



Race Report

DEANO STRENGTHENS CLUBMAN SECOND PLACE

B&C Clubman Series – Round Two
Reg Hunt Park, Broadford (VIC)
30 May 2004

In his second ever visit to the State Motorcycle Sport Complex in Broadford, Dean Bonthorne had his Suzuki GSX-R600 on fine form, slashing his previous lap times to qualify first in his Superstock class, even ahead of a guest A-grade competitor. This was backed up by two brilliant rides that both delivered podium finishes, securing a healthy second place in the Clubman Series with two rounds remaining.



QUALIFYING : 1st SStk, Best Lap 1:03.06

A pair of ten minute qualifying sessions were particularly welcome, allowing Dean familiarise himself with the track that he'd spent limited time circulating. Despite the chilly 12°C conditions, he was pleased to immediately match his previous best of 1:04.64. In the second session enhanced mental focus and a change of gearing in two corners took another 1.5seconds off, with a remarkable 1:03.60 – Enough for 1st Superstock, 4th of the entire A, B & C grade 600 field and one very stoked Deano!

RACE ONE: 3rd SStk, Best Lap 1:03.74 (L5 of 6)

His delight from the front row grid position was short lived. A last-minute race cancellation moved Dean's 600cc event 1.5 hours earlier than scheduled, with only five minutes warning! Despite rushing to get into his leathers and brand new Alpinestar Supertech boots, he was a few seconds late onto the track, officials denying him a warm-up lap and forcing him to start from the rear of the grid. His immense frustration was released with an almighty launch from the start, flying past no less than nine riders by the first corner and another four within a few turns. But an aggressive outside out-braking maneuver forced him off the bitumen for a wild ride on the dirt at full throttle. Rejoining the track, the leading bunch was long gone, but he caught and passed two more riders for third in class.

RACE TWO : 2nd SStk, Best Lap 1:03.72 (L4 of 6)

Still annoyed from his first race mix-up, Deano was on track with plenty of time to spare in his final race of the day. Yet another impressive take-off from the lights saw him challenge for the lead into Turn One, and hold second overall for the first lap before the leading A & B-grade Supersport machines out-powered him on the straight. Still, he stayed with them for another four laps holding his first Superstock placing with the roar of competitors all over his back tyre. With just three corners to go another rider took advantage of a costly powerslide from Deano's machine, passing without time for recovery, but still delivering a brilliant second Superstock placing in the race and third on the day. It also provided Dean with a huge 40 point buffer over third place in the series as he swaps his GSX-R for a snowboard to get his adrenaline fix during the eight week winter racing break.

NEXT MEETING: Victorian Road Race Titles, Round Two, Broadford (VIC) 31 July-1 August 2004.



PIRELLI - NGK - DAINESE - PTR - YOSHIMURA - OHLINS - JAG SIGNS - SPIDI