

Pitster Pro Canadian National Mini RoadRacing Series:
CMA National Event
Round #4 Martensville, SK
Hosted by the SMRA
September 1-2, 2007



96 Class Entries attended Round #4 of the Pitster Pro Canadian National Mini RoadRacing Series hosted by the Saskatchewan Mini Roadracing Association (SMRA) in the community of Martensville, located 10 minutes outside of Saskatoon SK. Long distance entries include the Rivercity Pocketbike Crew out of Winnipeg, Manitoba and Mini RoadRacing Icon 'Big Bone' out of Visalia, California.

990 meters of technical perfection welcomed competitors from across Canada and the United States. Turns 1A & 1B, squared right, off camber sweeper's, and light bulb became terms that inundated the conversation between racers as they discussed the special challenges of Martensville International Speedway. With no time to rest between the tight corners this facility accommodates both the pocketbikes and the full size mini bike machines with no preferential treatment between them.

Saturdays practice took place under threatening black clouds and high winds. The living skies of Saskatchewan blessed racers with the occasional light shower, but it was the blasts of pre tornado wind energy that created additional challenges for the riders as they familiarized themselves with the already formidable track.

Qualifying took place Saturday afternoon under these daunting weather conditions. Racers drew numbers to determine qualifying order and then ran the 'Super Plank.' The Super Plank is a 12' plank upon which your qualifying time is written. To get this time you run a warm up lap, and then one hot lap. This time then not only determine your position for the main event, but will greet you season after season as racers gaze upon the honored plank. For better or worse....

Sundays main event opened with perfect racing conditions much to the relief of racers and volunteers.

The Spec Supersport class commenced the days events. With the drop of the green flag it was instantly apparent that home town favorites Geoff Gerbrandt (17 years of age) and Bodhi Edie (11 years of age) were in a class of their own as they powered through 1A and 1B and into the square right. Gerbrandt and Edie pulled contenders around the track with the race for third being the only top position left available. John Lenz SMRA President, tutor to the top two racers, earned the third spot after few in-corner discussions with competitor Ian McWhirter (AMRA).

Round # 2 of the Spec Supersport Class again saw Gerbrandt with a early lead, this time closely followed by Connor Matthews (AMRA) and Bodhi Edie. Gerbrandt pulled away as Matthews and Edie battle it out for the next two laps until Edie gets by Matthews leaving Lenz to try and get past the AMRA youth. Edie catches up to Gerbrandt and noses under the leaders back tire for several laps looking for an opening that will allow him to earn the coveted checkered flag. For several laps the two competitors pass back and forth, brief moments see one racer in front of the other. Ultimately Bodhi Edie gets the flag and the #1 overall podium. Gerbrandt earns second position and podium with Lenz rounding out the top three for an all SMRA platform. With the 15 points earned at this event Edie closes the gap to one point with Gerbrandt maintaining the lead for the 2007 Pitster Pro National Series Championship Title.

Youth classes 7-10 and Novice 10-14 both had the largest rider entries of the season. When organizers were asked to relay special moments from the weekend the first mention went to Robyn Hamm in the 7-10 class for her display of great race etiquette on the track. Teagan Edie (SMRA) brother to Bodhi, leads the 7-10 class with one point over Cory Matthews (AMRA). 80% of class entries in the Novice 10-14 series were female for Round #4. Allyssa Fox (AMRA) currently leads this class by 8 points.

Thunder Class with its combination of stock XR 100's, CRF 100's, TTR 125's, DRZ 125's and KLX 125's is a favorite of many racers as the emphasis is taken off the machine and focus's on the talents of the rider. The Formula version of the Thunder class allows for modifications of the stock machines and is also a perfect fit for the extremely competitive Pitster Pro X2R. The newest machine to become part of the mini roadracing family, the Pitster Pro X2R has achieved podium finishes, or honorariums at each round of the 2007 national series.

Spec over 21 took to the grid with Don Munroe and his KLX 125 on pole. Munroe gets a great start and leads a tight group of Thunder and Supersport machines into 1A. Munroe quickly gains a substantial lead as home town boys Devin Edie and John Lenz fight for second. Lenz finally gets past Edie with a great pass in the square right on lap two, Munroe

already has several seconds on the rest of the field. Lenz puts his head down and regains the lost time, on lap 4 Munroe looks back and sees Lenz in position to regain the lead. For the remaining 5 laps Munroe and Lenz change position corner after corner. With 2/10th of a second between the leaders transponder time on the final lap Munroe takes the checkered flag with a phenomenal photo finish. Overall season standings see Munroe in first with 8 points over Lenz in second.

With entries from across North America the Pocketbike 40 cc Class and the Pocketbike Open Class are definite crowd favorites. With one of the largest fields for the 2007 season competition is truly intense. For spectators used to seeing the clash of two wide racing , expectations are exceeded as these smaller but no less intense machines often run 3 wide into corners. Race #1 of the Pocketbike Open saw Chris Mah of Edmonton get an early lead with the competition going into the square right 5 machines wide. Brendon Schmidt (AMRA) has to work hard to keep the youth leader from getting away. At the halfway flag leaders encounter lap traffic and with incredible skill the racers weave their way through the back markers. Mah gets the win, followed by Schmidt. Race #2: Mah gets a great line off the start, this time Schmidt is with the youth all the way. Soon three racing groups appear, Mah and Schmidt, Gil Johnson and Davis Blundell, and Jared Frizell, Ryan Hykway and Vernon Stevens. With no room for error in any of the groups the racing is thrilling. Lap 5, the leaders encounter traffic, this time experience raises its head and Schmidt gets the lead as he works his way through the pack with Mah pulling in close behind. Johnson and Blundell make their way cleanly through the pack. Despite the intense drive of the competition no change in position occurs for the remainder of the race. Finishing order for Race # 2, Brendon Schmidt- 1st , Chris Mah - 2nd and Gil Johnson - 3rd , with event results Schmidt - 1st, Mah - 2nd and Blundell - 3rd. Overall Standings see Schmidt and his GRC with a unbreakable lead going into Round #5, Chris Mah holds a strong second and one point separates third and forth places.

Formula 80 and Motard Class Race # 1: Ian McWhirter (CR 85-AMRA) gets the hole start closely followed by Geoff Gerbrandt (RS 85), Jay Fox (RS 85-AMRA), Matt Bagshaw (TZ 80-AMRA) and Bodhi Edie (RM 65). Follow the leader racing ensues for 6 laps until Bagshaw gets past Fox in the lightbulb. Gerbrandt pokes at McWhirter and his Motard for several laps until lap 8 when he passes McWhirter in the lightbulb and then walks away from the pack earning first checkers. Bagshaw takes second and Fox earns third closely followed by Edie in forth. Race #2: McWhirter takes the hole shot with Gerbrandt hot on his heels, closely followed by Bagshaw and Edie. With less than a full lap complete Bagshaw crashes coming out of the lightbulb in a late breaking incident, taking some of the pressure off Edie as he chases the podium. With a 4th place finish in Race 1 the Grade 6 student is out to redeem himself. Gerbrandt remains up front, gaining a slight lead as McWhirter works hard to keep Edie behind him. Lap 4 Edie passes McWhirter on the start finish straight and sets his sights on Gerbrandt. McWhirter has prime position to watch the youth teammates as they put on a show. Edie closes in on Gerbrandt and Gerbrandt takes the only defense available- speed. Transponder times: Lap 10 Gerbrandt 48.2s, Edie 48.2, lap 11 Gerbrandt 48.0s, Edie 48.1s and lap 12 Gerbrandt 47.97s and Edie 47.88s, both racers cleanly breaking the official track record of 48.3s. Gerbrandt wins the checkers and the #1 podium and both racers walk away having made track history.

Through out the days racing festivities two racers Bodhi Edie and Geoffrey Gerbrandt set themselves apart from the crowd with their phenomenal skill sets. Youngest Parts Canada Canadian Superbike Star Brett McCormick started his mini road racing career at home track Martensville Speedway and it would seem that the SMRA isn't done with producing superstars.

Special thanks to the sponsors of Round #4 Pitster Pro Canadian National Mini RoadRacing Series :

Pitster Pro, Custom Cycle, McCormick Racing, Proline, Saskatoon Kart Racers and the CNMRA. Appreciation to the host group; Saskatchewan Mini RoadRacing Association- a club where every member dedicates countless hours to the organization of this annual event.

On behalf of the CNMRA and all its associates I would like to extend our best wishes to the Sharples Family from Calgary who had a serious traffic accident during their travels out to participate in the weekend event. At the time of this release all three children have been released from the hospital and Dad is in stable condition. Our hearts go out to you. Anyone wishing to help to get this family of pocket bike enthusiasts back on their feet and back on the track, please contact Brendon at GrinnandBarrett@telus.net

Round # 5 of the Pitster Pro Canadian National Mini RoadRacing Series takes place October 6th & 7th , 2007 at Tradex Facility, Abbotsford BC.

Bernedette Bagshaw
CNMRA

Event Results

7-10 CLASS: 1st Robyn Hamm, 2nd Elias Ferniuk, 3rd Cory Matthews

NOVICE 10-14: 1st Brook Hamm, 2nd Allyssa Fox, 3rd Sebastian Sim

LADIES CLASS: 1st Samantha McManus, 2nd Alix Hayden, 3rd Brook Hamm

POCKETBIKE 40 cc: 1st Jared Frizell, 2nd Ryan Hykway, 3rd Gil Johnson

POCKETBIKE OPEN: 1st Brendan Schmidt, 2nd Christopher Mah, 3rd Dave Blundell

21 & UNDER SPEC: 1st Bodhi Edie, 2nd Geoff Gerbrandt, 3rd Connor Matthews

21 & UNDER FORMULA: 1st Geoff Gerbrandt, 2nd Bodhi Edie

21 & OVER SPEC: 1st Don Munroe, 2nd John Lenz, 3rd Devin Edie

21 & OVER FORMULA: 1st Ian McWhirter, 2nd Jay Fox, 3rd John Lenz

THUNDER: 1st Don Munroe, 2nd Matthew Bagshaw, 3rd Brent Mooney

FORMULA THUNDER: 1st Bodhi Edie, 2nd Geoff Gerbrandt, 3rd Vince Stevens

SPEC SUPERSPORT: 1st Bodhi Edie, 2nd Geoff Gerbrandt, 3rd John Lenz

MOTARD: 1st Ian McWhirter,

FORMULA 80: 1st Geoff Gerbrandt, 2nd Bodhi Edie, 3rd Matt Bagshaw

SPORTSMAN: 1st Guy Hince, 2nd Kevin Hamm, 3rd Dave Elmer