

MDA Minicross Event

Lydden Hill 29th August 2011

Points after Round 5

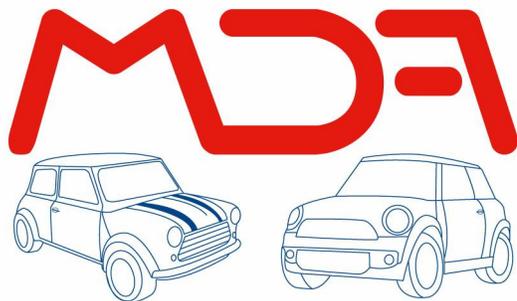
Tommi Edwardes 165
Richard Wakeling 146
David Bell 117
Todd Crooks 92
Mark Griffin 89
Sammy O'Flanagan 63
Ian Clark 46
Brian Wade 21

Going into Round 6 of the MDA Edwardes Brothers Minicross Championship at Lydden Hill this weekend, Tommi Edwardes and Richard Wakeling were opening up a considerable lead on the rest of the field and, with Mark Griffin and Sammy O'Flanagan unable to compete, it was down to Dave Bell and Todd Crooks to try to close the gap. Newcomer Michael Roche in the MDA hire car was taking part in his very first competitive motorsport event.

Heat 1 Richard Wakeling got an excellent start from the second row on the grid and by the first corner was challenging Todd Crooks for the lead. Tommi Edwards was keeping up the pressure in third place but lost control coming off the final corner of lap 1 and hit the tyre barrier, putting him out of the race. Todd Crooks and Richard Wakeling battled for the lead throughout the second and third laps which led to some very close racing, with Dave Bell close behind in third.

Result of Heat 1

1st Todd Crooks, 2nd Richard Wakeling, 3rd
Dave Bell, 4th Michael Roche



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Heat 2

Damage to Tommi Edwardes' car in heat 1 was not repairable which put Tommi out of the rest of the days racing.

Richard Wakeling got a good start from the front row of the grid, with Dave Bell and Todd Crooks dueling for 2nd place, allowing Richard to pull out a bit of a lead. Michael Roche put in a good performance, not allowing the more experienced drivers to pull too far ahead. Todd Crooks managed to stay in front of Dave Bell and began to catch Richard in the final lap, but a little too late to stop Richard taking the win

Result of Heat 2 - 1st Richard Wakeling, 2nd Todd Crooks, 3rd David Bell, 4th Michael Roche



Heat 3

Richard Wakeling took the lead from pole position with Todd Crooks in 2nd place also from the front row. The track was becoming rougher now, especially at the end of the first loose corner section. Todd Crooks mounted a challenge on lap 2, but to no avail. The gap between first and second and second to third place being fairly even on lap 3, Richard Wakeling was able to take a further win, putting him on pole position for the final.

Result of Heat 3 - 1st Richard Wakeling, 2nd Todd Crooks, 3rd David Bell, 4th Michael Roche

The Final

Due to time constraints racing at the circuit had to be completed by 6pm and an incident in the RX150 final put the operation of the Minicross final in doubt. In order to enable the minis to race their final was amalgamated with the Super-Modified cars - a daunting prospect no doubt, for new driver Michael Roche.

Todd Crooks was unable to compete in the final race having blown a piston at the end of heat 3, leaving Richard Wakeling and Dave Bell to challenge the 6 more powerful cars on track.

Both Richard and Dave got good starts, with Richard up to 5th place at one point, dropping back to 6th at the end of lap 1 with Super mod car 111 driven by Barry Dutton separating him and Dave Bell.

The other 5 super-modified cars were pulling away a little by lap 2, but Richard was holding off car 111 and although Michael Roche was bringing up the rear of the 9 cars, he managed to keep up with the rest of the field - a splendid performance for his first time out.



Points after Round 6

Richard Wakeling 182

Tommi Edwardes 165

David Bell 144

Todd Crooks 117

Mark Griffin 89

Sammy O'Flanagan 63

Ian Clark 46

Brian Wade 21

Race Result for the Minicross class

1st Richard Wakeling, 2nd David Bell, 3rd Michael Roche

The end of an exciting days racing at Lydden Hill circuit, with championship standings changing and a new championship leader in Richard Wakeling with Dave Bell now very much closer in points to Tommi Edwardes and only 2 more events to go this year.



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Next race 18th September 2011 at Knockhill