hudd at www.marchracing.co.uk
- Follow progress of Mike Jenvey and the March 09R on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/pages/MARCH-Racing-Academy/190124322871?ref=nf>
- We used 'Shell Racing Fuel 100' MSA approved race fuel for the first time in testing and are very pleased with the extra performance it gave. This fuel is available from One-Fuel Ltd. <http://www.1-fuel.com/#/products/4538712667>
- Data from the race revealed a number of set-up issues. We have already found a significant speed improvement for Brands Hatch.



Too much commitment into the 1st corner of the 2nd lap