

NEWS UPDATE

5TH MAY 2014



MILLTEK SPORT VOLKSWAGEN RACING CUP - ROCKINGHAM SPEEDWAY 5TH MAY 2014



THM RACING - THERE'S WORK TO BE DONE!

EVENT ROUNDUP

A disappointing race weekend for the team at the Rockingham Speedway.

Even Matt Hamilton's courageous charge through the field snatching 11 positions and the Teams heroic efforts to blitz the THMR Golf could not match Oulton Park's positive start.

Marred by mechanical issues, a drive shaft failure and an unfortunate spin after being hit by another car, the team had to settle for points. Despite the challenges, positive strides were made with the car set up, but there is plenty of hard work to get down to before the Silverstone rounds coming up shortly.

THM Racing's pit garage and hospitality area featured many new features enhancing the already impressive set up, with all guests enjoying a warm welcome, great hospitality and a drama fuelled day.

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QUALIFYING ROUND UP

Track conditions were fabulous at Rockingham Speedway for the today's qualifying, track temperature settled at 27°C.

Action started immediately with all cars taking to the track for thirty minutes of fast and furious qualifying. At the end of the first lap it was clear all was not as planned with a failed transponder, which relays timing information back to the team on each lap, resulting in limited timing details. Of our ten laps completed four were lost to heavy traffic, limiting our search for our first flying lap.

As qualifying progressed, we suffered engine cooling niggles, affecting our overall amount of power available to put down on the track, power which is all essential at Rockingham Speedway.

Final qualifying position for Matt Hamilton and THM Racing P13 with a time of 1:37.894, which was 1.476 seconds off pole position.

Steve Parkinson, Racing Director commented, *"we struggled to find a clear lap during qualifying and what at this stage appears to be engine cooling issue again That is disappointing, but all considered P13, 1.476 seconds off pole is not bad. The whole team will be on the case this evening to resolve the issues and we will be back out ready for race one in the morning"*.

Matt Hamilton spoke about the positive, pre-qualifying test, with the car on song. Matt was feeling confident and strong about the qualifying session. P13 would have been far from his thoughts after the recent tests and last qualifying result, Matt commented *"the car was in cracking form during the corners, holding great corner speed, but what I achieved through the corners, we struggled to maintain down the straights, but that's racing. The team will be working hard tonight in readiness for tomorrow's racing. With P13 we are in the pack, so there will be some great racing to watch, we will be fighting hard to make our way through the field"*.

ROCKINGHAM ROUND 3: QUALIFIED 13TH



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RACE 1 ROUNDUP

With the weather again glorious for race day, the THM Racing team were looking forward to a competitive days racing after yesterday's disappointing qualifying session and reoccurring niggles. Track temperature at a weekend high of just over 31°C.

Matt Hamilton lined up P12, one up from expected as Fuller had been penalised in qualifying for a technical issue. Matt sat on the grid waiting for the green light, determined to claw his way back up the field. It soon became apparent early on that Race 1 wasn't to be plain sailing. Matt battled hard, carrying good corner speed, but wasn't able to keep track of the opposition out of the corners, power was again an issue.

To finalise a disappointing Race 1, Matt spectacularly span out after contact with Gallagher, resulting in a crushed wheel rim, tyre blow out and rear body damage forcing Matt to retire. Steve Parkinson, Racing Director, commented *"A disappointing race for us, which ended with retirement, an unfortunate spin from Matt fighting it out at the last chicane ended Matt's race, Matt struggled back to the pits. Although starting from the back of the grid for race 2, we will endeavour to be back in the thick of the action"*.

Matt Hamilton commented *"We had a little luck, moving one place up the grid, I got a good start, unfortunately I had a slow gear change and lost a few positions on approach to turn 1, I grabbed a few places back through the field, giving it all I could. As soon as the field bunched we could not hang on, as the field opened out so did the gap between us, frustrating"*.

On the incident, Matt commented *"through the chicane, side by side with Gallagher, were both fighting for line, I had the advantage and held, we unfortunately clashed and I lost out and limped back to the pits. Not sure on the power issue, the Team will jump on that soon as we are back in the pits"*.

On Race 2, Matt beamed enthusiastically, *"well we will start from the back of the grid, it will be great nose to tail racing, we can make up positions quickly and hopefully come away with a good result, it's certainly going to be enjoyable"*.

RACE TWO ROUND UP

Matt Hamilton made an excellent start from the back of the 33 car grid to P21 by the end of lap 1. Matt's momentous efforts snatched further gains over the next few laps, grinding his way through the field to an impressive P16, the team were biting their stop watches as they waited for Matt Hamilton to round the home straight again. The team's confidence had been given a well-earned boost as the THMR Golf's earlier issues seemed to be vastly improved.

Over the next few laps all seemed hopeful until Matt came through the home straight 18th, and then 19th, the lap times on the timing screens and Matt's positioning started to tell the team a different story. With no communications between the driver and the team or any time to pit stop in the short twenty minute race, it was impossible ascertain what had gone array.

Matt finished P21, not a bad shout considering starting from the back of the grid and obvious problems.

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On closer inspection back in the team pit garage, a failed drive shaft was suspected of halting Matt's assault during race 2. Matt explains *"I made great headway through the field, the racing was fantastic, I battled my up the standings to P16, preparing myself for a real monster effort to move even further forward, and then something clattered around the back end of the car, as I took the banked corner I was holding on to the steering, fighting the car as it's backside weaved and bobbed about, I decided to hang on in there and take as many points as I could get, certainly and exhilarating ride I can say that for sure, so frustrating, elated one minute as I clawed and drove my way through the field to fighting hard with the car and competition to get the points"*.

Steve Parkinson commented, *"Overall a challenging day and a result we were not expecting. We have worked hard since Oulton Park to get to the bottom of our engine cooling issues, which we eradicated, only to find further issues. The drive shaft failure was just one of those things and we believe sustained some damage in the impact during race one"*.

On the approaching Silverstone rounds, Steve said *"Once back at Team HQ in Watford, we will be on the case and will set to work looking at the information and data. Silverstone is a jewel of a track, a great circuit, very well loved by teams, drivers and fans. Both Matt and the Car will need to be in top form and we will do our best to get the car there for Matt to take the challenge up on the track"*.

ROCKINGHAM RESULTS:

RACE 1:

POS	NO	NAME	ENTRY	LAPS	TIME	GAP	DIFF	MPH	BEST	ON
1	8	Aaron MASON	Scirocco - AWM Warranty Direct	13	21:21.698			74.85	1:37.234	5
2	6	David SUTTON	Scirocco - Slidesports	13	21:22.557	0.859	0.859	74.80	1:37.263	3
3	27	Stefan DI RESTA	Scirocco - JWB Motorsport	13	21:22.875	1.177	0.318	74.78	1:36.761	4
4	37	James GREENWAY	Scirocco - AWM Warranty Direct	13	21:28.479	6.781	5.604	74.45	1:37.270	4
5	47	Tom BARLEY	Golf GTI - Team Hard	13	21:29.480	7.782	1.001	74.40	1:37.354	3
6	5	Phillip HOUSE	Scirocco - PH Motorsport	13	21:35.383	13.685	5.903	74.06	1:37.386	3
7	33	Lucas ORROCK	Scirocco - KPM Racing	13	21:35.871	14.173	0.488	74.03	1:37.659	3
8	14	Josh CAYGILL	Scirocco - AWM Warranty Direct	13	21:43.155	21.457	7.284	73.62	1:37.293	9
9	9	David FAIRBROTHER	Scirocco - Slidesports	13	21:46.724	25.026	3.569	73.42	1:38.215	5
10	4	Stewart LINES	Golf GTI - Maximum Motorsport	13	21:51.533	29.835	4.809	73.15	1:38.236	3
11	97	Richard WALKER	Golf GTI -	13	21:55.224	33.526	3.691	72.94	1:39.246	8
12	16	James WALKER	Golf GTI - Milltek Sport	13	21:55.405	33.707	0.181	72.93	1:37.225	5
13	41	Sam MORGAN	Golf GTI - KPM Racing	13	21:57.289	35.591	1.884	72.83	1:38.035	6
14	12	Simon RUDD	Golf GTI - Team Hard	13	21:58.471	36.773	1.182	72.76	1:38.426	5
15	44	Robin RILEY	Scirocco - AWM Warranty Direct	13	22:08.465	46.767	9.994	72.21	1:39.440	10
16	17	Tim SNAYLAM	Scirocco - AWM Warranty Direct	13	22:11.331	49.633	2.866	72.06	1:39.803	5
17	88	James PILE	Golf GTI - Slidesports	13	22:11.770	50.072	0.439	72.03	1:39.354	5
18	77	George WHITE	Scirocco - KPM Racing	13	22:15.183	53.485	3.413	71.85	1:39.377	10
19	23	Kieran GALLAGHER	Golf GTI - Team Hard	13	22:17.170	55.472	1.987	71.74	1:38.548	6
20	31	Paul DEHADRAY	Scirocco - JWB Motorsport	13	22:20.319	58.621	3.149	71.57	1:39.695	10
21	18	Craig MASON	Golf GTI - AWM Warranty Direct	13	22:27.945	1:06.247	7.626	71.17	1:41.496	9
22	40	Simon TOMLINSON	Golf GTI - AWM Warranty Direct	13	22:28.106	1:06.408	0.161	71.16	1:40.774	4
23	22 *	Howard FULLER	Golf GTI - Team Hard	13	22:36.498	1:14.800	8.392	70.72	1:37.489	11
24	69	Mark CLYNES	Scirocco - JWB Motorsport	13	22:38.710	1:17.012	2.212	70.61	1:41.431	5
25	46	Andrew SMITH	Beeble - Brooklands Garage	13	22:54.079	1:32.381	15.369	69.82	1:43.186	5
26	13	Joe FULBROOK	Golf GTI - AWM Warranty Direct	12	21:43.268	1 Lap	1 Lap	67.95	1:36.945	5
27	2	Adam WEAVER	Golf GTI - Power Maxed Racing	12	22:22.501	1 Lap	39.233	65.96	1:45.774	2
NOT CLASSIFIED										
DNF	99	Jack WALKER-TULLY	Scirocco - Cooke & Mason	12	20:13.076	1 Lap		73.00	1:37.273	3
DNF	51	Simon ANDREWS	Golf GTI - AWM Warranty Direct	10	17:36.291	3 Laps	2 Laps	69.86	1:40.848	5
DNF	98	Matt HAMILTON	Golf GTI - THM Racing	9	16:00.673	4 Laps	1 Lap	69.13	1:38.728	3
DNF	29	Chris PANAYIOTOU	Scirocco - Maximum Motorsport	7	11:37.828	6 Laps	2 Laps	74.02	1:37.249	4
FASTEST LAP										
27	Stefan DI RESTA	Scirocco - JWB Motorsport	4	1:36.761			76.27 mph	122.74 kph		

* Car 22 - 5 Second penalty, track limits.

* Car 22 - 30 Second penalty, track limits.

RACE 2:

POS	NO	NAME	ENTRY	LAPS	TIME	GAP	DIFF	MPH	BEST	ON
1	37	James GREENWAY	Scirocco - AWM Warranty Direct	12	19:56.468			74.01	1:38.577	3
2	47	Tom BARLEY	Golf GTI - Team Hard	12	19:56.818	0.350	0.350	73.99	1:38.315	5
3	6	David SUTTON	Scirocco - Slidesports	12	19:58.123	1.655	1.305	73.91	1:38.426	6
4	14	Josh CAYGILL	Scirocco - AWM Warranty Direct	12	19:58.260	1.792	0.137	73.90	1:38.323	4
5	16	James WALKER	Golf GTI - Milltek Sport	12	20:00.024	3.556	1.764	73.79	1:38.319	8
6	4	Stewart LINES	Golf GTI - Maximum Motorsport	12	20:01.469	5.001	1.445	73.70	1:38.367	3
7	13	Joe FULBROOK	Golf GTI - AWM Warranty Direct	12	20:01.785	5.317	0.316	73.69	1:38.055	9
8	9	David FAIRBROTHER	Scirocco - Slidesports	12	20:03.728	7.260	1.943	73.57	1:38.279	2
9	33	Lucas ORROCK	Scirocco - KPM Racing	12	20:04.117	7.649	0.389	73.54	1:38.083	9
10	27	Stefan DI RESTA	Scirocco - JWB Motorsport	12	20:06.718	10.250	2.601	73.38	1:38.851	3
11	22	Howard FULLER	Golf GTI - Team Hard	12	20:14.557	18.089	7.839	72.91	1:38.958	5
12	29	Chris PANAYIOTOU	Scirocco - Maximum Motorsport	12	20:15.720	19.252	1.163	72.84	1:38.438	6
13	99	Jack WALKER-TULLY	Scirocco - Cooke & Mason	12	20:15.946	19.478	0.226	72.83	1:38.043	5
14	12	Simon RUDD	Golf GTI - Team Hard	12	20:17.271	20.803	1.325	72.75	1:39.504	5
15	97	Richard WALKER	Golf GTI -	12	20:22.121	25.653	4.850	72.46	1:40.047	3
16	77	George WHITE	Scirocco - KPM Racing	12	20:23.749	27.281	1.628	72.36	1:39.143	5
17	23	Kieran GALLAGHER	Golf GTI - Team Hard	12	20:25.504	29.036	1.755	72.26	1:40.147	11
18	44	Robin RILEY	Scirocco - AWM Warranty Direct	12	20:26.428	29.960	0.924	72.20	1:39.262	12
19	17	Tim SNAYLAM	Scirocco - AWM Warranty Direct	12	20:29.678	33.210	3.250	72.01	1:40.357	6
20	18	Craig MASON	Golf GTI - AWM Warranty Direct	12	20:41.154	44.686	11.476	71.35	1:41.401	6
21	98	Matt HAMILTON	Golf GTI - THM Racing	12	20:42.145	45.677	0.991	71.29	1:40.300	2
22	88	James PILE	Golf GTI - Slidesports	12	20:45.825	49.357	3.680	71.08	1:41.002	4
23	51	Simon ANDREWS	Golf GTI - AWM Warranty Direct	12	20:53.270	56.802	7.445	70.66	1:41.295	9
24	46	Andrew SMITH	Beetle - Brooklands Garage	12	21:16.792	1:20.324	23.522	69.36	1:44.556	4
25	69	Mark CLYNES	Scirocco - JWB Motorsport	11	20:13.076	1 Lap	1 Lap	66.92	1:45.154	2
26	2	Adam WEAVER	Golf GTI - Power Maxed Racing	11	20:21.957	1 Lap	8.881	66.43	1:46.184	2
27	40	Simon TOMLINSON	Golf GTI - AWM Warranty Direct	11	20:54.753	1 Lap	32.796	64.69	1:41.206	5
28	8	Aaron MASON	Scirocco - AWM Warranty Direct	10	20:45.870	2 Laps	1 Lap	59.23	1:37.933	6
NOT CLASSIFIED										
DNF	41	Sam MORGAN	Golf GTI - KPM Racing	10	16:43.034	2 Laps		73.57	1:38.324	5
DNF	31	Paul DEHADRAY	Scirocco - JWB Motorsport	8	13:53.627	4 Laps	2 Laps	70.82	1:41.093	4
DNF	5	Phillip HOUSE	Scirocco - PH Motorsport	7	12:19.570	5 Laps	1 Lap	69.85	1:38.426	2
FASTEST LAP										
8	Aaron MASON	Scirocco - AWM Warranty Direct	6	1:37.933				75.35 mph	121.27 kph	

2014 CHAMPIONSHIP DRIVER STANDINGS:

After Rockingham:

1	James Greenway	AWM Warranty Direct	118 pts
2	David Sutton	Slidesports	114 pts
3	Aaron Mason	AWM Warranty Direct	96 pts
4	Josh Caygill	AWM Warranty Direct	90 pts
5	Stewart Lines	Maximum Motorsport	90 pts
6	James Walker	Milltek Sport	82 pts
7	Stefan Di Resta	JWB Motorsport	78 pts
8	Lucas Orrock	KPM Racing	76 pts
9	Tom Barley	Team Hard	74 pts
10	Joe Fulbrook	AWM Warranty Direct	74 pts

19 Matt Hamilton THM Racing 26 pts

TV Viewing Times are featured below for you to switch on and see the action. Featured on both Channel 4 and also Motors TV UK, there is a mixture of coverage and this also includes all the other race action from this event for the other racing series.

Channel 4: Please check www.channel4.com/tv-listings to check for broadcast times

Motors TV UK: Saturday 17th May at 19:00

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NEXT ROUND: SILVERSTONE ON THE 1ST JUNE 2014

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