

PODIUM FOR CARL AS GAMBLE DOESN'T PAY

King's Lynn race ace Carl Breeze had one of his most difficult days of the year at Silverstone National Circuit last weekend but he still managed a podium finish in the G50 Cup thanks to his determined efforts.

For the title challenger Breeze, a strong run to fourth place in race one on Saturday was a good result all things considered. Breeze lined up fifth on the grid for the G50 cup encounter and although getting away from the line well, he found himself boxed in on the inside run to Copse behind Chris Dittmann and so lost a place to Tom Sharp.

It didn't take the TCR star long though to get into the top four where he remained to the chequered flag, pressuring Dittmann for the podium throughout whilst at the same time defending his top four placing well from the attentions of Sharp.

"We're definitely lacking some straight-line speed with Carl, we think there's an engine issue with his car so we need to get that looked into more deeply" said team boss Lee Brookes, "Taking that into consideration, Carl did a great job to take a fourth place away today".

During the opening race of the day on Sunday, round 22 of the Ginetta G50 Cup, Breeze managed to steer himself into fifth place behind team-mate Fulvio Mussi and Chris Dittman off the start. During the early laps, Mussi and Breeze closed on third placed Dittman putting him under a lot of pressure which later resulted in contact between Mussi and Dittmann, as the former was attempting a pass at Brooklands. This gave Breeze his best opportunity to get by which he did on lap 12 and he pressed on and secured his 14th podium of the campaign with a deserved third place.

The second Ginetta race of the day was the replacement for the rescheduled 11th round, a race cancelled at Oulton Park in May after the huge accident involving Breeze and Mark Proctor which seriously damaged the Kings Lynn racer's title ambitions. Breeze lined up seventh on the grid as his engine was still struggling down on power.

With light rain having made the circuit damp prior to the final encounter of the weekend, drivers were unsure whether to run with dry weather 'slick' tyres or treaded wet-weather rubber. Breeze and team-mate Mussi both elected to gamble and run with the latter and this proved to be the wrong decision in the end as the rain stayed away and the track progressively dried.

Slipping out of contention fairly quickly, the luckless pair dropped right down the order with Breeze eventually finishing in 16th position and Mussi 18th

"Obviously we're pleased Carl got onto the podium in the first of Sunday's races but the second one just went wrong from the start for us" said Brookes, "We made a gamble on the weather and it was the wrong decision, simple as that. All we need to do now is put that part of the weekend behind us and move onto Rockingham in three weeks time".

Breeze added "Again we struggled for straight-line speed, Silverstone is all about straights so it didn't bode well for me. I was pleased to get on the podium for race two as our lap times only equated to 7th fastest, so that was definitely a gain. The last race was hero or zero stuff and unfortunately this time we got it wrong, I hope we get to the bottom of the problems as I am confident we can win at Rockingham with the car right again".

Carl would like to thank his sponsors for their valued support: Bluechip.co.uk, Glenn White, Finesse Paving & Civil Eng, McDonalds Lynn, All Signs Lynn, Cowley Road Garage Cambridge, TCR, Lynn News, DTAUK, Mr.Snippers, Holbonphotography.com & Imagine Health & Spa.

ENDS 01/09/09