

5th December 2011

British Extreme Enduro Championship Rd 1 Buxton, Derbyshire

There is no doubt that Britain has many of the best Extreme riders in the World and to cater for these and the popularity of this growing sport the ACU and Fast Eddy team have created a new 3 round British Extreme Championship.

On form Jonny Walker arrived in Buxton determined to upset the established order and show his intentions to be a serious contender for this Championship, no easy task when you consider the experience and reputation of his main rivals, Graham Jarvis who has won almost every extreme this year and multi world champ David Knight who has won everything in off-road, not to forget several other great extreme riders capable of causing an upset.

The event run from Cowdale Quarry allowed for an excellent course and great viewing, lots of stony climbs similar to a mini Erzberg, several rock and boulder sections and all joined together with some fast trails. The 30 minute practice session went OK for Jonny, he experimented with different line options and never really got a clear run to put a fast lap in, but still managed 3rd fastest and to test that his bike was set up perfectly.

The qualifying time decides what row you start on, 5 riders a minute at 10 seconds intervals, so 3rd was good enough to start with his rivals. At 11.45 the first race would be flagged away, Knighter took the holeshot with Jonny quickly in tow, they would lead the first lap until DK failed to make one of the hills and blocked the way for Jonny causing them both to return to the bottom, Jarvis seized an opportunity to lead but the KTM duo quickly resumed battle at the front. Its been a long time since anybody pushed DK or even ran the same pace at an extreme, but Jonny simply did that, he shadowed him and then on the 2nd lap Knighter got stuck in the rock section, Jonny just floated by and took over the lead.

For the next lap it would be DK chasing the young Cumbrian until DK got caught up with back markers and went over the handlebars and damaged his bike, Jonny took advantage of the situation and without pressure opened up a 2 minute lead on now 2nd place rider Graham Jarvis, in fact Jonny was running such a pace that he lapped every rider but Graham in the hour long race and comfortably took the chequered flag.

With just over an hour between races all the KORR KTM needed was fuel and a clean, everything was working perfect so no adjustments necessary. The the snow and rain started, the day became bitterly cold and certainly extreme weather to go with the extreme course, not that it affected Jonny. Full of confidence from race one he lined up for the second moto with the intention just to follow DK who would be sure to make amends for his first race failure.



As predicted DK from the inside gate took the lead with Jonny tagged on behind, the two KTM riders just in the first lap pulled over a minute on the rest of the field. They entertained the crowd as they swapped positions several times and were clearly in a class of their own, again Knighter failed to make one climb and Jonny took the lead and put the hammer down opening up a good lead, eventually DK made one mistake too many and damaged his bike and had to stop. Again without pressure Jonny took control of the race and pulled out a solid lead to win the second race and take maximum points at round 1 of the new Extreme championship.

Jonny Walker KTM 250 XC “ Both races went easier than expected for me, today for once I had good luck , I made less mistakes than the others and I felt really confident on my bike, the course was far from easy, especially getting around the slower riders and when the snow came it was so cold, thanks to everyone that helped and cheered me on, its a great feeling to be leading the championship with maximum points “

Julian Stevens Team manager “I'm very satisfied and pleased, apart from the weather it has been a perfect day, our KTM 300 performed great and Jonny rode two very smart races, i'm sure he surprised and impressed many people here today with his speed and technical skills, the spectators enjoyed several action packed laps when Jonny and David traded places and raced together, I think nobody expected that anyone could run Knighter's pace, it will be a very interesting championship now”

Results:

Race 1

1. **Jonny Walker SHR KORR KTM 300 EXC**
2. Graham Jarvis D3-Racing Husaberg 300 TE
3. Tom Sagar Gas Gas 300

Race 2

1. **Jonny Walker SHR KORR KTM 300 EXC**
2. Graham Jarvis D3-Racing Husaberg 300 TE
3. Tom Sagar Gas Gas 300

Next Event:- Rd2 Indoor World Enduro Championship, Lodz, Poland
December 10th