



Walker kept the chasing pack at bay to win race two

ROBERTS

Heritage Formula Ford provides some classic racing at Donington

DONINGTON PARK
MSVR
24-25 APRIL

Heritage Formula Ford provided some of the closest action as Donington Park hosted an entertaining MotorSport Vision Racing event last weekend.

Ex-McLaren GT racer Josh Smith won the opening race in his Van Diemen from the front row, while behind him a six-car scrap raged, with Alex Walker withstanding all sorts of pressure to take second.

There was more ultra-close racing in the second bout, which culminated in six cars nose-to-gearbox with just two minutes to go. The brave 17-year-old Walker took the win in his Kevin Mills-run Spectrum and retained the Champion of Donington title. "My team have done such a great job with the car," said Walker. "I think we're looking good for the Nationals this year."

The opening round of the EnduroKa Series served up a predictable mix of tight, one-make endurance racing,

with pitlane and track-limit infringement penalties and unexpected plot twists. Star of the show, Le Mans winner Nick Tandy, showed his class in a stint from lap 25 to 65 when he stormed to the front. His team-mate Elliot Mason, however, put their JTR Ford Ka in the gravel, costing them time and penalty laps. Mason drove hard to make up ground, and Tandy blitzed the final hour to recover from 22nd to fifth. When asked about swapping the giddy heights of international sportscar racing for sub-compact hatchbacks, the humble Tandy said: "I love it. It's just great to get out with your mates and drive a race car."

Ultimately, Team Octane Junkies – Barry Ward, Martyn Smith and Adam Smith – drove with consistency and solid pace to take the win by 25 seconds. Considering the five-hour duration, it was a super-competitive race.

The meeting had kicked off with the Focus Cup, with polesitter Scott Parkin leading the first race from start to finish. Gary Mitchell kept the pressure on right until the end, but Parkin was comfortably managing the gap. Race two's reversed grid allowed Spencer Fortag to lead into the first corner from second. But race officials were quick to hand Fortag a 10-second penalty for a jumped start, suggesting that the battle between Simon Rudd and Mitchell was, in fact, for the win. Then Fortag's penalty was rescinded post-race, meaning he took the spoils from Rudd.

The Racing Saloons field had no answer for Stuart Waite in his BMW M3. He led from start to finish in both 15-minute

WEEKEND WINNERS

HERITAGE FORMULA FORD

Race 1 Josh Smith (Van Diemen JL13)

Race 2 Alex Walker (Spectrum 011C)

ENDUROKA

Octane Junkies

(Barry Ward, Martyn Smith and Adam Smith)

FOCUS CUP

Race 1 Scott Parkin

Race 2 Spencer Fortag

RACING SALOONS

Races 1 & 2 Stuart Waite (BMW M3)

ELISE TROPHY

Jason McNulty (Elise S3)

MSV SUPERCUP

Nick Jackson & Ollie Pidgley

(SEAT Supercopa, below)

PRODUCTION GOLFS & BMWs

Race 1 Jackson Goodrum (BMW E30)

Race 2 Jack Watts (BMW E30)

PRODUCTION GTIs

Races 1 & 2 Simon Vercoe (Golf GTI)

Z CARS & NEW GENERATION

PRODUCTION BMWs

Races 1 & 2 Edd Giddings (BMW Z4)



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For full results visit: tsl-timing.com

McNulty took a narrow Elise Trophy victory



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heats, winning each race by over 20s. "It's only the second time I've raced the car since a compete rebuild," said Waite. "We're still working on making it better."

Elise Cup polesitter Danny Winstanley retired with mechanical problems on lap five of the 45-minute contest, leaving Jason McNulty and Adriano Medeiros to battle hammer and tongs for the remainder of the race. It was McNulty who took the win by just 0.26s.

The MSV Supercup contest was won by Nick Jackson and Ollie Pidgley in their SEAT, although they were handed the victory by a one-lap penalty for a short pitstop for the impressive Darren Goes in his SEAT Supercopa. When asked about the penalty, Goes said: "I don't understand it really. My clock said we were above the minimum time."

KIERAN RENNIE