



Talking Stox – 2024/2025 Edition No.5

6 Meetings On 6 Tracks And 5 Champions Crowned...



After a whirlwind of title deciders, we are now on the verge of this season's final laps with just 4 more meetings across 4 tracks left to compete at! The last 5 championships are reviewed in this edition so enjoy!

#488 Elliott Shaw

Meeting #24 @ Amethyst – Saturday 01/02/2025

Heats (only winners required):

Heat 1: 390

Heat 2: 53

Heat 3: 107

Heat 4: 260

Heat 5: 213

Heat 6: 488

Consolations (top 3 to QFs):

Consi 1: 555, 22, 58, 20, G288, 21

Consi 2: 42, G137, G154, -, -

Consi 3: 3, 175, -, -, -

Consi 4: 35, 63, G78, G1, -

Consi 5: 18, 9, 170, G716, -

Quarter-Finals: (top 3 to SFs):

QF 1: 260, 213, 42, 58, G137

QF 2: 555, 9, 175, -, -

QF 3: 107, 53, 63, 18, G78

QF 4: 22, 170, 488, 390, 35

Semi-Finals (top 3 to Final):

SF 1: 260, 53, 42, 9, -, -

SF 2: 22, 107, 488, 213, 555, -

FINAL: 22, 260, 107, 488, 42, 53

Grand Nationals:

GN 1: 63, 170, 987, G137, G716, -

GN 2: 20, G176, G78, G376, -, -

GN 3: 18, G567, 58, 3, 21, -

GN 4: 390, 213, 488, 9, 22

GN 5: 260, 35, 42, 391, 555

GN 6: 53, 107, 333, -

WTR: 18, 58, 21, 3, 20

The final visit of the season at the Amethyst circuit welcomed a total of 32 drivers (incl. an impressive 10 special Guest racers from the world of V8 Hotstox) which proved a popular addition to proceedings with everyone getting stuck into racing.

Remarkably, the Heats all went the way of the outer lanes with 5x wins coming from Lane 6 as #390 scored a win in Lane 5. The Consi's saw a good mix of results with #3 and #18 particularly shining to claim victories from White grade! A few of the Guest racers also qualified to the QFs as they quickly got to grips with it all!

The QFs themselves saw some great performances from the lower graders with #42, #175, #63 and #22 qualifying through from Yellow as #170 also progressed from White to make an interesting set of 2 SFs with a solid mix of grades.

The SFs saw some close action as #260 left it late to sneak a win on the last bend in SF1 ahead of #53 whilst #488 battled hard with #213 in SF2 to only just qualify.

So, the Final was completed with 2x Yellows, 2x Reds and 2x S/Ss which seemed to match the theme of the evening ensuring an even mix of racers battling to win. In the end, the sheer speed and dominance of #22 was to be unmatched from Lane 1 as he streaked away and clear to lead all 40 laps and score a well-earned first Final win of the season in style! The battle behind was closer as #260 snuck in front of #107 towards the end as they both finished as podium sitters in 2nd and 3rd. #488 raced close in 4th in front of promoter #42 in 5th whilst #53 ended in 6th.

The W&Ys GNs saw some brilliant racing once more from our Guest racers with a couple of close 2nd place finishes as they battled to defeat the more experienced clan of MSRA talent but just came up short! #63 took a decisive win in GN1 to put the pressure on GN leader #213 who managed to secure a 2nd in GN4 and only lose a single point at the head of the table – the final few weekends will be close!

#18 finished off the meeting with a fine win in the WTR to extend his lead at the top of the table with only a few more weekends left for the others to catch up to fight for the title!





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6 Meetings On 6 Tracks And 5 Champions Crowned...

Meeting #25 @ Rocket Raceway – Sunday 02/02/2025

Heats (top 18 scorers to SFs):

Heat 1: 53, 213, 605, 3, 35, 987

Heat 2: 380, 260, 390, 170, 42, -

Heat 3: 107, 886, 555, 58, 4, -

Heat 4: 488, 391, 9, 21, -

Heat 5: 886, 391, 555, 63, 21, 987

Heat 6: 22, 488, 390, 213, 42, 170

Heat 7: 260, 53, 9, 58, 4, -

Heat 8: 380, 107, 35, 3, 605

Heat 9: 53, 391, 22, 170, 4, -

Heat 10: 605, 9, 390, 21, -

Heat 11: 107, 260, 42, 555, 63, 58

Heat 12: 35, 3, 488, 213, 643, 175

Heat 13: 488, 107, 35, 170, 4, -

Heat 14: 22, 555, 390, 213, 63, 21

Heat 15: 53, 9, 643, 42, 3, -

Heat 16: 260, 391, 58, -, -, -

Semi-Finals (top 2 to Final):

SF 1: 53, 35, 22, 213, 390, 170

SF 2: 260, 380, 9, 42, 391, 58

SF 3: 488, 107, 886, 555, 605, -

FINAL:

260, 380, 53, 488, 107, 35

Grand Nationals:

GN 1: 605, 3, 170, 21, -, -

GN 2: 42, 22, 4, -, -

GN 3: 390, 488, 260, 391, 886

GN 4: 107, 9, 380, 555

GN 5: 213, 53, 35, 643

WTR: 3, 58, 21

The final fixture for the 2025 season at Rocket Raceway saw a turnout of just 24 drivers which was a slight disappointment as most attendances this season have been a lot higher on average.

Still, that meant that the 4-Heat Format would be in place and only 6 drivers unlucky enough not to qualify through to the Semi-Final stages, so the Heats required consistent scoring to find our top 18 racers to progress further into the meeting.

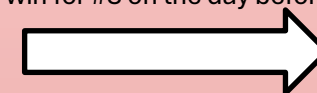
The first set of Heats were over in a flurry with only 4 Heats per set and all winners graced the outer two lanes with Lane 5 and Lane 6 sharing the honours. The second round saw a win from last night's Final winner #22 as #380 scored a win to make it 2 out of 2 using a borrowed car from his Dad (#42)! The third set of Heats saw a second win of the day for both #53 and #107 whilst #605 earned a great win to beat #9 at the line after a close finish! The final round of Heats ended with #488, #22 and #260 scoring their second wins of the day as #53 won his 3rd to end on a maximum.

Three SFs awaited the top 18 and a good collection of racers gridded with particular mentions to #170, #58 and #3 who all qualified through from White! The SFs themselves saw the outer lanes come into their own though as #53 and #488 won from Lane 6 with #260 winning from Lane 5.

So, the Final looked a tough line-up with 1x Blue, 2x Reds and 3x S/Ss ready to fight for the victory. There was early carnage from the off as #380 and #488 both hesitated to go first into the chicane and ultimately ended up tangling with #488 flicking off #380's siderail and momentarily out of the slot losing ground. As the race started to settle in, #35 took an early advantage from Lane 1 to lead for the first 13 laps before #260 stormed his way through from Lane 3 to snatch the lead closely followed by #53 and #380. The race was close between all 3 drivers but eventually #260 came out on top to score his 3rd Final win of the season and go back-to-back at Rocket Raceway! #380 snuck through into 2nd ahead of #53 who dropped to 3rd. #488 followed home in 4th ahead of #107 in 5th and early leader #35 in last place.

GN1 saw an unfortunate non-finish for #63 to dent her chances in the GN table as #605 stormed through to take a vital 6pts and draw level in 2nd place. #213 made the most of #63's non-finish to score another win in GN5 and extend his lead at the top.

The WTR finished the meeting nicely with a brilliant win for #3 on the day before his 11th Birthday earning a well-deserved trophy as a present for him along with the 6pts to go with it!





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6 Meetings On 6 Tracks And 5 Champions Crowned...



Meeting #26, *The 2025 Midland Final* @ 555 Promotions – Saturday 08/02/2025

Heats (only winners required):

Heat 1: 422

Heat 2: G148

Heat 3: 42

Heat 4: 247

Heat 5: 85

Heat 6: 228

Heat 7: 184

Heat 8: 207

Heat 9: 5

Midland Final: 380, 488, 53, 390, 107, 260

Consolations (top 3 to QFs):

Consi 1: 886, 260, 333, 125, 170, -

Consi 2: 391, 63, -, -, -

Consi 3: 17, 8, 9, 225, 12, -

Consi 4: G154, 213, 987, G68, 21, -

Consi 5: 488, G59, 272, 58, -, -

Consi 6: 53, G122, 373, 529, G1

Consi 7: 390, 142, 203, -, -

Consi 8: 13, 119, 107, -

Consi 9: 643, 555, 372, G110, -

Quarter-Finals (top 3 to SFs):

QF 1: G154, 886, G148, 207, 142, -

QF 2: 247, 8, 213, 63, -, -

QF 3: 9, 260, 372, G59, 272, 203

QF 4: 53, 373, 107, 422, 333, -

QF 5: 380, 184, 13, 85, -, -

QF 6: 643, 488, 390, 228, 42, 17

Semi-Finals (top 2 to Final):

SF 1: 184, 53, 372, 9, G148, -

SF 2: 643, 107, 380, 13, 8, 373

SF 3: 247, 488, 886, 390, 260, -

FINAL (The Dave Edwards Memorial Trophy):

247, 643, 53, 488, -, -

Grand Nationals:

GN 1: G148, 12, 58, -, -, -

GN 2: 20, 63, -, -, -

GN 3: 373, 4, G1, -, -

GN 4: 5, 225, G178, 21, -

GN 5: 272, 3, 175, G12, -

GN 6: 380, 13, 107, 228, 247

GN 7: 643, 886, 391, 211, 213

GN 8: 555, 372, 8, 53, 9

GN 9: 390, 488, 207, 22, -

GN 10: 184, G59, 17, 605, 85

WTR 1: 3, 18, 58, -

WTR 2: 225, 125, -

NOTY FINAL: 3, 119, -, -

The showpiece event of the MSRA season also saw the highest turnout in attendance with a mega 59 drivers looking to do battle on the revamped 555 Promotions circuit – first up was the NOTY Final... After a great controlled display of driving with no mistakes, the eventual winner was #3 who snatched his first MSRA title in fine style to become our 2025 Novice of the Year – **congratulations Liam!**

Onto the plethora of Heats and we saw the middle lanes take ownership of most victories with 5x wins just from Lane 4 alone! A good collection of grades finished as winners as well which was great to see!

Soon, it was time for the driver intros and Midland Final event as all 6 drivers took centre stage.

After an initial quick getaway, it was reigning champ #488 who took the early advantage to lead as a bit of carnage ensued at the driver's turn halting the progress of some. Fast forward to 15 laps in and the #488 machine came up to lap the earlier-delayed #390 car and found himself delayed in the process of passing which allowed #380 to make a decisive move into the chicane bend with a fine piece of bumper work to take the lead away. The remaining laps was a chase between #380 and #488 and, with both drivers evenly matched on pace and now separated by half a lap on track, there was no further action at the front and #380 calmly took the honours after leading the bulk of the race to claim his 2nd Gold roof! #488 came home just 0.977s back to cap off a fine effort to defend his title. There was unfortunate late drama as #260, who ran in 3rd for most of the race, got caught up with an errant marshalling hand right at the finish line on lap 48 which sent him tumbling all the way down to 6th place at the end. Taking advantage was #53 securing a podium as #390 ended 4th and #107 in 5th.

Congratulations to Chris Radley on a fine drive to secure his 2nd Gold roof – a Champion's drive!

So, onto the rest of the meeting proper and a huge 9 Consi races took shape with all wins amazingly coming from the outer 3 lanes as the higher graded drivers started to find their form to end as winners.

A maxed-out grid of 36 drivers descended into 6 QFs so yet more fast action was guaranteed, and the results seemed to echo that sentiment with only 6 drivers failing to finish as 3 SFs were next up.

With only 2 drivers progressing into the first annual "Dave Edwards Memorial Trophy", it was elbows out as everyone fought for a place to grid in the prestigious Final. Eventually, we saw #184 battle hard in SF1 to take the win before #643 continued his winning streak in SF2. #247 then took a closely-fought win in SF3 to head to the Final on a maximum haul of points!





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Meeting #26, *The 2025 Midland Final* @ 555 Promotions – Saturday 08/02/2025 (cont.)

So, the first annual Dave Edwards Memorial Trophy saw a line-up consisting of 1x Blue, 3x Reds and 2x S/Ss so a fast race was predicted, and a fast race is what everyone got to witness! Straight from the off, #247 blasted off to an early lead and didn't put a wheel wrong throughout the entire race as he led from start to finish and claim bragging rights as the first winner of this special event. Hot on his heels though, #643 came ever so close to winning back-to-back Finals on this track and just 0.098s separated them at the chequered flag! Coming home to secure a podium was #53 ahead of #488 in 4th as the final classified finisher after #184 and #107 had early exits in separate incidents.

The W&Ys GNs saw a smattering of DNFs with just 16 of the 26 drivers seeing the final lap of their races – the B&Rs seemed more sensible with just 1 DNF out of 25 drivers in those races!

Two WTRs finished the evening, and wins went to #3 and #225 respectively as the chase to catch #18 remains on the minds of all White Top racers with only a few more weekends left to do battle!

After the racing had subsided, we were treated to a fabulous presentation hosted by Dave Edwards' daughter, Vikki Edwards-Slann, who reminded all of us at the MSRA of the club's humble beginnings way back in 1974 and showed immense gratitude and appreciation to all members past and present who continue to carry on the legacy of what Dave Edwards started all those years ago.

We have a very special club at the MSRA and one which has never lost sight of how it came to be founded and that is a credit to all of us as members who have raced throughout the club's 51-year history to keep it going strength to strength. Not many clubs, Slotstox racing or otherwise, can say that they have been around for such a lengthy amount of time and even less are able to attract the number of people in attendance week after week and year after year and tonight's meeting has proven that fact once more with a truly astonishing number of 59 drivers all attending.

I suppose it was fitting that our highest attended meeting of the season so far was on the first annual running of the Dave Edwards Memorial Trophy, and I can only hope that future Midland Final events to include this special memorial Final are as equally well-attended as it serves as a magnificent tribute to the founder of our wonderful club here at the MSRA.

Thank you to Vikki and the whole Edwards family – we shall continue to do Dave proud.

Meeting #27 @ Baylis Racing – Sunday 09/02/2025

Heats (only winners required):

Heat 1: 207

Heat 2: 225

Heat 3: 53

Heat 4: 380

Heat 5: 391

Heat 6: 555

Consolations (top 3 to QFs):

Consi 1: 247, 107, 66, 228, 58, 44

Consi 2: 488, 211, 3, 63, 175, -

Consi 3: 10, 12, 22, -, -

Consi 4: 886, 213, 203, 170, 605, 75

Consi 5: 13, 260, 4, 396, -

Quarter-Finals (top 3 to SFs):

QF 1: 13, 488, 555, 10, 4, 22

QF 2: 260, 211, 886, 203, 3

QF 3: 53, 207, 225, 213, 12

QF 4: 107, 380, 391, 247, 66

Semi-Finals (top 3 to Final):

SF 1: 225, 380, 107, 260, 211, 391

SF 2: 13, 488, 886, 53, 555, 207

FINAL:

107, 380, 13, 488, 886, 225

Grand Nationals:

GN 1: 10, 987, 58, 44, -

GN 2: 63, 4, 12, 3, -

GN 3: 170, 66, 175, -

GN 4: 372, 207, 107, 22, 488, 555

GN 5: 228, 886, 380, 213, -, -

GN 6: 260, 333, 391, 13, 211, 225

WTR: 3, 44, 125, 10, 58, -

LADIES' FINAL:

211, 605, 12, -, -, -





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6 Meetings On 6 Tracks And 5 Champions Crowned...



The 2025 Ladies' Final



All of the pre-race chatter had been surrounding the inner two lane drivers being the two most recent champions and whether anyone else could mount a challenge to dethrone the top two of the past couple of seasons.

After a quick launch, it was #211 who took charge from Lane 2 and gain the early advantage ahead of #391, #605 and #12 in close proximity behind. After a couple of close laps of action, #391 and #211 came to blows at the driver's turn ending with the defending champ rolling out in spectacular fashion putting an unfortunate early end to her title defence hopes.

From there, it was a case of who could catch #211 and, after seemingly being away and clear, #211 had a slight collision with #12 heading into the chicane momentarily halting her progress and allowing #605 to catch right up with only a handful of laps left.

After recovering from her late dramatic moment, it was #211 who finally saw the chequered flag first and regain her Ladies' Championship crown to win it for the 2nd time in 3 years! #605 fought all the way to the end and just came up short finishing a mere 0.729s behind at the end in 2nd place. #12 put together a composed race to finish strong and earn a podium place. Unfortunately for the others, we lost #63, #391 and #4 through an incident-packed finale but all put up a valiant effort!

Congrats to Yazmin Taylor-Beck on regaining the Ladies' Championship after a fine drive in the Final itself!

Meeting #27 @ Baylis Racing – Sunday 09/02/2025 (cont.)

On the back of our club's most prestigious event, it was a return to the tricky "D"-shaped circuit at Baylis Racing and a total of 35 drivers were in attendance to race. The Heats saw a spectacular win from #225 as he dominated from Lane 1 to show some good early pace. Onto the Consolations and we saw another fine White grade win, this time from #10 who found a good groove to win from Lane 2.

The QFs seemed to pass by without much incident as, remarkably, all 21 drivers finished across the 4 QF races! With most of the qualifiers coming from the outer 3 lanes, it set up for two tough SFs ahead for the drivers to progress into the Final.

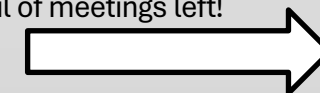
Once again, we saw #225 come through unscathed to take another fine win in SF1 before #13 held off the charge of #488 and #886 in SF2 to earn his Final gridding.

So, we had 1x White and 1x Blue lining up against 2x Reds and 2x S/Ss in the Final. Unfortunately for #225, his race came undone as he struggled to stay consistent which allowed #13 to take an early lead ahead of #107, #380 and #488. After a collision with #225, #13 dropped down the order as the outer three lanes swept by to lead the way out front. As the race ended, it was #107 who maintained his lead to win his 3rd Final of the season ahead of the new Midland Champion #380 in 2nd. #488 dropped into the wrong lane right at the end allowing #13 to sneak into the final podium spot in 3rd as #886 finished in 5th with #225 bringing up the rear in 6th.

#63 took a decisive GN win and claw 3pts back on GN points leader #213 as he ended in 4th in GN5 – the gap is now down to just 12pts with 36pts left available.

The WTR saw #3 take his 3rd straight win to be within touching distance of #18 who still leads the way but only by 5pts with just a handful of meetings left!

This title could go right down to the wire!





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6 Meetings On 6 Tracks And 5 Champions Crowned...

Meeting #28 @ Wreck-It Raceway – Saturday 15/02/2025

Heats (only winners required):

Heat 1: 260
Heat 2: 488
Heat 3: 390
Heat 4: 35
Heat 5: 22
Heat 6: 203

Consolations (top 3 to QFs):

Consi 1: 555, 125, 987, 175, 52, -
Consi 2: 199, 605, 53, 4, -, -
Consi 3: 380, 9, 170, 225, 58, -
Consi 4: 107, 13, 63, -, -
Consi 5: 333, 12, G16, -, -

Quarter-Finals (top 3 to SFs):

QF 1: 260, 9, 605, G16, 63
QF 2: 53, 107, 13, 203, 125
QF 3: 380, 35, 12, 987, -
QF 4: 199, 488, 390, 22, 333

Semi-Finals (top 3 to Final):

SF 1: 199, 107, 260, 605, 35, -
SF 2: 488, 12, 390, 53, 13, 9

FINAL:

199, 488, 107, 260, 390, 12

Grand Nationals:

GN 1: 42, 203, 63, 3, 4, -
GN 2: 125, 225, -, -, -
GN 3: 52, 21, 58, -, -
GN 4: 380, 260, 555, 35, 199, 13
GN 5: 488, 53, 390, 22, 213, -
GN 6: 391, 107, 12, 605, 333

WTR 1: 52, 125, 21, G16, -

WTR 2: 225, 3, 58, 133, -

MINOR FINAL:

31, -, -

The final meeting of this season at Wreck-It Raceway saw an attendance of 34 drivers ready to battle as another 'normal' format meeting awaited but kicking off proceedings was the 2025 Minor Final...

With a low number of Minors eligible to participate, we saw just 3 racers take to the grid and all, amazingly, from the Hampshire clan so a guaranteed win for them was on the cards! In the end, it was #31 who kept his cool whilst his siblings fell by the wayside and took victory to become the 2025 Minor Champion – **congratulations to Riley on his first MSRA title!**

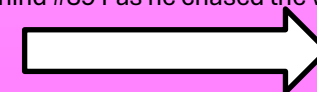
Onto the Heats and we were treated to a dominant outer lane display with all wins coming from Lanes 4-6 although a good spread of grades ranging from Yellow, Blue, Red & S/S as winners! The Consi's saw much of the same results-wise but #199 disrupted the outer lane winners with a fine victory in Consi 2 from Lane 3 showing his pace early on. #333 also grabbed a great win in Consi 5 as #213 had a rare rollover all on his own at the driver's turn early on which left him ruing his mistake.

The QFs almost mirrored the Consi's in that #199 remained the only driver to win from the inner 3 lanes whilst the first 3 QFs were won by the Superstar racers. With 3 drivers qualifying from each SF, #199 kept his winning run going in SF1 (this time from Lane 1) as #380 came unstuck due to a late collision on the home straight leaving him upside down and out before #488 took a win in SF2 ahead of a speedy #12 in 2nd place who gridded in her 2nd consecutive Final on this track!

So, the Final lined up with 2x quick Yellows alongside 2x Reds and 2x S/Ss making a good gridding. #199 shot straight off into the lead and held his composure well as #107 and #488 chased him down from Lane 3 and Lane 6. What continued was a 3-way battle for the lead spread across the entire track with all racers side-by-side for a good number of laps. #107 came across some chaos which allowed #488 to swoop around the outside before running into carnage himself! In the end, #199 drove faultlessly to earn a deserved first Final win of the season from Lane 1! #488 followed home closely in 2nd in front of a recovering #107 in 3rd. #260 finished in 4th ahead of #390 in 5th as #12 endured a stop/start sort of race and ended 6th.

The W&Ys GNs saw fine wins from #42, #125 and #52 before some close duels closed out the B&Rs GNs. #380 recovered well to score a win in GN4 before #488 fended off #53 in GN5 to win by just 0.027s at the line! GN6 saw a Foster 1-2 with #107 ending just behind #391 as he chased the win!

The WTRs also saw #3 draw level at the top of the table as the final few meetings are upon us in the chase for the title!





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Meeting #29 @ Baylis Raceway – Sunday 16/02/2025

Heats (only winners required):

Heat 1: 9

Heat 2: 8

Heat 3: 488

Heat 4: 260

Heat 5: 53

Heat 6: 380

Heat 7: 333

Heat 8: 207

Consolations (top 3 to QFs):

Consi 1: 886, 13, 170, 4, G77, 172

Consi 2: 555, 228, 272, 125, -, -

Consi 3: 211, 20, 18, 203, -, -

Consi 4: 225, 373, 35, 987, -

Consi 5: 22, 5, 3, -, -

Consi 6: 119, 63, 605, -, -

Consi 7: 107, 199, 391, 31, 10

Quarter-Finals (top 3 to SFs):

QF 1: 886, 260, 228, 3, -, -

QF 2: 35, 9, 373, 53, 333, -

QF 3: 107, 605, 207, 225, 20, -

QF 4: 488, 13, 555, 119, 5, -

QF 5: 211, 8, 199, 170, 22

Semi-Finals (top 2 to Final):

SF 1: 8, 9, 35, 13, 373

SF 2: 211, 260, 107, 207, -

SF 3: 488, 228, 605, -, -

FINAL: 488, 8, 260, 9, 228, 211

Grand Nationals:

GN 1: 373, 987, -, -, -, -

GN 2: 3, 170, 18, 58, -

GN 3: 203, 4, 63, 172, 21

GN 4: 225, 125, 10, -, -

GN 5: 20, 119, 175, -, -

GN 6: 488, 22, 228, 207, 605

GN 7: 886, 8, 211, 213, -

GN 8: 380, 53, 260, 107, 391

GN 9: 13, 9, 390, 555

WTR 1: 225, 31, G77, -, -

WTR 2: 58, 21, 172, -, -

WTR 3: 3, 18, 10, -

The rescheduled 3rd meeting of the season at Baylis Raceway saw a fantastic turnout of 46 racers line up with a lot of fast racing predicted lying in wait – first up though was the 2025 Junior Final...

We saw a fantastic duel for the most part of the race between #12 and #199 as they jostled for the lead for the first ¼ of the Final but eventually it was #199 who came through (and navigated a last-lap mishap after rolling due to being in the wrong lane!) to earn his maiden Junior Championship win! #12 followed home in 2nd with #3 scoring a great podium from Lane 6 ahead of #4 as the last classified finisher in 4th after #18 and #119 failed to finish due to late incidents – **well done Jamie on a fine victory!**

Onto the Heats and we saw a remarkable 6x wins in a row from Lane 6 before #333 and #22 broke the curse to win the final 2x Heats from Lane 5! After a delayed break due to the AGM, we got into the Consi's and saw more of the same results but a couple of good wins from #225 and #119 from Lane 2!

5 QFs awaited and some close battles ended with 15 drivers making it through to the top-2 SF races. We saw #8 score a great win from S/S in SF1 ahead of #9 who carried on his earlier consistency before #211 took victory in SF2 from Lane 3 ahead of #260 who beat #107 running into car issues at the end. SF3 saw #488 make it into the Final on a maximum haul in front of #228 who drove well from Lane 3.

So, the Final lined up with #2x Blue Taylors and 2x S/S Shaws with #9 and #8 sandwiched in between! The race started off quick with #211 getting the initial jump before #488 and #8 blasted around the outside to start off a race-long duel for the win. Lap after lap went by with the gap rarely changing as both drivers navigated through the traffic well to keep in touching distance of each other. Eventually, #488 led all the way to the line to score his 5th Final win of the season and, remarkably, 3rd out of 3 on this track! #8 came close just 0.988s behind in 2nd as the others finished a distance off. #260 also made it 3 podiums out of 3 on this track in 3rd ahead of #9 in 4th with the Taylor duo finishing 5th and 6th.

The GNs saw a 1pt swing in favour of #63 over long-time leader #213 with the latter due to miss next Saturday's meeting so all still to play for! After scoring an early-season maximum on this track, it was #488 at the double with a win in his GN from the 1-lap handicap to end on a points tally of 44pts!

3 WTRs ended the day with #225 and the Mullis duo of #58 and #3 all earning wins with the latter now sneaking into the lead at the head of the White Top table by just 1pt!

The last two weekends will certainly prove interesting in this fight!





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Grader's Debrief...

With 29 meetings down and only 4 left to go, this season has certainly flown by! The chase for the Silver roof is almost at an end so let's take a look at where things stand...

After another consistent period averaging just under 32pts per meeting, I now have an almost-unassailable lead of 134pts as we approach the final two weekends of racing. Considering how close the early part of this year's Points battle was, I find myself at a bit of a loss for words on how I've managed to accelerate so far ahead in the last few weeks to now be on the verge of making history to win my 4th Silver roof in a row and 9th overall.

I must give an enormous amount of credit to Chris Radley in putting together a brilliant season of racing and pushing me to be better and quicker in these past few periods – it is his challenge and determination which has seen me needing to push myself to score the results I've achieved, and I have loved our battles throughout the course of this season.

Chris Radley remains in 2nd place and 38pts clear of Matt Trasler in 3rd. Nigel Shaw has also closed to within just 4pts of Matt in 4th and is tantalisingly close to a podium finish.

Due to Chris winning the Gold this period, I have extended the grades throughout the S/Ss downwards which has created a few surprise changes of grade for the final weekend.

#107 makes it up to S/S on points with #391 also up-grading from Blue to Red on merit. Elsewhere, #22 drops from Red to Blue as #63 and #12 both accelerate up the grades to Blue from Yellow making for an impressive run of form for both.

Our 2025 Novice of the Year, and White Top title challenger, #3 deservedly earns a Yellow grade for the first time but, in doing so, may hamper his hopes of winning his second title in his maiden season with his nearest rival (#18) staying put at White as he hopes to go all the way and claw back his lead!

So, for the final weekend of our season, we will have 7 S/Ss, 13 Reds, 21 Blues, 17 Yellows and 24 Whites all aiming to finish off the 2024/2025 MSRA season in style!

What's Next?

We are firmly at the business end of the season now with just 2 weekends of racing action left to do battle across as the 2024/2025 MSRA season nears its conclusion.

To kick things off, we return to Brandon Club and **Baylis Raceway** for one more time on Saturday 22nd Feb where the rescheduled **Over-60s Final** will also take place – **can #207 go back-to-back this season?** Following on, we then make a trip to Bedworth Club for the last meeting on the revamped **555 Promotions** circuit taking place on Sunday 23rd Feb.

With only one more weekend remaining, we end our season on the technical **Baylis Racing "D"** circuit on Saturday 1st March before the season closer at **MAD Raceway** on Sunday 2nd March where we have the final Alternative Format meeting as well as the last championship final of the season to be raced for in the **Supreme Final**.

Don't forget, our end of season Presentation Evening will be taking place on **Saturday 8th March at Brandon Club**, so I hope to see you all there!

#488 Elliott Shaw