

# Levi #57 Day RACING

Wow, its been a hectic two weeks!

We started the Australian Superbike Championships at Phillip Island on the 25-27 of Feb and then backed it up with round two at Symmons Plains in Tasmania.

Round 1 at Phillip Island was my first race on my 2007 Suzuki GSXR600 superstock machine, which I am riding in the Supersport championship until the 2011 model is ready. With practice on Thursday, I did my best to follow the more experienced riders to try and pick up the pace. Friday qualifying went well, I dropped my times into the 1:42's with a best time of 1:42.4. This put me in 20th position on the grid. With the first race on Saturday afternoon the weather was favourable for us. I had a good dice with Tasmanian Laurence Gude and a few other riders. Coming out in 16th position. I was really pleased to finish above of my qualifying position. Race 2 on Sunday was more difficult. With a soaked track and it still raining, it was a struggle for me, as it was my first ride on the 600 in the wet, while still being quite new to the machine in general. My aim was to just go out and finish the race and hopefully come home with some points, which may come in handy down the track. I finished 18th, which was fine as I new if I had tried to push harder I would have been so far out of my comfort zone at the moment, that it would most likely end badly. This placed me 18th overall for the weekend. Room for improvement, but this was about where I'd expected to finish with my bike and experience at this point in time.

Home and back at work for 2 days then off in the van again heading down to Tasmania. I rode my 125 there in 2009 and I really enjoyed it then, so I was looking forward to going back and racing there. We had practice Thursday and Friday and Dad and I took this time to work out correct gearing and find a good suspension setup to help get into the tight hairpin and also create good tyre wear. Qualifying was on Saturday with two 30 minute sessions. I put the Suzuki into 16th position on the grid. I was glad my times were getting closer to the next group of riders in front of me, who I'd struggled to be up with at Phillip Island the week before. Race one on Sunday and my starts were much better than the previous week. I came home after the 20 laps in 12th position! I really felt comfortable on the bike and was keen to have another crack in race 2. Getting another good start I was racing with an R6 all race. I made a pass on the second to last lap, hoping to make it stick, but unfortunately with the R6 being supersport spec, he had more top speed and out dragged me down the long back straight. I came home in 13th position in race 2. This placed me 13th overall for the weekend and has now moved me up to 14th overall in the Supersport Championship. I'm really happy with how my progress is going. Every time I jump on the bike I feel much more confident and I'm always learning things when people like Kev Curtain and Aaron Gobert pass me in qualifying! Thanks to all my sponsors and fans for their support. I couldn't do it with out you!



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