

Levi Day #57 RACING

Hartwell Club Race Meeting - Mac Park - 29/30 October 2011



With another race meeting only a few weeks on from the Master of Mac Park, I was glad to be back on the bike, and feeling much more at home. Victorian club Hartwell crossed the border for their final round of their club championship, a good opportunity for me to get some more track time in and continue in the set up of my 2011 Suzuki GSX-R. With dismal conditions expected we had my 2007 Suzuki GSX-R prepared for the wet, just in case.

Saturday was wet for qualifying. With a good feeling on the bike I put the bike on pole 1 second clear of second place. The day remained drizzly although both our races were on a dry track. David Trotter managed to come home in front in

race one by four seconds. In race two I picked up my game slightly but Trotter still came in on top by .88. While I was disappointed as we were struggling with rear grip, Trotter broke the lap record dropping it from a 1:13.18 to a 1:12.9. This gave me a lot to think about for Sundays races and how I could improve. I found one issue was that in club racing the races are much shorter, only being from 4-7 laps, where as in the ASBK our races are 15 laps. So I needed to be sure that I don't make mistakes early on and I get on the pace straight away

Up early Sunday morning and I was madly writing things down while eating breakfast on what I had slept on all night. How I was going to change my riding a little more, with trying different lines, body positions and so on. As well as a few minor changes to the bike. I new I had to get on the pace straight away and in our 5 minute morning warm up I pulled a 1:13.0, after already doing hundreds of laps in my head all morning and the night before. Race one and I was determined to turn things around. I put my head down and managed to pull a second per lap on the next group. Everything we had tried was working really well and it made me much more comfortable on the bike. With all of that I also managed to break the lap record set the previous day to a 1:12.75. I was stoked with the times I was running as my fastest before this weekend was a 1:13.22, so we knew we had made some significant ground. The next race was combined with the 1000's for the "Greg Bailey Race". I got off to a great start and managed to gap the 1000's, as I knew that if I got caught up with them it would be very difficult to get passed them. A good win with Ben Nicolson and Andrew Ord taking second and third. In the final race of the day everything went to plan and with my confidence up from the previous races I managed to break the lap record I set earlier that day with a 1:12.66, which is now within a second of the outright lap record around Mac Park. What started as a struggle turned into a very successful weekend. The team and I are making progress with set up of the bike and with me learning the ropes of the 600's. Thanks again for everyone's support and sticking by me! Levi Day #57

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