

DMAX

The TW Steel Dmax 2015 Enduro Championships
Round 9 – Daytona Tamworth
Ammended 20th October 2015 following post race penalties.

Lights

Qualifying

Conditions were cool and dry with the sun finally breaking through the clouds after an overcast morning as the drivers headed out onto the circuit for qualifying. Tom Sibley flooded his engine leaving the pit lane but managed to get himself going again. It was Chris Hackworth who set the early pace with a 56.506 the 3rd time around, Tom Golding, James Wickham and Sam Bennett were all within 2 tenths until Hackworth went quicker again with a 56.411 on his fifth lap.

As everyone became acclimatised to the conditions, at the halfway mark the top 10 drivers were all within 1 second of one another. Joseph Conroy set a 56.182 on the 8th lap to top the standings with Bennett knocking Hackworth down to 3rd.

With less than 5 minutes reaming Conroy extended his lead with a 56.164 as the pack began to bunch together, with 8 drivers setting their fastest times on the 12th lap. Bennett then went one better going 0.022 quicker than Conroy with a 56.142. He couldn't improve on that time in the final few laps but he had done enough to secure pole, with Conroy 2nd setting a 56.164, Hackworth in 3rd on 56.298 with James Wickham and Jake Butler rounding off the top 5, once again qualifying had produced some extremely close racing with the top 13 drivers split by less than 9 tenths.

pos	competitor	best time	In lap	diff	gap	laps
1	Sam Bennett	56.142	14			16
2	Joseph Conroy	56.164	11	0.022	0.022	16
3	Chris Hackworth	56.298	14	0.156	0.134	16
4	James Wickham	56.327	12	0.185	0.029	16
5	Jake Butler	56.36	11	0.218	0.033	14
6	Tom Sibley	56.405	14	0.263	0.045	16
7	Anil Sharma	56.513	13	0.371	0.108	15
8	Ben Leslie	56.549	15	0.407	0.036	16
9	Tom Golding	56.571	3	0.429	0.022	15
10	Dominic Cheng	56.852	8	0.71	0.281	16
11	Kamran Moussa-Zadeh	56.866	12	0.724	0.014	16
12	Richard Lacey	56.884	12	0.742	0.018	16
13	Jane Gibbons	56.996	8	0.854	0.112	16
14	Cameron Rodger	57.545	14	1.403	0.549	15
15	Mez Evans	57.582	9	1.44	0.037	15
16	David Darling	57.876	15	1.734	0.294	15
17	Nikolay Angelov	58.277	11	2.135	0.401	15



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Race

As the race got underway Bennett led through the first few corners but lost out at turn 3 after running wide, with Conroy and Hackworth taking advantage and moving up to first and second respectively. Following his mistake on the first lap Bennett began to lose ground on the top two as Wickham put him under pressure from 4th. Hackworth and Conroy traded fastest laps as they pulled away at the front following each other bumper to bumper. Further down the field Ben Leslie held Tom Golding behind him with some robust defensive racing, earning himself a contact warning board to hold on to sixth place. However Golding got his man on the next lap, with a tight battle ensuing between the drivers from positions 7-10 Ben Leslie, Tom Sibley, Richard Lacey and Jake Butler all swapping positions with some aggressive moves.

Bennett closed back in on the top two as the front three broke away from the chasing pack, after 14 laps the gap from third to fourth had extended to over 6 seconds. However it was not the same story at the front with the drivers racing wheel-to-wheel, with Conroy leading from Hackworth and Bennett. Jane Gibbons was pulled into the pits for a kart change from thirteenth position after her kart began to leak coolant. Meanwhile Anil Sharma lost fifth place to Tom Sibley who continued to move through the pack, Sharma had failed to yield at turn 1 and lost time as a result. Hackworth momentarily took the lead with a move at turn 4, but he was on the brakes too late and ran wide as a result, having to give back the position, however the next time around at the same corner he made it stick with the top 3 drivers seemingly connected to each other as they snaked around the track.

Sam Bennett then pulled over to the side of the circuit on the start finish straight after his engine flooded coming out of the final corner, the marshals were able to get him moving again but he lost 35 seconds and 12 places on the lead pair. On the 29th lap Mez Evans set his quickest lap a 56.680 in pursuit of Dominic Cheng in twelfth place. However the pair of them could do little to hold off Bennett as he made his way back through the pack following his earlier issue.

Back at the front Golding, having inherited third place, could do little to close the 8 second gap the top two had pulled out. However Conroy was keeping Hackworth honest with less than two tenths separating the pair with half of the race gone. Responding to pressure from Kamran Moussah-Zadeh, Richard Lacey set his fastest lap, a 56.206, but the gap between the 9th and 10th place drivers remained within 3 tenths of a second. Bennett set a new quickest lap - a 55.656 on lap 34 lap, however he remained in 12th position. On lap 39 Conroy finally made the pressure tell as he past Hackworth for 1st place, but Hackworth remained on his bumper as the two continued to battle for the lead. Cameron Rodger was the next driver to lose his position to a determined Sam Bennett, as he dropped down to 12th. Conroy then began to create a gap between himself and Hackworth, setting a new quickest lap of a 55.634 to take his lead to a second and a half.

Butler made a good move on Leslie up the inside of turn 7 for 7th position with 15 minutes remaining. Hackworth lost another second hitting traffic on his 50th lap, the gap now over 3 seconds. After all of his hard work Sam Bennett lost time again at turn 4, he ended up in the barriers as he attempted to lap Jane Gibbons and had to be recovered by the marshals. Golding set



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a 55.575, a new fastest lap, to close the gap to Hackworth in 2nd to 3.292 seconds as he pushed for second place.

With less than 5 minutes to go Richard Lacey was warned for contact with Kamran Moussah-Zadeh as he tried to push for 9th position. Hackworth pulled the gap to Golding above 3 seconds as he looked to consolidate 2nd place with just 3 minutes remaining, Conroy looked like he had done enough for the win with a 4 second cushion at the front. And it was enough, Conroy crossed the line first for a well-deserved victory. Chris Hackworth held onto second from Tom Golding, Tom Sibley was 4th with Sharma surviving a late scare as he span on the last lap, but held on for 5th position. James Wickham finished 6th with Jake Butler bringing it home in 7th following some late pressure from Ben Leslie in 8th. Kameron Mousah-Zadeh and Richard Lacey rounded off the top 10.

pos	competitor	laps	total time	diff	best time	best lap
1	Joseph Conroy	65	00:50.7		55.634	43
2	Chris Hackworth	65	00:55.4	4.615	55.737	59
3	Tom Golding	65	00:57.8	7.083	55.575	55
4	Tom Sibley	65	01:12.8	22.021	55.978	60
5	Anil Sharma	65	01:20.3	29.602	55.769	47
6	James Wickham	65	01:23.7	32.969	55.853	32
7	Jake Butler	65	01:31.4	40.698	56.14	52
8	Ben Leslie	65	01:32.3	41.539	56.1	31
9	Kamran Moussa-Zadeh	65	01:42.0	51.261	56.164	30
10	Richard Lacey	65	01:42.3	51.524	56.165	62
11	Cameron Rodger	64	00:51.4	1 lap	56.239	40
12	Mez Evans	64	01:04.3	1 lap	56.247	46
13	Dominic Cheng	64	01:11.8	1 lap	56.636	14
14	Sam Bennett	64	01:18.1	1 lap	55.656	34
15	David Darling	64	01:37.8	1 lap	56.749	48
16	Nikolay Angelov	63	01:18.0	2 laps	57.351	37
17	Jane Gibbons	63	01:42.6	2 laps	56.215	60



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Chris Hackworth

Joseph Conroy

Tom Golding

Inters Enduro

Quali

With a couple laps required to get everything up to temperature due to the cold conditions that greeted the Inter drivers on the DMAX Championship's first visit to Daytona Tamworth, it was Bobby Trundley that was the early pace setter with a 56.076 putting him ahead of championship rival, Joe Holmes. Holmes responded with a 55.950 to move to the top with Trundley edging him out once more by 0.049 seconds. Bruce Shingler was in 3rd, 0.719 seconds off pole and 0.082 ahead of Luke Cousins. Anthony Kirk was in provisional 5th a further 0.033 seconds behind as Adam Nakar moved himself into 3rd with a 54.422 as the rest of the field began to catch up with Trundley and Holmes. Matthew Conroy was next to get closer to the leading pair with a 56.388 as Holmes pitted for a kart change. Holmes waited up for Trundley when he re-joined the track, but Trundley backed off and let him through at turn 5. Trundley had bettered his time slightly to a 55.881 with a minute of the session remaining and just 0.069 seconds between the two of them. Trundley's penultimate lap yielded another improvement with a 55.857 to extend his advantage over Holmes. Trundley claimed pole ahead of Holmes, Ben Chapman, who was just 0.313 seconds off pole with Nakar, Conroy and Allan Curtis completed the front three rows. 1 second covered the top 12.

pos	competitor	best time	In lap	diff	gap	laps
1	Bobby Trundley	55.857	15			16
2	Joe Holmes	55.95	6	0.093	0.093	14



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3	Ben Chapman	56.17	11	0.313	0.22	15
4	Adam Nakar	56.207	15	0.35	0.037	16
5	Matthew Conroy	56.226	15	0.369	0.019	15
6	Allan Curtis	56.229	14	0.372	0.003	15
7	Bruce Shingler	56.386	13	0.529	0.157	16
8	Andrew Knapp	56.399	14	0.542	0.013	15
9	Luke Cousins	56.556	10	0.699	0.157	15
10	Anthony Kirk	56.706	11	0.849	0.15	15
11	Joseph Ellis	56.751	12	0.894	0.045	15
12	Seb Cook	56.81	13	0.953	0.059	15
13	Alex Pritchard	57.121	14	1.264	0.311	16
14	Bruno Botelho	57.302	8	1.445	0.181	15
15	Tim Watts	57.366	11	1.509	0.064	15
16	Stuart Shearman	57.49	15	1.633	0.124	15
17	James Perry	57.673	3	1.816	0.183	8
18	Tom Eastwood	57.72	7	1.863	0.047	15
19	Luke Handley	57.774	8	1.917	0.054	15
20	Nigel Foot	59.619	8	3.762	1.845	14

Race – Ammended 20th October following Post Race Penalties.

Bobby Trundley got off to a good start and led Joe Holmes down the main straight, holding a defensive line as they hit the brakes for turn 4. Trundley held Holmes at bay until the final corner with Holmes going for a lunge and holding Trundley out wide. Trundley tried to hold on around the outside into turn 1, but was shown the outside of the track with Trundley running off and losing a place to Ben Chapman in the process. The leading three were quick to start breaking away from the rest of the field as Adam Nakar gave chase in 4th place. Chapman set a fastest lap on lap 4 as he tried to get on terms with Holmes, but Holmes responded on the following lap with a 55.752 to give him a lead of 0.632 seconds over Chapman with Trundley hot on Chapman's heels. Trundley could see Holmes beginning to get away and really started to hassle Chapman for 2nd before Holmes got away. Anthony Kirk and Bruno Botelho both ruined their own races with the pair of them forgetting to do up their helmets. Botelho picked up a black flag as he ignored the marshals calls for him to come into the pitlane.

Despite clear track in front of him, Holmes was unable to break away from Chapman and Trundley within the first 15 minutes as they continued to shadow him around the circuit, always keeping him within half a second. Nakar continued to drop back in 4th as he could not match the top 3 for pace with the gap out to 10 seconds after 20 minutes of racing. Fortunately, he had a 1.5 second cushion over Matthew Conroy in 5th as Conroy towed along Andrew Knapp and Allan Curtis with Curtis beginning to make Knapp's life difficult as he looked for a way past. Curtis was through on lap 26 to take 6th as Trundley made a bid for 2nd at turn 6 with a move up the inside of Chapman. Slight contact occurred with Trundley waving Chapman back through and giving Holmes a little bit of breathing space. Holmes used this time to set a new fastest lap with a 55.696 Chapman bettered



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this 2 laps later with a 55.671 to begin to bring the gap down once more with Trundley getting towed along.

With 20 minutes of the race remaining, the top three were making their way through the traffic, with all drivers allowing them through cleanly. Holmes gained a slight advantage as they lapped Tom Eastwood, Seb Cook and Alex Pritchard through the last couple of corners with Holmes getting 1.5 seconds over Chapman and Trundley with Trundley now deciding to pounce on Chapman, up the inside of turn 4 and set to trying to close the gap to Holmes. Trundley quickly pulled a gap over Chapman and set a new fastest lap despite having passed Chapman suggesting he may have the pace to catch back up to Holmes. Trundley was taking 3 to 4 tenths of a second out of Holmes' advantage each lap with another fastest lap – a 55.549 – going to Trundley with just under 15 minutes left to run. A late lunge into turn 10 saw Trundley through on lap 51, showing Holmes the outside of the track to give him the lead. Holmes tried to come back at turn 4 with a move up the inside, but left his braking too late, allowing Trundley to slip back up the inside. Now was the time for Trundley to get his head down and try to repeat the pace he demonstrated when catching Holmes. A 55.433 from Trundley saw him set a new fastest lap and begin to edge away from Holmes. During this, Chapman had lost touch with the leaders, dropping back by 2.7 seconds from Holmes in 2nd as Trundley pulled out a 2.4 second lead over Holmes with 5 minutes of the race remaining. Nakar was still looking secure in 4th place ahead of Curtis who had made steady progress to 5th with Knapp and Conroy dropping back in 6th and 7th respectively. Trundley crossed the line to claim the win after an hour of racing, beating Holmes across the line by 7.010 seconds. Crucially, Holmes took the title, only needing 10th to take the 2015 TW Steel Inters Endurance Championship. Chapman claimed a well-deserved 3rd, with Nakar holding on to his 4th place, 3.7 seconds ahead of Curtis in 5th.

Video evidence revealed after the race that Joe Holmes had hit the cone on the inside of Turn 11 Kerb. As this was clearly communicated in the briefing as a black flag offence, Holmes received a 60 second post race penalty which dropped him down to 9th place and elevated Chapman to second and Nakar to third place. The podium picture still reflects the original finishing position.

pos	competitor	laps	total time	diff	best time	best lap
1	Bobby Trundley	65	00:40.9		55.433	53
2	Ben Chapman	65	00:48.7	7.8	55.671	31
3	Adam Nakar	65	01:11.7	30.775	55.923	51
4	Allan Curtis	65	01:15.5	34.562	55.823	50
5	Andrew Knapp	65	01:24.7	43.764	56.007	11
6	Matthew Conroy	65	01:26.9	45.928	56.044	22
7	Joseph Ellis	65	01:35.1	54.125	56.252	41
8	Luke Cousins	65	01:35.6	54.617	56.343	54
9	Joe Holmes	65	01:47.9	01:07.0	55.643	41
10	Bruce Shingler	64	01:03.7	1 lap	56.268	33
11	Alex Pritchard	64	01:10.5	1 lap	56.628	49
12	Seb Cook	64	01:11.0	1 lap	56.484	64



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13	Stuart Shearman	64	01:15.1	1 lap	56.639	54
14	Anthony Kirk	63	00:54.5	2 laps	56.193	51
15	Bruno Botelho	63	01:08.4	2 laps	56.781	57
16	Tom Eastwood	63	01:17.7	2 laps	56.716	53
17	Nigel Foot	59	00:58.3	6 laps	58.309	6
18	Luke Handley	42	00:42.9	23 laps	56.738	39
19	Tim Watts	15	15:04.8	50 laps	57.588	12



Joe Holmes

Bobby Trundley

Ben Chapman

Heavies Enduro

Quali

Chris Carter decided to sit Round 9 out as he had already secured the 2015 TW Steel DMAX Heavy Endurance Championship at the last round at Clay Pigeon. The remaining Heavy drivers made their way out onto the Daytona Tamworth circuit for the first time in the cool conditions. A spin on his first flying lap at the fast turn 3 didn't put Rob Bennett off as he set the early pace. Stuart Foster soon joined him, taking provisional pole with a 56.793 after 6 minutes with Jamie Pender splitting the pair of them. Bennett bettered his lap to go back to the top of the time sheet by 0.054 seconds with Pender just a further 0.027 seconds behind. Adam Daly was sitting in 4th another 0.084 seconds behind setting up a potentially close qualifying session. Tomasz Zaustowicz was in 5th, 2 tenths off pole, but a 56.683 saw him move to the top of the pile with Foster slotting into 2nd, 0.016



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behind Zaustowicz. Times behind Zaustowicz continued to improve, but only by fractions, 0.067 seconds covered the top 4 with Foster just 0.009 seconds back. Foster's final lap was better, with a 56.579 moving him into provisional pole. Zaustowicz was still to cross the line, but could not improve. So it was Foster on pole ahead of Zaustowicz with Pender and Bennett forming the second row ahead of Adam Daly and Andy Archer.

pos	competitor	best time	In lap	diff	gap	laps
1	Stuart Foster	56.579	15			15
2	Tomasz Zaustowicz	56.683	10	0.104	0.104	16
3	Jamie Pender	56.687	15	0.108	0.004	15
4	Rob Bennett	56.739	7	0.16	0.052	15
5	Adam Daly	56.904	5	0.325	0.165	16
6	Andy Archer	57.175	10	0.596	0.271	15
7	Adrian Wisniewski	57.298	14	0.719	0.123	15
8	Lee Witney	57.301	13	0.722	0.003	15
9	Vince Cogzell	57.383	13	0.804	0.082	16
10	Chris Munro	57.492	11	0.913	0.109	16
11	Daljeet Bahia	57.601	11	1.022	0.109	16
12	Peter Hayes	57.713	10	1.134	0.112	12
13	George Dutfield	57.756	15	1.177	0.043	15
14	Jack Dutfield	57.873	15	1.294	0.117	15
15	Iain Mcmillan	58.325	11	1.746	0.452	12
16	Ian Brooks	58.412	13	1.833	0.087	15
17	Ian Dutfield	58.522	9	1.943	0.11	15
18	Vinod Hirani	58.679	12	2.1	0.157	15
19	David Hannah	01:14.6	5	17.973	15.873	12

Race

Stuart Foster held the lead at the start with Jamie Pender nearly getting ahead of Tomasz Zaustowicz through turn 1 for 2nd. Zaustowicz held on and got in Foster's tow, nearly passing him into turn 4 as Foster was forced to go defensive. Lap 1 was completed with Foster from Zaustowicz, Pender, Rob Bennett, Adam Daly, Andy Archer, Lee Witney, Chris Munro, Adrian Wisniewski and Vince Cogzell all bumper to bumper in the top 10.

The top 5 began to break away after three laps with Foster absorbing the pressure from those behind until lap 4 when Zaustowicz grabbed the lead through the final corner. Foster responded, getting in Zaustowicz tow and passed him to retake the lead into turn 4. Zaustowicz and Pender continued to look for a way through Foster's defence with Bennett and Daly looking on. Lap 9 saw Zaustowicz regain the lead once more with Pender demoting Foster further with a better run out of the final corner giving Pender 2nd. Bennett dropped Foster to 4th on lap 10 with Pender setting a new fastest lap to keep the gap to Zaustowicz at 0.420 seconds. With the repeated changes of position, the top 5 began to spread out slightly.



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The full course yellows were brought out at the 15 minute mark to retrieve Peter Hayes and his kart from the exit of turn 4, causing everyone to close up. The green flags were brought out once both were in a safe place and the racing got back underway. Zaustowicz was quick to re-establish his lead, pulling out 1.3 seconds over Pender and Bennett with Bennett taking 2nd on lap 22 through turn 4. This put the two of them further back from Zaustowicz as spits of rain began to fall. Pender didn't let Bennett go, following in his wheel tracks as Zaustowicz continued to edge away from those behind. Foster was sitting in 4th and was closing back up with Bennett and Pender with Daly in 5th, gradually dropping back.

Zaustowicz continued to pull away as the race reached the half way mark extending his lead to 3 and a half seconds as Bennett kept Pender and Foster at bay in the battle for 2nd. Daly was in a comfortable 5th, gapping Witney in 6th who was in-turn, pulling away from the scrap for 7th between Munro, Archer and Cogzell. Pender had managed to sneak his way into 2nd as the race progressed, but a move from Bennett with 15 minutes of the race remaining saw him regain 2nd once more through turn 4 with a robust move up the inside.

Zaustowicz entered the final 10 minutes of the race with a lead of 5 seconds as Bennett, Pender and Foster began to get some distance between themselves. The closest battles on track were between Archer and Cogzell for 7th place and between George and Jack Dutfield for 12th place as they were bumper-to-bumper for nearly the entirety of the race. Zaustowicz cruised across the line to take the win by 4.345 seconds from Bennett, Pender, Foster and Daly.

pos	competitor	laps	total time	diff	best time	best lap
1	Tomasz Zaustowicz	63	00:16.0		56.288	14
2	Rob Bennett	63	00:20.4	4.345	56.49	61
3	Jamie Pender	63	00:20.6	4.546	56.418	57
4	Stuart Foster	63	00:21.1	5.098	56.256	60
5	Adam Daly	63	00:37.2	21.163	56.75	22
6	Lee Witney	63	00:56.1	40.1	56.922	40
7	Andy Archer	63	01:00.2	44.213	57.027	43
8	Vince Cogzell	63	01:00.7	44.644	57.03	61
9	Adrian Wisniewski	63	01:03.2	47.201	56.77	57
10	Chris Munro	63	01:06.2	50.221	57.178	61
11	Ian Brooks	62	00:32.4	1 lap	57.418	42
12	George Dutfield	62	00:35.3	1 lap	57.343	13
13	Jack Dutfield	62	00:35.4	1 lap	57.335	24
14	Ian Dutfield	62	00:47.0	1 lap	57.569	27
15	Iain Mcmillan	61	00:23.4	2 laps	57.777	54
16	Daljeet Bahia	61	00:23.8	2 laps	57.318	27
17	Vinod Hirani	61	00:28.3	2 laps	57.96	45
18	Peter Hayes	53	00:57.3	10 laps	57.533	7
19	David Hannah	49	00:14.4	14 laps	01:05.9	40



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Rob Bennett

Tomasz Zaustowicz

Jamie Pender

The next round is at Daytona Milton Keynes on Sunday 15th November with testing available on Saturday 14th November. Call Mark on 033 033 278 70 option 9 to book your place for the last TW Steel Dmax race of the year.

