



Pitster Pro Canadian National Mini RoadRacing Series:
CMA National Event
Round #2 Calgary, Alberta
Hosted by the AMRA
July 7- 8, 2007



16 years ago a small yet determined group of racing aficionados had a vision of a National Mini Roadracing Series. A series where racers could travel across Canada to enjoy quality time with their friends, family and fellow enthusiasts. The driving force behind this group was told that people would never travel to a 'mini roadracing event' and to just forget the whole idea

216 class entries from across North America formed the grids for Round #2 of the Pitster Pro Canadian National Mini RoadRacing Series.

Saturdays schedule of practice and afternoon qualifying left plenty of time for old and new friends to do a little bench racing. A family style Barbeque sponsored by Pitster Pro and the CNMRA rounded out the successful pre-race day.

Sundays schedule was run under the direction of Race Director Robert Vose with timing done by Scott Durocher, Track Officials: Stuart, Michele, Helen and all the dedicated volunteers. Traditionally volunteers are mentioned last but without them there would not have been an event, therefore they are recognized here. Thank you from all!

The 21& Under Spec class started off the race day. Peter Lenz- Mini GPX earned himself the top spot on the podium, followed by Geoffrey Gerbrandt-SMRA and Conner Matthews- AMRA. Several spectators coined this race as one of the best races of the day.

The Pocketbike 40 cc class chose to take advantage of the Varsity Speed Park reconfiguration opportunities and ran a shorter track. 10 machines with riders of all ages showed their skills manhandling these machines around the custom track. Two heats were run to determine the overall positions at the end of the day. AMRA's Brendon Schmidt earned a decisive win taking the checkers in both heats, followed by Chris Mah - AMRA Edmonton and Ray Dam also from AMRA Edmonton.

The Pocketbike Open class is the Premier series for the pocketbike division; all modifications are allowed. This group of outstanding competitors piloted the extreme mini machines around the standard unmodified course with the fastest lap time of 1 min 5 seconds set by Brendon Schmidt on his GRC 50. Brendon again earned the uncontested #1 podium position by finishing first in two heats followed by David Blundell AMRA Edmonton and Ryan Ottenhof AMRA.

The Novice 7-10 series saw 8 youth competitors square off at this event. Tyler Unger AMRA, 8 years of age and Teagan Edie SMRA also 8 years of age diced it up like pros in all three heats the youngsters competed in. Cory Matthews -AMRA earned a respectable third following cleanly behind the two more experienced racers. Newcomer Cody Conrad-AMRA, nephew of Rob Haynes, finished fourth followed by Allyssa Fox who continues to step up her game at every event. Kelsey Yerex and Dakota Sharples rounded out the finishers. A special commendation to Kelsey who stopped in the middle of her race to help a fellow racer who had taken a corner just a little too wide! In the CNMRA event all youth competitors are recognized and commended for coming out and participating! Great to have you all with us!

Novice 10-14 was represented by Christopher Vose who performed admirably.

Spec Supersport - Heat #1: 16 machines form the grid, a menagerie of NSR 50's, YSR 80's, MetraKit 50's and a Honda Dream 50. Conner Matthews gets the holeshot followed closely by Geoffrey Gerbrandt and Bodie Edie, lap 2 Gerbrandt passes Matthews on the hairpin and maintains the lead for several laps. Matthews has not let Gerbrandt walk away and rides the leader looking for the opportunity to pass and finds it on lap 7 at the start finish straight, Gerbrandt retaliates with his cornering skills earning the position back. Last lap flag sees Gerbrandt and Matthews change position several times, but it looks like Gerbrandt will stay in front until the chicane where the two run into lap traffic. Matthews manages to get through the riders in the lead closely followed by Gerbrandt who gets him back in the last corner bus stop. Gerbrandt somehow holds off the determined Matthews with only inches to spare as they cross the finish line.

Heat # 2 starts out as a repeat of Heat # 1. Matthews get the early lead followed closely by Gerbrandt and Edie. The top three riders remain tight AMRA members Emerson Lefurgey, Glen Peterson and Retired Canadian

Superbike Champion Don Munroe performing on an NSR 50 who eagerly await to take advantage of any error by the leaders. No change until lap five when Gerbrandt takes Matthews in the hairpin. Matthews answers back on the back straight then through the sweeper and into the chicane where Gerbrandt comes out in front. Lap 6 sees Matthews again get Gerbrandt back on the start finish straight with Edie in an easy third. Traffic comes into play on lap 7 but all contenders get through with no change in position. Last lap sees traffic again but holds up all contenders equally and the line and the podium see Matthews, Gerbrandt and Edie earn the positions in the order they take the final flag in Heat #2. Fastest lap was turned by Matthews with a 59.29 sec.

Spec Thunder and Formula Thunder - Heat #1: Young Bodie Edie gets the hole shot on his KM 65 followed closely by fellow SMRA member Gerbrandt, Cody Matechuk on the debut showing of the Pitster Pro X2R comes out with a strong third. Leaders Edie and Gerbrandt pull away from the field leaving Matechuk and Munroe to spar for third. Matechuk plays the Pitster Pro X2R machine like a true champion holding off 7 times Superbike, 600 Champion and Canadian Motorcycle Hall of famer Don Munroe for a few laps. Lap 7 sees traffic and Munroe and Matechuk trade positions through the corners but ultimately sees Munroe finish in front of the younger Matechuk.

Heat 2: Again Heat # 2 seems to be a remake of Heat #1 with Edie and Gerbrandt walking away for an easy first and second place. This time its Matechuk and Fox working on third position but Munroe comes through the hairpin like they are both standing still with his coveted inside move. An exciting race ensues in the back pack with all competitors finding someone to compete against.

Overall results: Although both class's race together they are pointed separately overall results see the podium after both with Edie, Gerbrandt and Haynes in the Formula Thunder class. Fastest time set by Bodie Edie in Heat #2 with a 56.12 sec. Thunder results see Munroe, Fox and Stokowski take the podium with the fastest lap set by Munroe in heat #1 with a 60.07 sec time.

Crowd favorite *Ladies* class ran cleanly with Misti Hurst form The California Superbike School and AMA contender earning the top of the podium followed by AMRA's Sam McManus on second and in third Alix Hayden - SMRA.

21 and Under Formula Class: Tanner Thiessen learned his lessons from mentor Fox quite well with a phenomenal start. Followed closely by Edie and Gerbrandt the youth group turned 10 laps of clean follow the leader racing. Fastest lap was set by Thiessen with a 55.3 second lap time.

21 and Over Spec Class saw the largest grid with 20 riders. Fox took the holeshot on his XR 100 followed closely by Don Munroe on his KLX 125. The two seasoned racers ran side by side, tire to tire through the first few corners and into lap two hairpin. Followed by Peterson, Haynes, McWhirter, R. Ross, and Ens-all available to take the lead given the chance. Munroe takes Fox in the bus stop, but Fox pulls ahead on the straight, Peterson looks inside on the next lap bus stop only to shut down by Munroe as he takes the lead and holds on. Rider down and Red flag calls for a restart on Lap # 5. Again Fox gets the holeshot followed by Munroe, Stokowski and Ross. Picture perfect Munroe and Fox almost lean on each other as they glide through the hairpin, Munroe pulls the lead and maintains for the remaining five laps. The podium sees Munroe, Fox and Peterson with the fastest lap set by Munroe with 60.6 sec time.

21 and Over Formula: 10 entries formed the grid for this expert class. This separation in demographics allows for the younger group to learn from there elders from a sideline perspective. Always ready school the youngsters at any opportunity, Fox shows how the holeshot can be stolen from the second row. Fox followed closely by McWhirter and MacNeil pull fellow AMRA members Rob Ross and Jamie Dingwall with them for the first few laps. Lap four sees Dave Stokowski easily move into third place. Back to old school racing MacNeil pushes Fox at every corner for the final five laps looking for a way through. Final results see Fox, MacNeil and Stokowski round out the podium.

Premier Race Class Formula GP and Motard Class run together but are pointed separately. Two heats determine the overall winner for the day, meaning the green flag will usually drop only twice to determine the winner. Heat #1: 14 riders took two warm up laps and eagerly awaited the first green flag. The flag drops only to quickly be replaced with a red as chaos ensues on the start line. Over half the starting line collides together in a freak starting line incident that leaves competitors shaking there heads. One of the benefits of mini roadracing is that accidents are usually minor and serious injuries seldom occur despite the sometimes spectacular footage. After cleaning the visual carnage all riders walk off the field and only one injury is sustained by Peter Lenz of Mini GPX fame a broken arm which will sideline the young star for 6 weeks.

Green Flag #2: Full race restart at original positions. Jamie Dingwall gets the holeshot, closely followed by Fox, Thiessen, and McWhirter. Lap two sees Fox with a strong lead followed by Thiessen, Stokowski and McWhirter vying for position. Lap four Stokowski sees second and McWhirter in third. Lap Five sees Lefurgey go down,

uninjured the youngster gets himself off the track but his machine remains a huge pylon causing the second red flag of Formula GP heat. Officials decide to take the lunch break allowing the racers to get their heads together for a third attempt to complete this heat. After the break the green flag is dropped and Fox again pulls the lead this time with McWhirter, Thiessen and Dingwall. A successful start the remaining seven laps run cleanly with Fox, McWhirter and Dingwall the first three across the line.

Heat #2: Thiessen gets the holeshot followed by McWhirter, Fox and Dingwall. Lap 2 sees Fox move into second followed by Dingwall. The leaders pull away from the competitors spreading out the field. Lap 4 Dingwall goes down but recovers in time to remain on the lead lap. The next several laps see the competitors break up into groups ensuring a great race for all competitors regardless of placing. As the last lap flag flies it's Fox, Thiessen, McWhirter and MacNeil and ready to make their final moves. Into the final corners MacNeil finds a reserve and bypasses McWhirter to round out the podium trio.

Overall Class results, Motard: McWhirter 1st, Haynes 2nd and Gerbrandt 3rd with fastest lap time by McWhirter at 55.4 secs.

Formula GP: Fox 1st, Thiessen 2nd, MacNeil 3rd with fastest lap time by Thiessen with a 54.3 sec time.

At the end of the race day everyone sits back and reflects as the winners take to the Pitster Pro Podium. Speeches are made, sponsors, parents, volunteers and fellow racers are all commended for a phenomenal job and their part in the success of the day.

An overwhelming feeling of accomplishment is shared by many as this one of a kind Canadian Series continues to thrive. A fun family yet extremely competitive environment, a place where racers can race against the best of the best, where athletes can earn the respect of their fellow racers regardless of age, and can learn from other competitors again regardless of age. It is with great pride that one of the original founders of mini road racing in North America surveys the crowd from his hard earned podium position, the very fact that he is standing on a National Mini Road Racing Podium a testament that proves with perseverance, drive and dedication your vision can come true.

Thank you to *Pitster Pro* www.pitsterpro.ca for their vision and support of the 2007 Canadian National Mini Road Racing Series