

FORMULA XTREME BEARS/PRO-TWINS/NAKEDBIKE DARREN LEWIS GETS BACK ON TOP OF F2 BEARS

We headed to Winton for the Formula Xtreme TT series to contest in the 4th round of the National BEARs title. We missed round 3 and fell 17 points behind another 848 ridden by Jonathan (Riley) so Darren's unbeaten record needed to stay intact to catch up in the National points tally.

A huge F1 field with fast men Shannon (Johnson), Beau (Beaton), Jay (Normoyle) with a host of Pro Twins and Nakedbikes in the race would make it hard for the F2 bikes to get in the top 10. Darren qualified the 848 in 11th spot and fastest F2.

Race one and Shannon Johnson highsided into the sweeper and the race was red flagged. We fought from the middle of the field in the full restarted 8 lapper getting past Chris (Panayi) and Jonathan (Riley) to come home 9th outright and 1st in F2 taking 2 seconds off our qualifying time bagging the full 25 points.

Race two found us progress from 11th to 9th on the grid but a shocking start meant we were back in about 20th in to turn one so Darren just put his head down and picked them off one by one eventually getting back to 10th outright and again first in F2.

Race three and problems with the start were due to a worn clutch so he just tried leaving the line in road start style just to get away and then press on but Darren didn't make it past turn one. He ran out of room and went down hard with his bike and the Buell leaving tyre marks all over the helmet and leathers. Darren stated "I was very lucky to come away with some bruising and a dislocated finger, I thought I was a goner!" The race was red flagged and we were out as the bike needed some work but the restart saw Adrian (Pierpoint) crash on the first lap knocking himself out for a short time so the race was declared abandoned.

The team and other competitors (many thanks), got the 848 back together and ready to race for the final time. 10th on the grid and away cleanly this time in about 15th so we had some work to do getting past the Buell of Paul (Bailey), the Triumph of Chris (Panayi) on his return ride from a big crash at Broadford and Jonathan (Riley) on his 848. By lap 5 Darren was a clear 7th outright and first in F2 and finished that way, keeping his unbeaten record in tact for Formula 2.

Now we are equal 1st in the points and look forward to the next National at QLD Raceway July 24, 25 and 26. The team has some repair work to do in the mean time and we take this opportunity to once again thank all of our supporters.

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Special thanks to Keith Muir for the great snaps, bike-photos.com

Lewis Racing Team at the Winton was;
Brett Roberts and Neil Macartney

Fun first, if you can't win be spectacular!

Bow to the flag marshals!

DARREN LEWIS