



PRESS RELEASE



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JOHNNY STEWART BECOMES SECOND RIDER EVER TO WIN THREE MANX GRAND PRIX IN A WEEK

**FOLLOWING A THRILLING OPENING RACEDAY, ACTION RETURNED TO THE
MOUNTAIN COURSE AS THE CAROLE NASH JUNIOR MANX GRAND PRIX, RUN
OVER THREE LAPS.**

The 2006 running of this race has been dubbed the greatest Manx Grand Prix race of all time as Craig Atkinson took victory over Derek Brian by one hundredth of a second.

Last year's running of this race saw Jamie Williams take victory by just over three seconds from Toby Shann in second place and Michael Gahan in third.

Fresh off a convincing victory in the Road Racing News Sportbike race, run on the same bike, Scotsman Johnny Stewart headed into the race as favourite.

Podium finishers in Saturday's race, Eddy Wormald and fastest newcomer Kevin Lavery will be looking to repeat their impressive efforts but will be closely followed by the likes of Andy Farrell, Graham McAleese, Dan Sayle and Liam Chawke.

After a quick run to Glen Helen less than five seconds separated the top four but it was a surprise entry at the top of the leader board as sidecar passenger royalty, Dan Sayle lead the pack and held a 2.6 second lead over pre-race favourite Johnny Stewart.

Owen Monaghan sat in third place, 1.9 seconds behind while Eddy Wormald trailed Monaghan by 0.26 seconds.

Kevin Lavery was the best placed newcomer in eighth.

By Ramsey, Johnny Stewart had jumped to first position and led Dan Sayle by just 0.9 seconds as the riders headed over the mountain to the all important pitstop.

In the battle for third Eddy Wormald took the final podium position as Owen Monaghan dropped to fifth while Liam Chawke grabbed fourth place, less than two seconds off Wormald.

At the end of lap one Johnny Stewart led on the road and on the time sheets with a lap of 115.961 good enough to extend his lead to five seconds over Dan Sayle while Eddy Wormald gave himself a cushion of 7.4 seconds to Liam Chawke in fourth.

Further down the order Owen Monaghan, Graham McAleese and Andy Farrell were locked in a fierce battle for fifth place with less than a second separating the three riders.

Dale Brew managed to complete his mandatory stop in just 20.765 seconds to record the fastest time in the pits while Manx newcomer Iliam Quayle recorded the second fastest time in 29.542 seconds with Jason Whelan's pit crew clocking a 30.242 second stop.

By Ballaugh on lap two just 4.5 seconds separated Johnny Stewart and Dan Sayle in the battle for the lead with Eddy Wormald sat in third place, 22 seconds adrift from the front two.

Further back Chawke, Monaghan and McAleese remained locked in the battle for fourth.

At the Bungalow, the top three remained the same though Johnny Stewart was able to extend his gap to 9.6 seconds at the front while Owen Monaghan had overhauled Liam Chawke by 0.77 seconds to claim fourth place.

Further back Dale Brew was putting in an impressive ride to sit in tenth place as well as enjoying an on track battle with Luke Blevins, Leon Murphy and Stuart Clothworthy.

Heading into the final lap the advantage had grown again to 12.5 seconds between Stewart and Sayle with Wormald a further 28 seconds back while the battle for fourth took another twist as Liam Chawke dropped to sixth while Monaghan and McAleese sat in fourth and fifth respectively.

Number 3 machine Liam Chawke crashed at Black Dub on the third lap causing the race to be red flagged, Liam was reported as conscious and talking and taken to Noble's Hospital by air-med.

Due to a red flag the race order was decided using the standings at the end of lap two meaning Johnny Stewart took his third win of the week, joining Dan Kneen as the only rider at the Manx Grand Prix to achieve that feat.

An impressive ride saw Dan Sayle claim the second place spot while Eddy Wormald continued his great week with a third podium finish.

Now three time Manx Grand Prix winner joining, Johnny Stewart, said: "Yeah, it's mega [to equal Dan].

"People were mentioning it last night and it was, yeah, it was pretty cool.

"Dan was a pretty cool guy.

"It was perfect, good conditions out there, just chipping away.

"Just maybe a bit slow in the first lap.

"I got a wee bit of kick up the bum when I came in the pits, like, get a move on.

"So, yeah, just made the second lap count and it's always nice to have a little buffer between second place."

Dan Sayle, second place man, said: "I'm a bit surprised really.

"I made a lot of changes before I went out for it and I didn't quite know how it was going to go, but I knew deep down that I had to get a run on Johnny at the start because he's quite slow off the block.

"But I got a bit of a run and then I just saw a lot, I got caught up behind with the boys, and I knew then this would be hard work.

"Then I was just like, do I just settle for it or do I have a go for it?

"But yeah, I'm happy what I got."

Eddy Wormald with another podium in third place said: "It's really good.

"We finally sorted out the stability issues on the twin.

"So we lifted the front up a little bit and it was so much better.

"No headaches at all the whole lap so yeah, I felt really good on it actually."

Ollie Neale spokesperson for Manx Grand Prix sponsors Okell's said: "It's brilliant to be up here.

"I'm really excited, perfect day weather wise.

"It was a great result and Johnny got his hat trick.

"At Okell's we're absolutely proud from a locals' perspective to be supporting this.

It's an opportunity for up and coming racer to do the mountain circuit."

Action returns this afternoon for the Okell's Senior Manx Grand Prix.

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