



Metzeler Racetec National Superstock Cup – Round 8 Oulton Park 2

Storming Norman Brunton on his Yamaha YZF-R1 dominated the race here at Oulton Park today (Saturday) converting his pole position into a win and taking over at the head of the Superstock Cup Championship table from Astro Kawasaki's Dean Johnson.

Unseasonably wet summer weather hampered progress in free practice and first qualifying sessions. For the final qualifying session, conditions improved to dry and bright. Championship leader Dean Johnson, riding the newer Kawasaki ZX10R for the first time, lead proceedings until the latter stages when Brunton claimed pole with a lap time of 1m 43.425s.

For this afternoon's race, Brunton lined up on the front row with Johnson, Gary Jackson (Newell Plumbing/Krystal Space Air Yamaha) and Ian Mackman on the 2 Machs Racing entered Suzuki GSXR). Dean Johnson seized the lead at the start into Old Hall Corner but by the end of the first lap he had slipped to fifth as Mackman led from Brunton, James Hurrell and Gary Jackson. By lap three, Mackman succumbed to the pressure as Brunton stole the lead and opened a gap as the next four enjoyed a ding-dong battle for position.

Disaster struck Dean Johnson as he clipped the Yamaha mounted Gary Jackson thro' Druids corner as he desperately tried to stay in contention with the leaders. Both riders crashed out of the race bringing Anton Kokshoorn and Gavin Hunt into the fray. By the eighth tour, Brunton had steadily gapped Mackman, Hurrell, Kokshoorn and Hunt to the tune of 3.4s and looked to be unbeatable. The chasing pack had other ideas and exchanged places whilst managing to reduce the leader's advantage. Lap twelve saw Brunton's lead reduced to 2.5s. By the penultimate lap, his lead was down to 1.4s as Kokshoorn gained third spot on his Speedfreak Yamaha ahead of Hurrell's Enanjay Racing Suzuki. Not wanting to risk a crash, Brunton reduced his pace and crossed the finish line with a slender margin of 0.25s, from local man Mackman, Kokshoorn in third and James Hurrell, fourth.

Post race, on hearing news of his Championship lead and fastest race lap (1m 43.507s), Norman praised his Metzeler Racetec rubber shod machine: *"the tyres were great – not a single problem in the whole race! I saw the pit board +2.5s with a couple of laps to go and backed off, I didn't realise just how fast the others were going!"*

The riders and teams reconvene in a month for the next round at the Croft Circuit in North Yorkshire 10th - 12th August.

Metzeler Racetec National Superstock Cup Race Result – Round 8

1 – Brunton (Yamaha), 2 – Mackman (Suzuki), 3 – Kokshoorn (Yamaha)

Championship Points

1. Brunton	107
2. Johnson	106
3. Hurrell	103
4. Angel	67
5.= Shoesmith	49
Hunt	49