

The Texaco Havoline Ginetta Championship: Silverstone Preview



If you're coming to Silverstone, be prepared for a pleasant surprise as the Texaco Havoline Ginetta Championship entertains you this weekend 10th / 11th August.



More and more people are discovering the joys of Ginetta racing as fields of around 36 cars have raced around some of the UK's premier circuits in the first half of this 2007 racing season.



There has been an assortment of thrills and spills aplenty from the ever-changing top six frontrunners at Snetterton and Brands Hatch to the bumps and bashes that occasionally join in the mix.



This weekend's racing at Silverstone marks the halfway point of the championship which is currently being led by Matt Nicoll-Jones by 27 points.



His closest contenders – Joe Osborne and Daniel Laddiman were not at the top of their game previously at Brands Hatch, so Nicoll-Jones's double race win allowed him to pull away slightly in the points stakes.

A first front-row grid position and his maiden podium for young ex-karter Frank Wrathall at Brands could be the start of more to come for him in his first year racing cars.

Fellow Ginetta newcomer Andy Smith is also a name to watch as he finds his feet around this International circuit in his self-run G20. Smith threatened for a podium finish – just 0.067s behind Wrathall, having made his way up through the field from 12th.



Be prepared for overtaking manoeuvres at Copse as cars get up close with each other down the pit straight and turn into the fast right hand bend.



"You have to get a good line through Luffield to maximise your chances through Copse" said 2006 Champion Stewart Linn. "It's one of the best opportunities for overtaking on the track, but you also need to keep your cool because it's one of the fastest corners you'll come across."



However, there's still chances at Becketts to get past, and Abbey's the place for 'last-of-the-late-breakers' which will see some cars either in the gravel trap, or out in front.

The heritage associated with Silverstone often sees drivers giving it their all in their quest to be winners at the home of British Motorsport.

Who will wear the Ginetta crown this weekend? Come along and see...!

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