



NSW HISTORIC FORMULA FORD SERIES

ROUND 1 REVIEW

Competitive Racing highlight of first round of NSW Historic Formula Ford Series

Written by Formula Ford PR

The first round of the 2012 Historic Formula Ford series attracted a solid field of historic Formula Fords spread across all three classes.

The weekend featured three races for Formula Ford with class honours going to Steve Cromer in FA class in the 1977 Elwyn 002, John Smith claiming FB honours in the 1978 Lola T440 with David Holland clinching the FC lead in the 1989 Reynard.

Whilst Cromer dominated FA the same cannot be said for FB and FC. The FB lead ended with Smith in the points lead after being pressured heavily by Mark Lowing in the 1983 Reynard until sidelined in race 3 and David Holland's 1989 Reynard having a great battle all weekend in FC with Michael Meyers' 1989 Reynard and Elwyn Bickley in the Elwyn 003.



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Class FB leader John Smith Lola T440

Class FA leader Steve Cromer Elwyn 002

A great field of 23 Formula Fords cars competed over the weekend which at times provided some very close racing, especially with upto 13 Formula Vees to contend with. All said, it was a great effort from both categories' drivers that there were no incidents during the weekend given the large differences in performance.



Class FC leader David Holland Reynard 89

FA competitor Norm Vesty Merlin Mk 24

In FA Steve Cromer took off and proved quite unsociable with the rest of his FA competitors fighting all weekend with FC competitors. This left Steve Weller, Malcolm Roach, Ross Andrews, Len Walters, and Norm Vesty to battle out the minor placings. At the end of the weekend Weller just sneaked home in 2nd from Malcolm Roach in 3rd.



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In the first race on Sunday morning Norm Vesty had a car failure which pitched him into the outside wall at turn 2. Car was badly damaged and Norm spent some time in hospital under observation. Norm is out of hospital, bruised and battered but still better than the car.

In FB John Smith and Mark Lowing had a titanic battle for the first two races, both sharing races wins and never more than a couple of car lengths apart. The spectators were robbed in the last race with Lowing breaking a CV joint on the line and retiring. Behind this pair Tim Berryman finished third in race 1 only to lose drive in race 2 and retire for the weekend. Geoff Walters and Ed King both enjoyed podium finishes over the weekend. In the end it is Smith leading from Walters and Ed and Chris King. In the middle of the pack great racing was enjoyed by Kendal Barry-Cotter, John Pymble and Bob Saunders

Ross Andrews battled a sticking throttle and setup issues all weekend but still managed a smile whilst Don Greig, pictured below, enjoyed his immaculate Elwyn 004.

In FC Elwyn Bickley took the win in race 1 from David Holland but it was Holland who prevailed in the second and third races. Michael Meyer improved from 3rd in race one to 2nd in both races two and three. Bickley grabbed second in race two with Doug Matley taking third in the last race. Behind the guys battling for a podium were Cameron Walters, David and Peter Grant in their 86 Van Diemens who had a great tussle all weekend.



FB competitor Don Greig Elwyn 004

FC competitor Cameron Walters Van Diemen RF86



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The HSRCA's Todd Hamilton and his fellow scrutineers must be thanked for all their assistance over the weekend with weighing the cars and we look forward to increasing our level of scrutiny in the future rounds. We would also like to thank the HSRCA for care taken of Norm Vesty after his accident.

The great racing on the track was equaled by the camaraderie in the pits and particularly at the Sunday lunch BBQ and the later sponsors prize presentation with all competitors eager to receive a portion of the prizes on offer. The prizes are not performance based with any driver having equal chance of receiving a share.

All the competitors are appreciative of the support Penrite Oils, Revolution Racegear, Eastern RaceParts, The Chifley and the HSRCA provides with Formula Ford stalwart Geoff Walters stating " It's great to have the support of all these groups with prizes that can be distributed across the entire field".

A big thank you to **PENRITE OIL, REVOLUTION RACEGEAR, HSRCA, EASTERN RACEPARTS,** and the **CHIFLEY EASTERN CREEK.**

Prizes went to:

Penrite Oil 1 x 5 litre engine oil

Elwyn Bickley, Geoff Walters, Len Walters, Bill Vesty, Peter Grant, John Pymble, Steve Weller, and Malcolm Roach

Penrite Brake Fluid 2 x 500ml

John Pymble, Geoff Walters, Bill Vesty, Elwyn Bickley, Don Greig, Tim Berryman, and Steve Weller

Eastern Race Parts nuts and washers set – Mark Lowing

Revolution Racegear

1 pair Socks – Ross Andrews

1 pair Gloves – Kendal Barry-Cotter

1 Balaclava – Len Walters

The Chifley Eastern Creek Hotel – Geoff Walters

HSRCA race entry – Bob Saunders

Photographs courtesy of Jeremy Braithwaite <http://jbraithwaite.smugmug.com/Motorsport/Historics/Eastern-Creek-June-2012/>

The next round of the series will be run at the Wakefield Park Raceway outside Goulburn

On September 22/23

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