



The Daytona Vodafone Dmax 2012 Championships Round 3 – Daytona Sandown Park - Enduro

The Vodafone Dmax Champs first 2012 visit to Daytona Sandown Park was on a dry and sunny but bitterly cold day. With dry tarmac, the drivers were all able to record quick qualifying times and enjoy dry races throughout the endurance classes.

With the class rotation system, it was the Heavies turn to go first for Round 3:

Heavy Enduro Qualifying

Heavy Enduro Qualifying			Race					
Position	Racer	Best Lap	Position	Racer	Best Lap	From	Laps	Pts
1	Jamie Pender	45.854	1	Chris Carter	45.544		79	51
2	David Vincent	46.165	2	Jamie Pender	45.618	3.946s	79	46
3	Vinod Hirani	46.391	3	Simon Ross	46.24	1L	78	40
4	Chris Carter	46.492	4	Jim Mardlin	46.101	1L	78	38
5	gavin painter	46.5	5	Vinod Hirani	46.139	1L	78	36
6	Richard R-Panting	46.526	6	Ian Brooks	46.279	1L	78	34
7	Simon Ross	46.56	7	Iain Mcmillan	46.401	1L	78	32
8	Jim Mardlin	46.562	8	Richard R-Panting	46.07	1L	78	30
9	Iain Mcmillan	46.586	9	Andrew Haime	46.633	1L	78	28
10	Ian Brooks	46.766	10	Mike Potter	46.594	2L	77	26
11	Damian Hudes	46.774	11	gavin painter	46.414	2L	77	24
12	Mike Potter	46.978	12	Alan Brown	46.675	2L	77	22
13	Andrew Haime	47.098	13	David Vincent	46.19	2L	77	20
14	Jonathan Benson	47.13	14	Peter Hayes	46.873	2L	77	19
15	Alan Brown	47.185	15	Jonathan Benson	46.617	2L	77	18
16	Peter Turner	47.222	16	Damian Hudes	46.096	2L	77	17
17	Lee Witney	47.236	17	Peter Turner	46.836	2L	77	16
18	Peter Hayes	47.264	18	Ben Smith	46.864	2L	77	15
19	Alan Court-Howden	47.402	19	Lee Witney	46.765	3L	76	14
20	Michael McKeegan	47.456	20	Chris Munro	46.841	3L	76	13
21	Ben Smith	47.525	21	Michael McKeegan	47.033	3L	76	12
22	Anthony Gibson	47.67	22	Russell Phillips	47.672	4L	75	11
23	Chris Munro	47.682	23	Anthony Gibson	47.035	5L	74	10
24	Russell Phillips	48.579	24	Alan Court-Howden	47.197	7L	72	9

24 drivers qualified for the Heavy Enduro with Jamie Pender taking Pole Position from David Vincent. Champs leader Chris Carter seemed to have kart issues and only managed fourth behind Vinod Hirani. At race start, Richard Renshaw-Panting spun on the formation lap and had to drop from 6th on the grid to 24th for the start. Chris Carter showed why he leads the champ by moving up from 4th to first within one lap.



In the early laps, Anthony Gibson had an expensive spin on Lap3, collecting three other karts. Jim Mardlin, who qualified 9th was up to fourth by lap 6 but David Vincent's race suffered from a kart swap in the pits on lap 9. He rejoined in 23rd. A couple of laps later, Anthony Gibson's day got even worse when he got a stop go penalty for overtaking under yellows.

15 Minutes in to the race and only 28.5 second split the top 10 drivers. Carter still leading from Pender (by just 0.163 seconds).

By lap 27 Richard R-Panting had recovered from his early spin to move up to 11th place.

At 30 minutes, Pender was still only 0.3 seconds behind Carter. Hirani held onto 3rd with Jim Mardlin chasing him down. Simon Ross moved up to 5th. Alan Court Howden pitted for a kart swap on lap 39 – rejoining in 23rd.

After 50 laps of racing the leading pair caught up with a lot of traffic. The gap dropped back down to just 0.115 seconds before Carter broke clear and left Pender a massive 2.1 seconds behind! The battle for third was hotting up in the latter stages of the race. Vinod Hirani, Jim Mardlin and Simon Ross split by just 1.5 seconds on lap 57. Ross passed Mardlin on lap 59 only to spin on T6 dropping back to 5th.

On lap 71 Simon Ross passed Hirani and Mardlin for 3rd and on lap 73, Mardlin passed Hirani who was tiring to inherit fourth. Ian Brooks had been stalking the top 5 for the entire race regained 6th place on lap 75.

At the flag, Carter beat Pender by just 3.946 seconds, with Simon Ross taking third from Jim Mardlin and Vinod Hirani.

The Lights Endurance was second race of the day:

Lights Qualifying

Race

Position	Racer	Best Lap	Position	Racer	Best Lap	Gap from Leader	Laps	Pts
1	Tim McKeegan	45.308	1	Christopher Hackworth	45.041	-	80	51
2	Christopher Hackworth	45.311	2	Alec Tucker	45.095	10.922	80	45
3	Alec Tucker	45.613	3	Tim McKeegan	45.254	24.033	80	41
4	Ben Chapman	45.706	4	Ben Chapman	45.224	33.522	80	38
5	Jane Gibbons	45.768	5	Jane Gibbons	45.397	44.847	80	36
6	Marc Coltelli	45.79	6	Chris Gillingham	45.405	1L	79	34
7	Simon Alcock	45.907	7	Anson Williams	45.566	1L	79	32
8	Chris Gillingham	45.941	8	Ben Leslie	45.549	1L	79	30
9	Anson Williams	45.988	9	Marc Coltelli	45.706	1L	79	28
10	Hugo Bush	46.021	10	Steve Moody	45.559	1L	79	26
11	Sebastian Wielinski	46.042	11	Hugo Bush	45.765	1L	79	24
12	Rob Manns	46.126	12	Sebastian Wielinski	45.665	1L	79	22
13	Ben Leslie	46.216	13	Max Bird	46.229	2L	78	20
14	rhys phillips	46.22	14	rhys phillips	45.999	2L	78	19
15	Steve Moody	46.293	15	David Glover	46.976	5L	75	18
16	Tanzi Besant	46.587	16	Ben Maxwell-Aylwin	46.491	5L	75	17
17	Max Bird	46.629	17	Rob Manns	45.984	11L	69	16
18	Ben Maxwell-Aylwin	46.871	18	Simon Alcock	45.975	36L	44	15
19	David Glover	48.06	19	Tanzi Besant	46.146	36L	44	14



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Champs regular Tim McKeegan earned the point for Pole Position, out-qualifying Chris Hackworth by just three thousandths of a second. Alec Tucker and Ben Chapman started on the second row.

At the end of lap one, Tim led from Chris and Alec Tucker with Marc Colтели moving up from 6th to 4th and Chris Gillingham moving up from 9th to 5th. On Lap 2, Chris Hackworth took the lead from Tim McKeegan.

Behind the lead 5, Jane Gibbons was running in 6th – with 2 seconds separating the 13 drivers behind her. Max Bird is caught up on lap 6 when another driver passes him on the inside into T6 and Max turns in to bounce off the overtaking driver. Meanwhile Sebastian Wielinski uses his brakes beautifully to pass two drivers into 12th.

Over the next few laps, Tim, Chris and Alec race together for the lead, with Chris Gillingham passing Marc Colтели for 4th before Jane Gibbons passes both of them on lap 11.

At quarter distance, Max Bird is recovering to 16th and Ben Chapman is harrying Gillingham and Gibbons for 4th. He passes them on lap 26. Tucker passes McKeegan for second.

At the 30 minute stage, Chris Hackworth leads Tucker by 4.2 seconds with McKeegan another 4 seconds behind. Ben Chapman and Jane Gibbons are 15 seconds further back. The race for 6th place comprises Chapman, Colтели, Williams, Leslie and Moody – just 14 seconds between them.

The order at the front stays unchanged for the next 20 laps. Tanzi Besant retires into the pits and Max Bird moves up to 14th.

On lap 68, Anson Williams moves up to 7th and Ben Leslie to 8th as Colтели drops to 9th.

The front three remain in position for the remaining 12 laps – the closest race being Gillingham chasing Gibbons for 4th and split by just 0.2 seconds.

At the flag, Hackworth scores another win, with Alec Tucker taking a strong second from McKeegan. Ben Chapman finished fourth and Jane Gibbons holds on to 5th after Gillingham fades on the last lap.

Inters Endurance

The Inters were the final endurance of the day. With the cold wind and cloud cover the circuit was dry but very cold. Josh Tomlinson took his maiden pole position by 0.174 seconds from Sean Michael Bernardo. James Northfield and James Pratt made up the second row. Less than half a second split the top 9 drivers on the grid.



Inters Qualifying

Position	Racer	Best Lap
1	Joshua Tomlinson	45.494
2	Sean M-Bernardo	45.668
3	James Northfield	45.672
4	James Pratt	45.747
5	Lee Pendlebury	45.862
5	Adam Nakar	45.862
7	Joseph Ellis	45.894
8	Paul Cox	45.949
9	Hiten Zaveri	46.018
10	Andrew Tempest	46.112
10	Craig Mcllvar	46.112
12	Neil Fisher	46.117
13	Mike Newman	46.118
14	vince cogzell	46.223
15	Stuart Foster	46.252
16	Matthew Parker	46.311
17	David Price	46.363
18	Gary Leonard	46.397
19	Nich'O Lawes	46.461
20	Duncan E-Jones	46.569
21	scott breach	46.641
22	Antonio Caccioli	46.648
23	jonathan lek	46.664
24	Gary Burstow	46.667
25	darrell pilgrim	46.873
26	Andy Barr	46.979
27	Stuart Shearman	46.99
28	Paul Cloonan-Cole	47.014
29	Tony Jessop	47.188
30	Kirk Court-Howden	47.243

Race

Position	Racer	Best Lap	Gap from Leader	Laps	Pts
1	Joseph Ellis	45.588			50
2	Sean M-Bernardo	45.337	0.215		46
3	James Pratt	45.597	3.155		40
4	Lee Pendlebury	45.51	3.66	78	38
5	Adam Nakar	45.674	8.679	78	36
6	Joshua Tomlinson	45.519	13.633	78	35
7	Paul Cox	45.357	23.32	78	32
8	Craig Mcllvar	45.669	31.449	78	30
9	Mike Newman	46.042	41.344	78	28
10	vince cogzell	45.894	41.725	78	26
11	Gary Leonard	45.842	46.867	78	24
12	scott breach	45.501	1L	77	22
13	Stuart Foster	45.955	1L	77	20
14	Tony Jessop	45.774	1L	77	19
15	jonathan lek	46.084	1L	77	18
16	David Price	46.075	1L	77	17
17	Kirk Court-Howden	46.274	1L	77	16
18	Neil Fisher	45.733	1L	77	15
19	Nich'O Lawes	46.264	1L	77	14
20	Antonio Caccioli	45.88	1L	77	13
21	Stuart Shearman	46.428	1L	77	12
22	Andrew Tempest	45.733	2L	76	11
23	Paul Cloonan-Cole	46.382	2L	76	10
24	Matthew Parker Duncan Edwardes	46.198	2L	76	9
25	Jones	46.249	2L	76	8
26	Gary Burstow	46.41	2L	76	7
27	James Northfield	45.375	2L	76	6
28	Andy Barr	46.72	3L	75	5
29	Hiten Zaveri	45.932	3L	75	4
30	darrell pilgrim	46.432	4L	74	3

At the start, James Pratt and James Northfield move through to take 1st and 2nd. Josh drops to 5th with Joseph Ellis up to 4th. Josh Tomlinson's race went even worse when he was assisted wide into T1 and dropped to 10th.

The close race at the front continued for the first 10 lap, until Northfield took the lead on lap 12 – just 2.3 seconds split 1st to 4th. Craig Mcllvar, who qualified 10th moved up to 7th on lap 15, demoting Neil Fisher to 8th. James Northfield started to extend his lead as James Pratt seemed to be struggling for grip.

Sean M-Bernardo made it past Pratt on lap 22 on Turn 7. But the top 10 was still only separated by 15 seconds after 20 minutes of racing. Both Neil Fisher and Hiten Zaveri pit for kart changes and lose places as a result.



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Josh Tomlinson's early woes were behind him as he started to move back up the order – 8th place on lap 28. Mike Newman was having a solid race too – now up to 10th.

Following a full course yellow on laps 31-32, the leaders closed up to just 10 seconds between the top 10 drivers. Lee Pendlebury running well through the traffic in 4th.

On lap 41 Andrew Tempest caught the race leader and was judged to have gained advantage by contact. As the contact was not deliberate, Tempest received a very quick stop go penalty but Northfield's spell at the front was over – his lengthy stop in the T3 tyre walls meant he dropped to 29th.

During the yellow flags for the above incident, Paul Cox was judged to have passed on T1 and received a stop go and Craig McIlvar got a penalty for advantage by contact in T2.

Things settled for a few laps – with Lee Pendlebury now leading from James Pratt, Jo Ellis, Sean M-Bernardo, Adam Nakar and Josh Tomlinson – just 5 seconds split the top 6 drivers.

On lap 52 Scott Breach was black-flagged for blocking and dropped to 12th. Joseph Ellis passed Pratt for 2nd place on lap 59 but the close race for the top 8 continued. Lee Pendlebury got caught up in traffic and dropped to 4th, allowing Ellis through to lead on lap 71.

At the flag, Joseph Ellis took the win from Sean Michael Bernardo and James Pratt. Lee Pendlebury missed the podium by half a second and Adam Nakar finished in 5th just 5 seconds behind. With only 48 seconds splitting the top 11 drivers, the Inters was the closest endurance of the day.

