



NEWSLETTER

May 2011

Snetterton 200

Snetterton 200 played host to the first ever UK round of the Saker Challenge on the 29th May and rounds four, five and six of the series.

The Saker Challenge has been running successfully in Holland for several years and it was fantastic to welcome five Dutch Saker teams, taking the total number of starters to eleven.

Series Director, Paul Rose, believes the series can grow and was delighted with the size of the grid. The interest in "arrive and drive" packages continues to grow, whilst there are already several teams that have also purchased their own cars.

Two three hour races and a longer one hour race with a mandatory pitstop were the format of the day.

Dutchman Derwin Belt stole the show, taking the victory in all three races for his team, Bas Koeten Racing, in car 1.

Bas Koeten, said: **"It was nice to see how the English people race. Everybody is so passionate and it makes you feel really welcome. We enjoyed it very much and are so happy with our first places! We hope to come back to the UK for some more races this year"**.

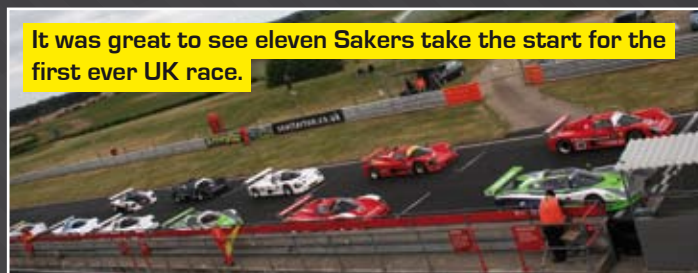
Paul Rose, in the JPR Saker, Mark Burton for Spirit Fitness /Team OBR and Bob Tomlinson from CCS Media Racing took home the top UK honours in race one, finishing 3rd, 4th and 5th respectively, overall. The same three teams finished in the same positions for race three and completed the UK podium, but the Spirit Fitness car was driven by Graham Pattle and Ciro Caranante took the wheel of the CSS Media machine.



Bas Koeten Racing had a successful weekend.

Bob Tomlinson described race one in his own words.

He said: **"I started 10th on the grid and kept to the left after the start to avoid a minor skirmish to my right. An uneventful few yards followed as drivers jostled for position, before going under the bridge at Brundle, only to be met by a car parked sideways across the kerbs on the Esses and various other cars at a standstill, from avoiding a collision. I managed to nip through the confusion to end up 4th after the first lap. The next few laps saw Mark Burton latching on to my tail, which I managed to successfully defend for five or six laps before overdoing it at Chapman and giving Mark the opportunity to out drag me down Bentley Straight. So, I finished 5th overall and 3rd for the UK"**.



It was great to see eleven Sakers take the start for the first ever UK race.

Tim Wheeldon put on a storming show for the UK in race three in car 43, Fluent Motorsport. A strong start saw him move from 5th to 4th, before Riches, passing the Dutch SPAA05 car. Then, on the approach to Montreal, he outraked the CCS Media car to take 3rd overall and move into the lead of the UK cars. Twenty eight minutes into the race, he pitted for the mandatory sixty second stop and rejoined the circuit twenty nine seconds ahead of the next UK car and still 3rd overall. After the pit stops were completed, Wheeldon had eleven seconds on the 2nd UK car, JPR, which consisted of Steve Harris and Chad Racing's Iain Dockerill, who were sharing the drive.

Wheeldon was now only two seconds behind 2nd place Dutch team Jadbajla 1, but with tyre pressures increasing and a consequent loss of grip, he was struggling to maintain the gap back to Steve Harris, who had set about hunting Wheeldon down. With only a couple of minutes left to go, the gap back to Harris had stabilised at six seconds, but the gap to the second-placed Dutch car ahead was now less than a second.

Tim Wheeldon, recalled: **"Rather than risk throwing away a UK podium, I decided not to try for 2nd overall and crossed the line 3rd overall and 1st UK driver. Having had many Fun Cup wins with my team mates, this was my first solo race victory and I was delighted to be on the top step of the UK podium! I am now looking forward to the next round at Anglesey"**.



Tim Wheeldon recaps on his race for Sky TV.



Dutchman Derwin Belt took home plenty of silverware! (middle)

Snetterton 200 Photographs

To view photographs from Snetterton 200 please visit:

<http://www.sakercars.co.uk/photo-gallery.html>

Thank you Marv!

Test Days

If you wish to test a Saker on the 16th June at Donington Park, please email roxie@sakercars.co.uk, for further information.

TV Schedule

Saker Challenge - Snetterton (15 Minute Highlights)

RACEMAX, SKY SPORTS: **SKY SPORTS**

Thurs 23rd June:

17.00hrs (Sky Sports 4) and Midnight (Sky Sports 4)

Fri 24th June:

15.00hrs (Sky Sports 4)

Sun 26th June:

06.00hrs (Sky Sports 3), 15.00hrs (Sky Sports 4) and 20.00hrs (Sky Sports 4)

Saker Challenge - Anglesey (15 Minute Highlights)

RACEMAX, SKY SPORTS: **SKY SPORTS**

Thurs 7th July:

18.00hrs (Sky Sports 4)

Fri 8th July:

02.00hrs (Sky Sports 3) and 14.00hrs (Sky Sports 3)

Sat 9th July:

03.30hrs (Sky Sports 2)

Sun 10th July:

06.00hrs (Sky Sports 3) and 14.00hrs (Sky Sports 3)

Saker Challenge - Snetterton & Anglesey (30 Minute Highlights)

MOTORS TV: **MOTORS TV**

18.25hrs on Wednesday 3rd August plus repeats over the following week (full schedule TBC)



The UK winners for Race 3.



Anglesey – Saker Rounds Seven, Eight and Nine

The next Saker Challenge event will be at Anglesey on June 25th and 26th. We have “arrive and drive” packages available for this event. Please email roxie@sakercars.co.uk for further information.

Brands Hatch - Accommodation

The Holiday Inn Maidstone-Sevenoaks, has put together a very special room only rate for all competitors racing at our Brands Hatch meeting over the weekend of 13/14th August.

For just £69 a night you can book a twin room at the hotel which is just over 5 miles from the Main Gate of the circuit. However, to guarantee this rate you must book early and directly with the hotel by calling the reservations team on 01732 781 500 or email reservations-maidstone@ihg.com To get this exceptional rate, be sure to quote “BRSCC”.

The Holiday Inn Maidstone-Sevenoaks offers a full restaurant, which can cater for group bookings, and also has excellent leisure facilities. For more information on the hotel please see www.himaidstonehotel.co.uk

Finally

With the first UK Saker event now successfully under our belts, let’s look forward to more equally fun races at Anglesey!

Congratulations, also, to Tim and Nuala who had a beautiful wedding in Cyprus last month! We wish you both great happiness!

Kindest regards

Roxie Marandi Rose
Fun Cup UK/Saker Sportscars UK
Race Co-ordinator

