

RG
Racing

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Ben Willshire



Crunch Time

Press Release 13/4/2008 - RG Racing – Mallory Park 13th April
Round 1 & 2 of the British Superkart Championships

RG Racing travelled to Mallory Park, Leicestershire for Round 1 and 2 of the British Superkart championships. Having finished 9th in last years championship with Ben Willshire, the team are keen to make vast improvements this season and arrived to compete in the 125 Open class with a new, lighter Anderson chassis and a PFP tuned SGM engine.

Bens first session out in the new kart was positive. After 13 laps, Ben put in some competitive times to set 9th fastest time with a lap time of 55.95 seconds. Ben reported back positively on the new chassis but felt some setup changes could find some more time around the Mallory Park circuit.

Race 1 saw a good start. Ben managed to gain 3 places in the first few laps, working his way to a comfortable 6th place. After an incident that saw Damian Sleep exit the circuit at Gerrards Corner, the yellow flags were out for several laps of the race on the entry to this corner. However, on lap 6, and still under yellow flag conditions (no overtaking at that point), Ben was overtaken by 2 Superkarts leaving him to finish the race in a frustrating 8th place. With plenty of karts on the circuit, the organisers claimed the passing under yellows was not reported by the Marshals so 8th place was the final classification.



In Race 2 Ben started 8th. He had a clean start and was positioned nicely in the pack, lying 5th after a brave move into Edwina's chicane on lap 1. On lap 4 the race was stopped due to an incident at the hairpin, which left Isle of Man competitor, Jason Kitchens, Superkart blocking the circuit. With 9 laps remaining, the karts restarted the race in single file and the pace was fast, despite drops of rain starting to appear on the circuit. After a sluggish start Ben dropped a place but 2 laps later managed to gain it back with a move on the exit to Gerrards. With only 6 laps to go, Ben was hit by another kart on entry to the 1st gear hairpin and sent off the circuit. Unfortunately this meant the race was over for Ben, with a DNF classification.

Despite a low point scoring opening round the team left Mallory knowing that the pace is underneath them for the season, with more improvements still yet to come. The hard work over the winter had paid off and the team now look forward to travelling to the Ty-Croes circuit in Anglesey on the 10/11th of May for round 3 and 4. The 5th Gear TV program uses the Anglesey circuit for its filming.

RG Racing would like to thank its team sponsors: Apex Circuit Design Ltd, ARCO, Trimedia, Ferodo, Demon Tweaks, NGK Spark Plugs, and Sign-Rite of Basingstoke. The team are looking for sponsors to assist with running costs for Team. RG Racing can be contacted via their web site www.rgracing.co.uk or on 07770 280 375. The team, and drivers, have portfolios available for any potential sponsors.

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