



RACE REPORT

**Formula Xtreme TT Series, Round 2
National F1 BEARS & Protwins
Eastern Creek, NSW**

12th – 14th June 2009



Beau leading the field in Race 1 Sunday

NORTH COAST V-TWINS RACE TEAM ATTACKS EASTERN CREEK – POLE POSITION FOR BEAU BEATON



Beau in the zone of his Ducati 1198s

Beau posted a lap time of 1m 35.51s to qualify fastest and gain pole position for the Formula Xtreme TT races. This lap time was the fastest of the race meeting.

Despite the dangerous wet conditions that Sunday turned on, North Coast V-Twins Race Team's Beau Beaton and Ryan MacLauchlan had a successful weekend of racing at Eastern Creek. Beau contested the Formula Xtreme TT Series and Ryan competed in the National F1 Bears and Protwins Series. North Coast V-Twins are extremely proud of both their young and talented riders and the results they are getting in their first year of racing.

Practice on Friday saw plenty of track time at a familiar circuit for the riders. This allowed the team to try plenty of different set-up arrangements with both the bikes, making sure that the Ducati's were going to be on the pace for the weekend of racing against some strong competitors. A great weekend of racing was enjoyed by all who attended.



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FORMULA XTREME

Saturday qualifying for the Formula Xtreme series consisted of two 15minute sessions. Beau's aim was to conserve as much of the tyres as possible. On the third lap of the qualifying session, with a time of 1m 35.51s, Beau put the 1198s Ducati in pole position. This enabled him to come in and wait to see if any of the other competitors could beat the time. Craig McMartin, on another 1198s Ducati, came the closest with a time of 1m 35.7s putting him second on the grid. This was a great result for Ducati fans before the racing even began.

Race 1 on Sunday had Ducati 1 & 2 on the grid. Beau leapt off to a great start coming out in front after turn 2. He held a comfortable lead for the majority of the race coming under pressure from McMartin mid way through. Beau managed to hold the lead to finish in 1st place, with Craig coming through for 2nd leaving a considerable gap over the remainder of the field.

In Race 2 both Ducati's shot away from the start with McMartin snatching the lead from Beau under an awesome braking move through turn 4. With Craig and Beau pulling away from the rest of the field and dicing for the lead, Beau took back the lead using the slip stream of McMartin's bike down the straight. The race was still too close to call right up to the last turn with Beau getting a great drive onto the straight to take 1st place.



The two Ducati's - Beau and Craig McMartin

After lunch, the heavens had opened up at Eastern Creek providing rain for the last two races of the day. Race 3 saw very tricky conditions which Beau had never ridden in before. Motologic Honda's Jordan Burgess took the lead from the start with McMartin and Beau closely following. Burgess was one of the first victims of the treacherous conditions coming down right in front of Beau's bike. Craig took the lead with Beau sitting in second up until the last lap. A small error from Beau led to a high side out of turn 9. Able to pick up the bike and get back on the track, Beau finished in 6th position to gain valuable.

The North Coast V-Twins Race Team made a huge effort in getting the bike running before the last race of the day. The conditions for Race 4 were still extremely wet and took some more casualties. Beau's aim was to stay upright and finish the race gaining more points for the round. He rode the bike cautiously home to finish 7th.



Beau and McMartin in Pit Lane



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A big thanks must go to everyone who assisted the team over the weekend, especially Ashley, Red, Mark and Chisso for getting the bike back on the track in such a short amount of time. “Without the help of these guys we wouldn’t have made it back on the track for the last race.” Beau said. “Also a big thanks to Craig McMartin and Teknik Suspension for their support and always making sure my bike is working as best it possibly can be.”

Beau finished the Formula Xtreme TT weekend round 2nd overall with two 1st places, a 6th place and a 7th place. The round was taken out by Craig McMartin who also holds a comfortable lead in the series.

In the Formula Xtreme TT Tristate series Beau is:

- 5th overall
- 1st in D Grade
- 2nd in overall in the NSW Formula Xtreme Title without competing in the last round due to a broken arm suffered in the practice session.



McMartin and Beau – a podium finish for the Ducati’s

F1 BEARS & PROTWINS

Qualifying and racing for these two series are combined. In Saturday’s qualifying session, Beau qualified 1st for F1 Bears with team mate Ryan in 2nd. For the Protwins, Shannon Johnson on the KTM RC8 qualified 1st with Ryan qualifying 2nd.

F1 BEARS and Protwins Race 1 was held on Saturday afternoon consisting of seven laps. The field got off to a good start with Beau running control tyres in 2nd place and Ryan not far behind. Shannon Johnson on the KTM RC8 finished the race in 1st position with Beau coming in 2nd and Ryan in 3rd. Ryan said “I had a great race with Beau showing me some great lines. Thanks Beau!”. This result gave Beau 1st place in F1 BEARS and Ryan a 2nd place. The result for the Protwins class was Johnson in 1st and Ryan in 2nd place.

This was the only F1 BEARS race of the round Beau contested as he decided he would concentrate on the premier class, Formula Xtreme TT, for Sunday’s racing.

Race 2 on Sunday had sunny conditions and left Ryan to “work it out for himself” with no Beau. Having put upgraded suspension components on the bike, Ryan improved his lap times by two seconds posting a best time of 1m 36.05s. Ryan had a lonely race to finish 2nd behind Shannon Jonson with Adrian Pierpoint in 3rd place.



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In Race 3 confusion rained...literally! With a slight drizzle Ryan was 2nd on the grid. When the flag fell so did the rain. BEARS legend John Lyons got off to a cracker start. On turn 2-3 Ryan had a big moment but managed to stay upright. The conditions had worsened and Johnson raised his arm to signal he was out of the race so the field filed back to the starting position. The green light went and again Lyons was off to a great start. Ryan put his head down and managed to chase down and pass Lyons to hang on to the lead to finish 1st. This was to be Johnson's last race of the day.

With wet weather tyres fitted for Race 4, Ryan had his first ever pole position and it was raining! He got off to a reasonable start in very slippery conditions but the seasoned A graders got away. Ryan finished a very admirable 4th.

Ryan's results for the weekend round were:

FI BEARS

- 1st Ryan McLaughlan
- 2nd John Lyons
- 3rd Steve Hopper

Protwins

- 1st Ryan McLaughlan
- 2nd Shannon Johnson
- 3rd Gary Blake



Ryan dicing for the lead with John Lyons

"I was happy to be upright and shiny at the end of the day" said Ryan. "I want to thank Beau for showing me the way, Craig McMartin and crew, Mark Downie, Coffs Harbour Power Tools, Teknik, North Coast V-Twins and the Dunlop tyre changers".

North Coast V-Twins Race Team would like to thank our sponsors as follows for their continued support:

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Our next meeting will be at Eastern Creek, NSW, 8th – 9th August 2009 for round 3 of the ASBK (Australian Superbike and Superstock) series.