

Southgate and Bastick set the pace at Wattisfield Two Man – Round 3 of the Dave Barkshire Championship

Sunday 16th August saw Diss MCC host round 3 of the 2015 Dave Barkshire 2-man championship at Wattisfield. With a fast, flowing course set out, the riders and spectators were in for a day of high-speed racing. Riders set off at 10am and were soon up to speed. With a majority of the course utilising the surrounding fields, which due to the lack of rain leading up to the event were dry and hard, speed was the name of the game throughout the day, though riders still needed to be on their toes when negotiating the more technical sections around the Motocross track.



With the lap being around 6 minutes, it was a chance for teams to gain, or lose time on others depending if they got their laps in within the allotted 30 minute sessions, without incurring too many penalties.

As the day wore on, heat, and lack of rain became more apparent with the dust hanging over the fields adding another challenge for the riders.

The racing was too close to call throughout the day, with most teams gambling on pushing themselves to get in those extra laps, at the risk of being penalised for going over their time.



Chris Bastick and Shaun Southgate took overall honours in the Championship Class

And so to the eagerly anticipated results. In the championship class, it was the pairing of Shaun Southgate and Chris Bastick who took the honours from Diss pairing Adam Ranson and Mark Chapman, with Tom Braddock and Toby Morley in 3rd, Brendon Mayers and Joe Marsh 4th, and Aston Bird and Carl Grantham 5th after a puncture for Grantham in the morning session put them behind and with a lot of work to do.

The Expert class went to Kieron Snowling and Mark Sharman, continuing their form from the last round with a lead of a whole lap, from 2nd placed Diss member Alex Barkshire and partner Danny Wright. The Diss club was well represented in the Expert class with strong finishes from Rob Aldridge and partner in 3rd, Ross Taylor and partner Michael Ridge in 4th, and Martin and David Stevens in 7th. With points also scored by Diss pairing Gene Womack and Jason Green in 11th, and Wayne Fulcher and partner Tim Ford in 13th.



Rob Aldridge and Ed Pooley picked up 3rd in the Expert Class

In the Clubman class again the Diss club was represented strongly, with Diss MCC member Chris Wright taking the win with partner Daniel Willis. Fellow Diss member Tom Morris also had a good ride with partner Dan Goodwin to finish 4th, half a lap ahead of Diss 6th place pairing Mark Heggarty and Dan Hunt. A fantastic ride from returning Diss duo Chris Jeffries and Paul Wright left them with a 9th place finish, tied on laps with 10th placed Mark Barmby and Tim Leech (also Diss) but Jeffries/Wright took the position due to having a faster special test. Closely followed by veteran Diss pairing Clive Stevens and Terry Largent who took 11th from Luke Womack and David Griffiths (also Diss) in 12th with both teams tied on laps, but Stevens' test being quicker, proving just how close the racing was. Diss pair Grant and Gary Cotterell rounded out the point-scorers in 15th



Chris Wright and Daniel; Willis won the Clubman Class

Diss member Mike Harrison and partner Charlie Copping took the win in the sportsman class.

The Diss club would like to thank the riders, and everyone who helped both on the day, and setting up/clearing the track before and after for what was another successful event, and look forward to the final round of the Eastern Centre Motocross championship hosted by Diss MCC at Wattisfield on 27th September.



Diss MCC Veteran Rider Mike Harrison partnered Charlie Copping and won the Sportsman Class

Report: David Stevens
Pictures: Andy Waters