

NG Road Racing... Donington Park Preview



www.ngroadracing.org

Rounds 4 and 5 | Donington Park | 13th and 14th May 2017

Words : Russ Gardner | NG Road Racing Media Officer
Images : EDP Photo News | www.edpphoto.co.uk
Web Info : www.ngroadracing.org

At Donington if you get one corner wrong your lap is gone.....

We are already at meeting three of the 2017 series and this the 47th year of NG Road Racing action is already shaping up to be a stunning season with full grids and great so far racing at Brands and Oulton, Josh Day is looking dominant in the Open and Powerbike, taking on and beating allcomers. Michael Blank, Peter Carr, Chris Pope and Nick Williamson have been left a bit in his wake so far this season. Donington always attracts a few BSB support class wild-cards, so Day will still need his wits about him to continue his winning streak.

Streetstock action is always intense and defending champion Paul Jeffery, Ciaran Bligh and Mark Dangerfield are riding the road legal stock bikes right on the limit, with little to choose between them.

Jon Wright is again the man-to-beat in the pre injection class, but Liam Turberfield is rapidly getting used to his R6, and could be ready to challenge Wright.

Paul Wardell has started the year in winning form in the Mini Twins and heads Jake Dettloff in the standings. Dettloff is doubling-up with the Supertwins and sits second there too behind fast teenager William Holland.

The bigger Twins class is the Sound of Thunder where Ducati's rule the roost. Sam Middlemas the BSB Ducati Tri-Options runner leads as we go into this round with Dave Mackay and David Irons hunting for the pace to keep with Sam on the 898 Panigale.

Aaron Ridewood has returned to racing after a 5 year layoff, but has lost none of his speed, currently leading the F400 class on his immaculate ZXR400 can anyone catch him here?.

Dave Hampton is chasing two classes, the 500 where he is defending champ and the new Supermono, both on his Single Cell Enigma 450 Tigcraft. He leads the 500's but so far Philip Atkinson just has the measure over him in the Supermono series on his 690 Tigcraft. Hampton loves Donington Park so that will be a battle to savour.

With a full complement of classes from the 125's through 600's upto Powerbikes, plus Sidecars, Prostocks, Suzuki Bandits and the Ducati Sporting Club Desmo Dues and we are set for great weekends racing.

Added to all the modern fourstroke road based classes NG as ever host the 250 GP ACU National series, where once more Donington will ring with the sound of pure 2-stroke Grand Prix derived machines. South African Philip Atkinson is the man to aim for as defending champ on his TZ250, but former Champ Ant Hodson has got the taste for victory after his Oulton Park win, can he take another and claw some vital points back...be here to find out.



Follow my leader | The pack at the front of last years Powerbike final led by Roo Cotton, who went on to take the championship, despite a crash in this very race at Roberts Chicane... sorry Roo

Donington Park Circuit

This 1.96 mile race track is fast and flowing with a series of high speed sweeping corners opening out onto the fast and undulating Dunlop straight. Donington is all about high corner speed and smooth riding. You will see a lot of high speed overtaking as well as bravery in the braking areas at Roberts, Redgate and the Old Hairpin.....but be warned if you get one corner wrong, your lap has gone !

Donington Park History

Racing at Donington dates back to 1931, but after WW2 racing was halted, and it was not until Tom Wheatcroft got hold of it in 1971 things got back on track (...literally !). Donington has hosted every type of bike racing from Moto GP, Endurance, BSB... and was of course the venue for the first ever World Superbike round in 1988.

NG's Fastest Rider at Donington Park

Current BSB Superstock front runner Ben Godfrey was in the NG paddock last year, and set a new NG lap record at 1min 09.3secs last May. That equates to 101.5mph average on his BMW S1000R

Adding extra interest to the weekend.....

NG Road Racing is again running and promoting the British National series for 125cc and 250cc GP machinery. This is the only place in the UK that you will see these ex-GP machines racing for a full British Championship title backed by the ACU (The sports governing body in the UK). We also welcome the Ducati Desmo Due Series back for another year and the same goes for the ever growing band of Formula Prostock runners. In addition to the national series we also have the popular TSGP Two-stroke runners.

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Donington Park is steeped in racing heritage. Winning here means a lot.....

Meeting three of 2017 means rounds 4 and 5 of the NG championship series that kicked off in style at Brands Hatch followed by Cadwell Park now heads for Donington Park. As ever at "Donny" good lap relies on the spectacular run from Redgate, through Hollywood, Craner, Old Hairpin, Schwantz, McLeans and Coppice.....get it wrong and the lap is gone !!

For so long Donington was the home of the British GP, and the Transatlantic Challenge, and more currently BSB and WSB. This weekend it sees the cream of the UK's riders battling it out in not just one but two three National series as The 250 GP ACU National runners are joined by the ACU/FSRA F2 Sidecars.

With Josh Day on his new ZX10 in charge in the Open it is down to is rivals to up their game. Chris Pope, Michael Blank, Peter Carr and Roo Cotton along with David Irons and Jonathan Railton on their Ducats are the men most likely. The 600 class has Max Symonds looking to regain the title he won in 2014, but again the list of challengers is long...too long for me to list here....so best you get to Donington to watch all the action which as ever includes classes for everything from 125GP to Powerbikes, with a mouth watering selection of Sound of Thunder... Streetstocks... Supermono... Twins... F400 and Sidecars.



Dave Hampton | Stunned everyone in 2016 with a win on his 500 Single Cell Enigma Tigcraft after starting from the back of the grid.....high corner speed was his key !!

Race Day Timetable

Timetable	Sat	Sun	Timings are subject to change by the promoters and/or circuit management.
Technical Inspection	7:00am	8:00am	See the bikes being checked by the Scrutineers, and wander round the pits.
Free Practice	9:15am	9:15am	Watch the riders get familiar with the circuit in free practice.
Qualifying Races	10:45am	10:15am	The competitors race for grid positions for the finals.
Championship Races	14:00pm	13:30pm	Now it gets serious.....Championship points, trophies and glory at stake.

Admission Prices.

Ticket Type	Sat	Sun	
Adult	£17	£17	Two-day weekend ticket just £30 Concessions available on the gate only
Children (U13)	Free	Free	Only if accompanied by an adult
Paddock Access Parking	Free	Free	

For full conditions of admission and to take advantage of online bookings | www.donington-park.co.uk/events

Directions to the Circuit

Situated on the Derbyshire/Leicestershire boarder, next to East Midlands airport off the A453.

Donington Park Hatch Circuit signs are evident from all directions | **Sat Nav: DE74 2RP**

What's on track

Up to 20 NG Road Racing championship races each day split into qualifiers and finals for each of the classes. That means some 8 hours of on track action each day. I suggest you get in nice and early, take a wander around the paddock and soak up the atmosphere as the riders go through technical inspection and free practice, then take to the track in anger for the qualifiers in seeded championship order. The main finals kick off early afternoon when all the championship points and prizes are contested.

Feature and Guest races:	125/250GP ACU National Championship The Phoenix Open TSGP Two-stroke GP series	The Ducati Sporting Club Desmo Due Series The Formula Prostocks and Bandit Challenge
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NG Championship classes:	F125 125GP Moto 3 F400 500cc 600cc Powerbike Sound of Thunder Supermono Super Twin Mini Twin Streetstock Pre Injection Sidecars Newcomers
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The 2017 Season

Round 1	Brands Hatch	18th and 19th March	Round 5	Castle Combe	8th and 9th July
Round 2	Oulton Park	8th April	Round 6	Anglesey	12th and 13th August
Round 3	Donington Park	13th and 14th May	Round 7	Pembrey	2nd and 3rd September
Round 4	Cadwell Park	3rd and 4th June	Round 8	Thruxton	7th October

For all the info...

For full information regarding this meeting, including the meeting race preview check out the NG Road Racing Facebook page which can be found by searching in the usual way... then just click like... or log on to | www.ngroadracing.org

For information specific to this round and the circuit take a look at | www.donington-park.co.uk

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