

PRESS RELEASE – Sunday 9am

Metrakit storms the Stowe circuit

Friday saw mixed weather with qualifying for both the Metrakit MiniGP70 class and the integrated XL-80 PreGP125 class taking place on a wet track. Saturday race day dawned somewhat better and both morning warm up sessions on a dry track were completed without incident.

Metrakit Mini GP70

The grid for the MiniGP70 18 lap race, had 27 riders lining up in an unusual two-three-two grid formation. This starting grid worked well with the field getting off the line cleanly and heading to the first corner well bunched but all making it through safely. The same was not true on lap two with riders causing a red flag situation. The immediate attention of the excellent on-site medics soon found that the rider who fell was not seriously injured.

The race was re-started with the previously fallen rider missing from the grid and quickly settled into a battle between the quickest Italian and British riders. Battles formed all through the field but the front runners grabbed attention with the Brits, 12 year old Joe Francis and 11 year old Kai Johnson, taking on the premier Italian riders, 13 year old Alessio Pascoli and 12 year old Alessio Castelli. The race long battle was finally resolved when both Francis and Johnson set some super quick laps to put themselves in command crossing the line in first and second places. Worth a mention, was the impressive progress that 11 year old Zac Corderoy made through the field, taking his lowly 19th qualifying place up to a 6th place finish.

Metrakit Pre-GP 125 and XL-80

Race 1 for Pre-GP125 and XL-80 bikes set off at an equally blistering pace. The initial leader 13 year old Nathan Westwood, who was having his first ride on a GP125, held this position until lap 4 when his engine seized at the end of the straight. Despite determined effort by 13 year year old Bradley Ray to convert his poor start into a leading position, he was unable to close on the 15 year old Italian riders Gianluca Fedi and Luca Antonelli. Ray had to settle for 6th place when oil from the gear box dripped onto his rear tyre. Fedi eventually finished in first place ahead of Antonelli by 3.6 seconds.

The lap times of the four fastest riders got very close to a blistering pace of 59 second laps and who knows, with improving weather we may see our fastest times yet!

Race report by: Roger Keys of Fab-Racing
20th June 2010