



Metzeler Racetec National Superstock Championship - Round 6 Mondello Park

The Championship competitors reconvened at Mondello Park in Ireland after the summer break with a few notable changes. Raceways Yamaha front runner Hudson Kennaugh joined the Virgin Media Optoma Loans Yamaha team in BSB for the remainder of the season. Jon Kirkham has been drafted into the Raceways team in replacement, having parted company with Samsung Ducati before Snetterton.

Poor weather had earlier dominated practice and qualification sessions but for race day cool dry conditions prevailed. Warm-up session this morning would be the first time this weekend that the riders were able to run on a drying track.

Race 1

A “made up” Steve Brogan took a deserved victory in the first of today’s two scheduled Superstock races, having successfully dialled in the Tengen Racing Honda Fireblade to suit the renowned technical but uneven County Kildare circuit.

Lap one, turn one and drama straight away as poleman Kenny Gilbertson on the Astro KS Kawasaki, Gareth Glynn and series leader Glen Richards were caught up in the pack’s attempt to avoid a fallen rider that clipped the kerb on the entry to Honda Corner. Gilbertson’s race ended there, Richards and Glynn restarted - dead last, Glynn to retire shortly afterwards.

At the front, Steve Brogan forged ahead of the field where he would remain to the finish. The places behind were closely contested between Jon Kirkham, Adam Jenkinson on his GSXR 1000 Suzuki, from Windmill Suzuki’s Ben Wilson and Adrian Coates back from injury on the Dyer Crossgills Yamaha. Ulsterman, Coates, used his circuit knowledge to get through to third position taking Ben Wilson with him as Kirkham seemed a little uncomfortable on the Raceways bike. As the race developed, Wilson was the man on the move and passed Coates who could not sustain the pace, running off the track on lap nine. Wilson chased down Jenkinson and Brogan for the remainder of the race. An unfortunate Glen Richards crashed out at Holiday Bend on lap 12, having clawed his way back to eighteenth spot. Ben Wilson’s persistence paid off as he went through on the rival Suzuki into second, one lap from home. Despite maintaining the pressure on the leader, second would prove to be his limit as Brogan’s Honda took victory, Adam Jenkinson claimed the final sixteen points.

Steve Brogan: *“I’m made up! Everything has been going pretty good for us this season - it’s been a long time coming. We’ve been right up there at all the tracks. I saw my board at plus nothing and I’m glad I could hold on to the lead.”*

Metzeler Racetec National Superstock Race Result – Race 1

1 – Brogan (Honda), 2 – Wilson (Suzuki), 3 – Jenkinson (Suzuki), 4 – Murphy (Suzuki), 5 – Jackson (Yamaha)

Race 2

The final race of the day continued to deliver unexpected results as the leaders clashed heading for turn one. Gilbertson on one side and Kirkham on the other squeezed the field as Adam Jenkinson's brake lever tangled with Steve Brogan's machine. As a result, the Suzuki rider went down sliding towards turn one, collecting Gary Johnson on the Speedfreak Yamaha. Two further incidents on the opening lap were enough to prompt the organisers to deploy the safety car. The race was red flagged on lap three.

Jon Kirkham took the lead on the nine lap restart, followed by Brogan and Coates. Meanwhile four more mid-pack riders crashed out as the field charged on.

At the front, Brogan ran wide allowing Adrian Coates on the Yamaha through to second. Coates breezed past Kirkham and pulled out an impressive 3.5s lead by lap six. NCT/Vanfit Yamaha's Alastair Seeley came through to pass Brogan for second, from Ben Wilson and Glen Richards as a four way sprint headed to the race's conclusion. John Laverty set the fastest lap on the eighth tour as the Buildbase Ducati rider joined the foursome, battling for second place honours.

Final lap and nothing could separate second to fifth. Seeley entered the final turn in second but Brogan slid underneath the Yamaha mid-corner, bringing Richards with him. Adrian Coates took the win by 1.6s as a three wide drag race for the line would see Richards finish second 0.01 from Brogan, 0.04s from Seeley in fourth. Wilson finished fifth and Laverty sixth 0.1s further back.

Winner Adrian Coates, back after a three round lay-off through injury savoured the champagne, saying *"its not one of my best circuits, so I'm really, really pleased to get this. Thanks for the team's decision to go for Yamahas. I prefer the faster flowing circuits but the bike is going really well, so maybe another it's a podium or even a win at Knockhill – let's keep our fingers crossed!"*

Knockhill, Scotland is the venue for the next round in two weeks time, 29 June – 1 July.

Metzeler Racetec National Superstock Race Result – Race 2

1 – Coates (Yamaha), 2 – Richards (Yamaha), 3 – Brogan (Honda), 4 – Seeley (Yamaha), 5 – Wilson (Suzuki)

Championship Points

1. Richards	135
2. Brogan	96
3. Kennaugh	81
4. Wilson	77
5. Jackson	73