



DMAX

The Daytona Vodafone Dmax 2012 Championships Round 5 – Whilton Mill – Endurance

As the drivers arrived for Round 5, the British Summer continued with its total unpredictability. Bright sunshine for arrival, cloudy but dry for qualifying and then on and off rain throughout the endurance races at Whilton Mill.

The Inters were scheduled first this month and a thrilling qualifying session saw Paul Cox take Pole Position by just 4/1000's of a second from James Pratt. With only 1 second between the top 17 drivers, the grid was the closest seen so far this year.

Inters Qualifying

Pos	No.	Name	Best time	In lap	Best speed	Diff	Gap	Laps
1	5	Paul Cox	43.489	10	99.335			18
2	13	James Pratt	43.493	12	99.326	0.004	0.004	20
3	8	Craig McIlvar	43.537	11	99.226	0.048	0.044	16
4	26	Sean Michael Barnardo	43.588	13	99.110	0.099	0.051	19
5	17	Stuart Mckay	43.786	11	98.662	0.297	0.198	20
6	15	Duncan Edwardes Jones	43.809	12	98.630	0.311	0.014	20
7	23	Nicholas Lawes	44.016	9	98.146	0.527	0.216	19
8	12	Jonathan Lek	44.092	11	97.977	0.603	0.076	20
9	28	Sam Fisher	44.122	9	97.910	0.633	0.030	19
10	11	Vince Cogzell	44.154	16	97.839	0.665	0.032	19
11	14	Andrew Tempest	44.159	11	97.828	0.670	0.005	19
12	7	Stuart Foster	44.260	10	97.605	0.771	0.101	18
13	10	James Northfield	44.350	12	97.407	0.861	0.090	19
14	21	Scott Breach	44.424	10	97.245	0.935	0.074	19
15	3	Stuart Shearman	44.434	10	97.223	0.945	0.010	18
16	22	Gary Leonard	44.451	13	97.186	0.962	0.017	18



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Pos	No.	Name	Best time	In lap	Best speed	Diff	Gap	Laps
17	1	Kirk Court-howden	44.463	11	97.159	0.974	0.012	17
18	20	Tony Jessop	44.623	11	96.811	1.134	0.160	17
19	19	Tom Simpson	44.630	10	96.796	1.141	0.007	19
20	27	Darrell Pilgrim	44.638	13	96.779	1.149	0.008	19
21	4	Mike Newman	44.688	10	96.670	1.199	0.050	15
22	24	Josh Tomlinson	44.748	13	96.541	1.259	0.060	19
23	18	Phil Moore	44.767	16	96.500	1.278	0.019	19
24	6	Lee Pendlebury	44.927	6	96.156	1.438	0.160	11
25	9	Matthew Parker	45.250	19	95.470	1.761	0.323	19
26	25	Andrew Knapp	45.263	16	95.442	1.774	0.013	17
27	16	Alex Del Verne	46.344	18	93.216	2.855	1.081	18

As would be the norm for R5, it rained as the grid were prepped in the Pitlane. The drivers thus had to contend with a very slippery track for their race start. Two drivers spun on the formation lap. On the first lap both the front row sitters lost places, with Stuart McKay moving up from 5th to lead by T8, from Duncan Edwardes Jones and Sean Michael Barnardo. Sam Fisher collected the first Black flag of the day for advantage by contact on T3.

By lap 3, McKay had been caught out by the worsening conditions and Duncan took the lead with Craig McIlvar close behind and a recovering James Pratt within 0.4 seconds. Paul Cox was running well in 5th with Stuart Shearman in 6th. Lee Pendlebury had a kart problem on lap4 and pitted for another kart.

By lap 9, James Pratt was back in the lead from Duncan, then Craig, Paul, Stuart McK and Stuart S. Nicholas Lawes was up to 6th but Sean Michael Barnardo also lost out with a kart swap in the pits. Tom Simpson moved up to 8th from 19th on the grid by lap 12. Vince Cogzell also making up places after dropping from his grid position.

On lap 14, Tom S improved further to 7th but his achievements were being dwarfed by Alex Del Verne's move up from 27th on grid to 12th within 17 laps. James Pratt continued to lead, with Craig demoting Duncan to third on lap 18. As the rain returned, Scott Breach spun down to last place.



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Heavier Rain led to multiple spins (Stuart Foster, Jnathn Lek and Craig McIlvar) and a period of full course yellow. During this yellow the marshals reported Paul Cox and Kirk Court Howden for overtaking and as this was witnessed by the Series Director they were both given a stop go penalty.

Over the next ten laps, Craig and Duncan had a great race for 2n – with James enjoying a 14 second gap. Stuart McKay was battling back through the field and up to 17th as Alex DV moved up to 7th and Phil Moore up to 10th. Krik Court Howden retired on lap 44.

On lap 57 Josh Tomlinson required a pitstop and dropped to 26th. At the chequered flag, James Pratt won by 11 seconds with just 4.3 seconds between Craig and Duncan. Paul Cox took 4th ahead of Nicholas Lawes and Sam Fisher. Alex Del Verne held on to 7th at the flag ahead of Tom Simpson.

Inters Race

Pos	No.	Name	Laps	Total time	Diff	Best time	In lap	Best speed
1	13	James Pratt	78	59:55.076		43.468	8	99.383
2	8	Craig McIlvar	78	1:00:06.500	11.424	43.574	78	99.142
3	15	Duncan Edwardes Jones	78	1:00:10.809	15.733	43.623	10	99.030
4	5	Paul Cox	78	1:00:29.037	33.961	43.882	70	98.446
5	23	Nicholas Lawes	77	1:00:09.917	1 Lap	44.370	17	97.363
6	28	Sam Fisher	77	1:00:16.489	10.477	43.751	16	98.741
7	16	Alex Del Verne	77	1:00:20.973	14.961	44.260	55	97.605
8	19	Tom Simpson	77	1:00:29.985	23.973	44.635	9	96.785
9	22	Gary Leonard	77	1:00:30.338	24.326	44.228	76	97.676
10	18	Phil Moore	77	1:00:32.395	26.383	44.207	77	97.722
11	20	Tony Jessop	77	1:00:36.864	30.852	44.439	74	97.212
12	27	Darrell Pilgrim	77	1:00:37.341	31.329	44.527	69	97.020
13	17	Stuart McKay	76	1:00:05.646	2 Laps	44.170	17	97.804
14	26	Sean Michael Barnardo	76	1:00:07.121	1.475	43.733	76	98.781
15	4	Mike Newman	76	1:00:10.314	4.668	44.424	75	97.245



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Pos	No.	Name	Laps	Total time	Diff	Best time	In lap	Best speed
16	7	Stuart Foster	76	1:00:22.068	16.422	44.461	74	97.164
17	25	Andrew Knapp	76	1:00:22.876	17.230	44.526	75	97.022
18	14	Andrew Tempest	76	1:00:34.600	28.954	44.135	68	97.881
19	6	Lee Pendlebury	76	1:00:38.419	32.773	44.402	73	97.293
20	12	Jonathan Lek	75	59:59.416	3 Laps	44.309	9	97.497
21	10	James Northfield	75	1:00:28.069	28.653	44.665	55	96.720
22	9	Matthew Parker	74	1:00:01.375	4 Laps	45.191	17	95.594
23	11	Vince Cogzell	74	1:00:10.710	9.385	44.601	6	96.859
24	21	Scott Breach	74	1:00:12.135	10.760	44.528	74	97.018
25	3	Stuart Shearman	74	1:00:13.952	12.577	44.860	66	96.300
26	24	Josh Tomlinson	74	1:00:31.121	19.746	44.560	70	96.948
27	1	Kirk Court-howden	44	37:59.915	34 Laps	44.991	17	96.019



The dry track gave the heavy drivers a chance to qualify with some grip – a lot of the drivers pleased to see Series leader Chris Carter unable to make R5. Simon Ross making the most of the chance to score points with Pole Position ahead of Richard Renshaw and Adam Nakar.

Heavy Qualifying

Pos	No.	Name	Best time	In lap	Best speed	Diff	Gap	Laps
1	14	Simon Ross	43.512	11	99.283			20
2	8	Richard Renshaw	43.635	15	99.003	0.123	0.123	20
3	7	Adam Nakar	43.777	12	98.682	0.265	0.142	19
4	3	David Vincent	43.951	18	98.291	0.439	0.174	19



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Pos	No.	Name	Best time	In lap	Best speed	Diff	Gap	Laps
5	15	Andrew Haine	43.961	16	98.269	0.449	0.010	19
6	4	Mark Burrell	43.983	14	98.220	0.471	0.022	19
7	10	Jim Mardlin	44.074	16	98.017	0.562	0.091	19
8	5	Diogo Silva	44.191	19	97.757	0.679	0.117	19
9	12	Anthony Gibson	44.242	13	97.645	0.730	0.051	20
10	6	Ian Brooks	44.246	4	97.636	0.734	0.004	10
11	20	Rob Bennett	44.281	18	97.559	0.769	0.035	19
12	2	Jamie Pender	44.380	19	97.341	0.868	0.099	19
13	9	Michael Mckeegan	44.552	19	96.965	1.040	0.172	19
14	16	Gavin Painter	44.553	19	96.963	1.041	0.001	19
15	13	Lee Witney	44.578	19	96.909	1.066	0.025	20
16	17	Stephen Walker	44.780	19	96.472	1.268	0.202	19
17	1	Alan Court-howden	44.780	7	96.420	1.292	0.024	16
18	11	David Scott	44.817	19	96.392	1.305	0.013	19
19	18	Russel Phillips	46.716	9	92.474	3.204	1.899	19
20	19	Chris Foster	46.958	11	91.997	3.446	0.242	17

As per the Inters, it started to rain as the drivers got ready for their rolling start and the first corner saw no less than 8 drivers off the circuit and across the grass. Simon Ross managed to hold on to the lead, but it was Jim Mardlin who took advantage of everyone else's misfortune – moving from 7th to 2nd within two corners. Ian Brooks also benefited – up from 10th to 3rd within two laps.

Adam Nakar's qualifying performance meant nothing after early spins dropped him to 20th. Mark Burrell and Andrew Haine also suffered from costly spins in the wet.

By Lap 8, Simon led by 12 seconds from Jim, with Ian third, David Vincent 4th, Rob Bennet 5th, Diogo Silva 6th and Jamie Pender 7th.



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With the rain keeping things very tricky, Jim Mardlin was coping best with the conditions and catching Simon. The earlier spinners were also learning the wet track, with Andrew Haine moving back up the field, Alan Court Howden up to 11th, Gavin Painter up to 13th and Mark Burrell clawing his way back to 15th.

On lap 29, Anthony Gibson had moved up to 57th, chasing Simon, Jim, Ian, David, Rob and Diogo. Adam Nakar was also improving, making it up to 11th by lap 38. Michael McKeegan was up to 12th place by lap 45, chased by Andrew Haine. On lap 50 a kart issue dropped David Vincent to 12th.

On lap 55 Ian Brooks passed Jim Mardlin for 2nd place. Rob Bennet, Mark Burrell and Adam Nakar were 4th-6th but a lap down on the leader.

The remaining laps saw Simon comfortably home to the chequered flag but Jim and Ian continued to fight for second with Jim making it through on lap 58 and then holding it to the flag.



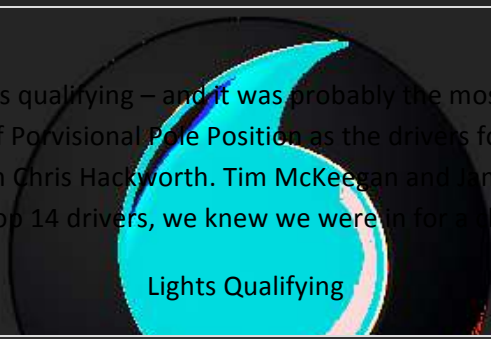
Pos	No.	Name	Laps	Total time	Diff	Best time	In lap	Best speed
1	14	Simon Ross	62	59:38.266		47.067	7	91.784
2	10	Jim Mardlin	62	1:00:00.798		47.994	7	90.011
3	6	Ian Brooks	62	1:00:01.927	2.910	47.839	62	90.303
4	20	Rob Bennett	61	1:00:02.240	1 Lap	47.793	61	90.390
5	7	Adam Nakar	61	1:00:05.024	7.804	47.950	5	90.094
6	4	Mark Burrell	61	1:00:08.853	11.633	47.622	6	90.714
7	15	Andrew Haine	61	1:00:23.683	26.463	48.309	60	89.424
8	1	Alan Court-howden	61	1:00:24.226	27.006	49.189	6	87.825
9	3	David Vincent	60	59:39.801	2 Laps	47.822	60	90.335
10	5	Diogo Silva	60	59:47.344	7.543	49.079	60	88.021
11	9	Michael McKeegan	60	59:47.761	7.960	48.293	60	89.454
12	2	Jamie Pender	60	59:50.980	11.179	49.763	60	86.811
13	13	Lee Witney	60	59:51.102	11.301	49.585	60	87.123
14	8	Richard Renshaw	60	1:00:00.577	20.776	49.236	6	87.741



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Pos	No.	Name	Laps	Total time	Diff	Best time	In lap	Best speed
15	16	Gavin Painter	60	1:00:06.360	26.559	48.789	6	88.545
16	17	Stephen Walker	60	1:00:10.694	30.893	49.025	58	88.118
17	12	Anthony Gibson	58	59:42.427	4 Laps	48.714	57	88.681
18	19	Chris Foster	58	1:00:07.051	24.624	50.107	6	86.215
19	11	David Scott	58	1:00:09.028	26.601	49.070	58	88.037
20	18	Russel Phillips	56	1:00:10.051	6 Laps	53.187	56	81.223

Once again, we saw a dry track for Lights qualifying – and it was probably the most exciting qualifying session of the year so far with something like 35 changes of Provisional Pole Position as the drivers found more and more grip. In the end, it was Ross Sheppard who earned Pole from Chris Hackworth. Tim McKeegan and James Baldwin lining up behind them. With only 0.775 seconds between the top 14 drivers, we knew we were in for a close race.



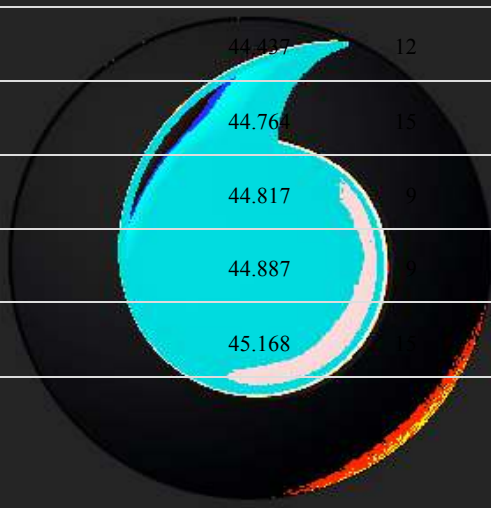
Pos	No.	Name	Best time	In lap	Best speed	Diff	Gap	Laps
1	9	Ross Sheppard	43.222	16	100.297			20
2	3	Chris Hackworth	43.222	14	99.949	0.150	0.150	17
3	7	Tim McKeegan	43.302	15	99.764	0.230	0.080	18
4	21	James Baldwin	43.364	13	99.622	0.292	0.062	20
5	14	Chris Gillingham	43.396	17	99.548	0.324	0.032	20
6	22	Hugo Bush	43.457	12	99.409	0.385	0.061	16
7	10	Ben Leslie	43.565	17	99.162	0.493	0.108	21
8	13	Steven Moody	43.583	16	99.121	0.511	0.018	20
9	12	Anson Williams	43.588	16	99.110	0.516	0.005	20
10	17	Tom Kempynck	43.605	18	99.071	0.533	0.017	20
11	19	Ben Maxwell-aylwin	43.619	16	99.039	0.547	0.014	20





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Pos	No.	Name	Best time	In lap	Best speed	Diff	Gap	Laps
12	16	Alec Tucker	43.650	16	98.969	0.578	0.031	20
13	4	Marc Coltelli	43.818	15	98.590	0.746	0.168	20
14	11	Jane Gibbons	43.847	13	98.524	0.775	0.029	18
15	6	Robert Moss	44.139	16	97.873	1.067	0.292	20
16	5	Sebastian Wielinski	44.225	15	97.682	1.153	0.086	20
17	2	Ben Chapman	44.307	14	97.502	1.235	0.082	20
18	18	Max Bird	44.487	12	97.216	1.365	0.130	18
19	15	Hans Chan	44.764	15	96.506	1.692	0.327	20
20	20	Kamran Moussa-zadeh	44.817	9	96.392	1.745	0.053	20
21	8	Tanzi Besant	44.887	9	96.242	1.815	0.070	19
22	1	David Glover	45.168	15	95.643	2.096	0.281	20



For the third time in a row the rain started as the drivers got ready to start. With a rapidly worsening track, the Lights face similar conditions to the other weight classes. Tim McKeegan came off worse – dropping to 22nd on the first lap. At the end of lap 1, Ross S led from Chris H, Ben Leslie, Hugo Bush and Alec Tucker chasing them.

Hans Chan had a big spin on lap 3 and dropped to last. James Baldwin improved back after early drops to 6th. After 4 laps, the top 6 drivers were still split by just 6.5 seconds.

On lap 5 Steven Moody dropped to 20th with Anson Williams also caught out and dropping to 10th. Max Bird was working his way up through the field from a lowly qualifying position to 11th place by lap 7 – by lap 10 he was up to 8th. James Baldwin passed Alec Tucker for 5th before Alec pitted with a kart issue. After 20 laps, Chris H led the race by 0.3 secs from Ross S, Ben Leslie just 0.4 behind Ross. Chris Gillingham had made it up to 10th.

Over the next few laps Chris and Ross swapped the lead many times. Ben close behind the two of them. On lap 29 Alex Tucker's kart issue returned with loose battery connections (due to suspected kerbing).

At half distance, just 0.2 s split Chris and Ross. Ben has dropped back a few kart lengths. Jane Gibbons picked up a black flag for overtaking under yellows at Turn 4. By lap 48 Ross had pulled away from Chris to lead by 6 seconds before Chris had to pit due to a snapped throttle return spring.



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Ben Leslie inherited second, James Baldwin moved up to 3rd ahead of Hugo Bush, Tom Kempynck and Anson Williams. On lap 59 Ben Leslie takes the lead. Ross S having kart performance issues as he had shaken part of his bodywork lose. Over the next 9 laps James Baldwin was all over the back of Ben's kart but on lap 68 he got caught up lapping traffic through Turn 1 and dropped to 3rd.

A fast charging Hugo Bush took advantage of traffic to pass Ben for the lead on lap 72 and then leads the last 5 laps to win by just 0.442 seconds from Ban and James finished 4 seconds behind them, A good result for Anson Williams on 5th ahead of Tom Kempynck.

Lights Race

Pos	No.	Name	Laps	Total time	Diff	Best time	In lap	Best speed
1	22	Hugo Bush	77	59:55.250		43.201	63	99.998
2	10	Ben Leslie	77	59:55.692	0.442	43.279	53	99.817
3	21	James Baldwin	77	59:59.605	4.355	43.063	60	100.318
4	12	Anson Williams	77	1:00:13.796	18.546	43.236	67	99.917
5	17	Tom Kempynck	77	1:00:18.240	23.990	43.526	59	99.251
6	14	Chris Gillingham	77	1:00:18.433	23.183	43.274	73	99.829
7	9	Ross Sheppard	77	1:00:20.000	24.750	42.996	48	100.474
8	18	Max Bird	77	1:00:19.292	24.042	43.361	69	99.629
9	3	Chris Hackworth	77	1:00:29.139	33.889	43.137	37	100.146
10	4	Marc Cottelli	76	1:00:08.218	1 Lap	43.583	61	99.121
11	7	Tim McKeegan	76	1:00:18.048	9.830	43.529	49	99.244
12	13	Steven Moody	76	1:00:19.488	11.270	43.360	39	99.631
13	19	Ben Maxwell-aylwin	76	1:00:38.200	29.982	43.831	64	98.560
14	11	Jane Gibbons	75	1:00:02.117	2 Laps	43.508	35	99.292
15	20	Kamran Moussa-zadeh	75	1:00:07.239	5.122	44.133	37	97.886
16	5	Sebastian Wielinski	75	1:00:22.245	20.128	44.416	34	97.262
17	6	Robert Moss	74	1:00:11.605	3 Laps	44.288	35	97.543



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Pos	No.	Name	Laps	Total time	Diff	Best time	In lap	Best speed
18	1	David Glover	73	1:00:31.506	4 Laps	44.998	61	96.004
19	15	Hans Chan	73	1:00:40.407	8.901	44.251	69	97.625
20	8	Tanzi Besant	71	1:00:18.414	6 Laps	44.616	48	96.826
21	16	Alec Tucker	70	59:56.581	7 Laps	42.821	70	100.885
22	2	Ben Chapman	38	32:24.122	39 Laps	44.258	31	97.609

The next round is at Daytona Milton Keynes on 8th July.



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