

2012



Ford fiesta junior championship

Race report 005 for: Rounds 9 & 10 – Rockingham 01/02 July 2012
- By Ford Racing UK

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Introduction

Written in the last report – ‘Contact and running over white lines with wheels off the track has recently come under the spotlight in the general motorsport world. We see F1 race cars in Canada with all four wheels over the white line and in BTCC at Oulton Park, cars tipping each other into spins resulting in loss of places, or much worse significant damage. Is it right for the rest of Club motorsport to pay heed to the warnings about this or just ignore it? Firstly, the drivers as aforementioned don’t usually have to pay for the repairs. Their teams do. Secondly, the boss of MSV – Jonathan Palmer is reported to want all cars to be penalised if they put so much as one pair of wheels over the line, let alone all four.’

Seems F1 have been listening and Jensen Button got his second place back from the young German who did have all his wheels off the track. Progress?

Rockingham – race meeting



Bobby Thompson shows off his new livery – very eye catching.

Rockingham is an unusual track with differing parts but I was so proud at the way our young drivers acquitted themselves over the weekend. Mostly good driving with a couple of areas of contact which gives ground for concern for spoiling the racing. We have to remember that in karting a touch is just that and mainly sees nothing more than going off track undamaged. The same act in a Fiesta ST is not so easy, as contact = damage and damage may= race stop.

Timing result information is available on latest news section of www.fiestajunior.ms









Qualifying

Just when you think you have the likely order for a grid worked out in your head, it works out differently. Charlie Ladell has been the man to beat, but this session he was up against some good opposition. James Ross set pole from Freddie Lee then Jack Mitchell. Aiden Moffat and Ben Wilcox came next with Charlie Ladell Bobby Thompson and James Manning rounding out the rest of the grid. Big credit must go to all teams and drivers for the immaculate presentation of their cars. It was the subject of much comment and this, together with the driving was a pleasure to hear.

| POS | NO | NAME | ENTRY | TIME | ON | LAPS | GAP | DIFF | MPH |
|-----|----|----------------|----------------|----------|----|------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1 | 4 | James ROSS | Ford Fiesta ST | 1:46.553 | 8 | 11 | | | 69.32 |
| 2 | 51 | Freddie LEE | Ford Fiesta ST | 1:46.824 | 5 | 6 | 0.271 | 0.271 | 69.14 |
| 3 | 19 | Jack MITCHELL | Ford Fiesta ST | 1:47.514 | 4 | 7 | 0.961 | 0.690 | 68.70 |
| 4 | 43 | Aiden MOFFAT | Ford Fiesta ST | 1:47.772 | 4 | 10 | 1.219 | 0.258 | 68.53 |
| 5 | 88 | Ben WILCOX | Ford Fiesta ST | 1:48.236 | 7 | 11 | 1.683 | 0.464 | 68.24 |
| 6 | 32 | Charles LADELL | Ford Fiesta ST | 1:48.735 | 2 | 6 | 2.182 | 0.499 | 67.92 |
| 7 | 9 | Bobby THOMPSON | Ford Fiesta ST | 1:49.493 | 2 | 6 | 2.940 | 0.758 | 67.45 |
| 8 | 46 | James MANNING | Ford Fiesta ST | 1:49.738 | 11 | 11 | 3.185 | 0.245 | 67.30 |

Race 1



This race started as a cracker and remained a cracker and finished a cracker. The action was tight close-up and personal. Brilliant racing! James Ross started from pole and was harried by Aiden Moffat and Jack Mitchell with Freddie Lee, Charlie Ladell and Ben Wilcox right behind and then James Manning just behind the whole group. A fantastic start both by Ross and Moffat saw them have the black ST of Lee between them as they dragged away off the line. Moffat was on the outside and perhaps slightly hampered by this as they approached the tight left hander of the oval and we saw

Mitchell follow Ross through to pass Moffat. With Moffat late on the brakes we thought he might have got the second place back but he gave space to the Mitchell race line. Lee, tight up behind Mitchell now came over and with maybe a slight touch (it was hard to see from the garage roof area) looked to run by but Moffat held his ground and his go pedal hard down to thwart the move. Approaching the right hander – Yentwood for the first time of asking Moffat still had Lee on his nearside but held a solid race line into Chapman over on the left as he watched Ross and Mitchell



take a tighter line into the right hander from the right hand side of the track. It was a brilliant tactic from Moffat who was now set up for Pif-Paf and had passed Mitchell and threatened the leader, but he had to bow to the Ross race line and take up second. All this with just half a lap gone. I write this to show the flair and commitment of the young drivers and how mature the driving normally proves to be. With the first of nine laps down the order were Ross, Moffat, Mitchell, Lee, Ladell, Wilcox and Manning. At this stage it would have been foolish to contemplate the outcome, so good was the racing. The second lap saw Moffat run slightly wide at Deene and this was all Mitchell needed to take advantage of and thus to go 2nd. Wilcox had made the best of this lap to take up 5th from Ladell who was looking to be going slower? And indeed he dropped out of contention on lap 7. Lap 8 and still the battle raged on at the front with Ross and Mitchell showing superb skills. Moffat crossed the line on his eighth lap and with a central position was seemingly out-dragged around the left oval but his later braking seemed to have paid off but maybe under the Wilcox pressure ran wide at Deene which gave Wilcox an empty track to surf through. This was tough as Moffat had been looking comfortable in third place. Wilcox had the leaders in sight but was running out of time to mount a serious challenge on them but did have the mirrors full of Moffat who looked to overturn his earlier mishap. It was good racing from Moffat. The run to the flag is always tense, but Ross held his lead with a comfortable margin and took a very good race win from Mitchell and Wilcox.

Motorsport News Ford Fiesta Junior Championship RACE 8 - CLASSIFICATION

| POS | NO | NAME | ENTRY | LAPS | TIME | GAP | DIFF | MPH | BEST | ON |
|-----|----|---------------|----------------|------|-----------|--------|--------|-------|----------|----|
| 1 | 4 | James ROSS | Ford Fiesta ST | 9 | 16:09.790 | | | 68.54 | 1:46.234 | 6 |
| 2 | 19 | Jack MITCHELL | Ford Fiesta ST | 9 | 16:12.087 | 2.297 | 2.297 | 68.38 | 1:46.487 | 2 |
| 3 | 88 | Ben WILCOX | Ford Fiesta ST | 9 | 16:15.712 | 5.922 | 3.625 | 68.13 | 1:46.893 | 7 |
| 4 | 43 | Aiden MOFFAT | Ford Fiesta ST | 9 | 16:17.760 | 7.970 | 2.048 | 67.98 | 1:47.100 | 6 |
| 5 | 51 | Freddie LEE | Ford Fiesta ST | 9 | 16:19.250 | 9.460 | 1.490 | 67.88 | 1:46.934 | 5 |
| 6 | 46 | James MANNING | Ford Fiesta ST | 9 | 16:41.742 | 31.952 | 22.492 | 66.36 | 1:50.019 | 6 |

NOT CLASSIFIED

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|----|----------------|----------------|---|-----------|--------|--------|-------|----------|---|
| DNF | 32 | Charles LADELL | Ford Fiesta ST | 6 | 10:55.890 | 3 laps | 3 laps | 67.56 | 1:47.633 | 3 |
|-----|----|----------------|----------------|---|-----------|--------|--------|-------|----------|---|

FASTEST LAP

| | | | | | | |
|---|------------|----------------|---|----------|-----------|------------|
| 4 | James ROSS | Ford Fiesta ST | 6 | 1:46.234 | 69.52 mph | 111.89 kph |
|---|------------|----------------|---|----------|-----------|------------|

These results are provisional until the conclusion of any judicial and technical matters.

Rockingham ISS Long Circuit Length = 2.0518 miles
Start: 11:59 End: 12:16 Weather / Track : Cloudy / Dry

Race 2



A frantic effort by his WDE race team to change an engine saw Charlie Ladell just make it out onto the track in time. It was a super effort by the mechanics to achieve let alone try and do the change. It was looking like a change of fortunes for Charlie as he took up his place at the rear of the track. It was an opportunity for the classic drive to go for glory in this hotly contested field of young chargers. Read on..



The cars lined up on the grid for this second race. All the drivers were ready and waiting and as the red lights went off, away they all went. Whereas the first race settled down a bit this one saw changes of lead in early on over the first of the laps of 9. It was again, close-up and personal stuff as each driver vied for the lead. Good starts from Ross and Mitchell and also Lee and Moffat as they outran Wilcox from the line. Wilcox got his steed up to speed and was soon alongside Lee as they negotiated the oval left hander but was bested first by Lee and then Ladell as both cars overtook on opposing sides. It got very tight on the turn and Ladell just caught the rear of Lee but a great recovery saw Lee resume down to the approach to Deene with more contact from Lee and Ladell. Lee probably just ahead of Ladell on this one? Ladell recovered from this contact and was promptly seen off by Wilcox as he chased the four leading cars of Ross, Mitchell, Moffat and Lee. From this point Wilcox had the best seat in the house as the four ahead looked for supremacy. Wilcox closed the gap at Tarzan and then waited to see how the leaders would sort the School straight and Brook before the end of lap 1. Lee pressure Moffat as Mitchell did likewise to Ross. End of the first lap and Ross led Mitchell, Moffat, Lee and Wilcox with Ladell and Manning next. Onto lap 2 and Mitchell was now taking the contest to Ross with a bare glint of daylight between the two immaculate cars. Ross in his freshly painted wasp attracting yellow and Mitchell in the corporate and smart WDE colours. A feint down the inside of Tarzan by Mitchell on Ross and it was onwards with Mitchell now the leader. At this stage we looked to see how Ladell was going and he was 6th but still in contention. At the finish of lap 2 Moffat took the wall side of the track maybe with a view to get the drop on Ross for 2nd,



but Wilcox did a great nearside pass on Lee only to have Lee nudge him through Deene and incredibly yet again as they exited putting Wilcox on the grass. Wilcox did the right thing and kept his foot planted on the gas pedal and with a rattle of stones re-joined the track in 5th. Closing lap 3 and Moffat now fancied second place (and obviously higher) and took a close run at Ross as Lee ran into the pitlane with a problem. End of lap 3 and the order was now Mitchell, Ross Moffat, Wilcox, Ladell and Manning and after an interval Lee who re-joined. On laps 4 and 5

