

DMAX

The TW Steel DMAX Endurance Champs 2016 – Round 8

Lights Qualifying

Clear blue skies greeted the Lights drivers as they made their way onto the circuit to begin their qualifying session. Championship rivals Tom Golding and Tom Sibley were the early pace setters with times expected to tumble as the session wore on. Axel Slijepcevic joined the pair of them at the top of the timing screens with Golding managing to find a couple of tenths extra over Sibley in the first 5 minutes. Golding soon upped his pace and held an advantage of half a second over Sibley and Slijepcevic at the half way stage, breaking the 54 second mark. Sibley soon responded with a 53.971 but Golding came back at him with a 53.407 with Slijepcevic splitting the rivals with a 53.852.

Golding then posted a very fast 52.995 to go 8 tenths clear at the front to put one hand on pole position. Ben Leslie then jumped up into 2nd with a 53.581 to get ahead of Slijepcevic and Sibley. In the dying stages Slijepcevic and Leslie managed to find the speed that Golding had been enjoying all session and reduced the gap down to 0.107 and 0.142 seconds between the pair of them. It was not enough to knock Golding from pole however with Golding taking pole ahead of Slijepcevic. Leslie claimed 3rd on the grid ahead of Kameron Khan with Karlis Elmanis and Russell Horton completing the third row with Championship contender Sibley, taking 7th on the grid.

pos	competitor	best time	In lap	best speed	diff	gap	laps
1	Tom Golding	52.956	16	81.577 km/h			17
2	Axel Slijepcevic	53.063	16	81.413 km/h	0.107	0.107	16
3	Ben Leslie	53.098	15	81.359 km/h	0.142	0.035	16
4	Kameron Khan	53.619	16	80.568 km/h	0.663	0.521	16
5	Karlis Elmanis	53.944	16	80.083 km/h	0.988	0.325	16
6	Russell Horton	53.971	15	80.043 km/h	1.015	0.027	16
7	Tom Sibley	53.971	9	80.043 km/h	1.015		13
8	Dean Thomas	54.052	16	79.923 km/h	1.096	0.081	16
9	Graeme Cobb	54.347	15	79.489 km/h	1.391	0.295	16
10	Sam Bennett	54.373	14	79.451 km/h	1.417	0.026	16
11	Harrison Pughe	54.679	16	79.007 km/h	1.723	0.306	16
12	David Glover	55.298	14	78.122 km/h	2.342	0.619	15
13	Dane Christison	58.298	14	74.102 km/h	5.342	3	15

Race

Tom Golding and Axel Slijepcevic led the field around the final corner on the rolling up lap and got the racing underway as the green flag waved to start an hour of racing. Golding and Slijepcevic held position at the start with Kameron Khan jumping Ben Leslie with the top three getting a small lead by the time they exited Christmas corner with Leslie holding off the chasing pack. Tom Sibley was a man on the move completing lap 3 in 5th and right on the back of Russell Horton as he tried to get back on terms with Championship rival, Golding as Golding extended his lead over Slijepcevic to 2.770 seconds by the end of lap 4. Khan was sitting on his own in 3rd, 1 second behind Slijepcevic but with Sibley now closing in on him in

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4th. Golding extended his lead further with lap 6 seeing the first racing lap in the 52's with a 52.922 with 3.356 seconds back to Slijepcevic. Sam Bennett, Graeme Cobb and Karlis Elmanis were all fighting for 8th place, lapping nose-to-tail as Sibley got onto the back of Khan with Leslie joining the pair of them having just posted a new fastest lap. Sibley lined up Khan into Christmas and got ahead with Leslie following him through on the run back down the hill to take 4th from Khan. Leslie now had Sibley in his sights and got the run up the hill into Christmas corner, making the move up the inside and grabbing 3rd from Sibley with Slijepcevic building a gap of 6 seconds over the battling pair behind as Khan got back on terms to make it a trio in the fight for 3rd.

After 20 minutes of racing completed, Golding's lead was out to 7 seconds over Slijepcevic who was maintaining a lead of 7 seconds over Leslie as they matched each other for pace. Leslie had managed to drop Sibley and Khan as Khan continued to attack Sibley with a mistake from Khan into The Boot seeing him drop down to 7th and letting Sibley free to close the gap of 3 seconds to Leslie for 3rd. Golding posted yet another fastest lap on lap 26 with a 52.447 with Slijepcevic setting a personal best of a 52.585 to nearly match him. Khan was in recovery mode as he moved back ahead of Dean Thomas through Christmas corner with Sam Bennett now applying the pressure on Thomas for 7th as Khan quickly escaped up the road. Bennett got the run up the hill and tried a copy of Khan's move, but ran wide allowing Thomas to cut back on the run back down the hill and regain the position, allowing Khan to get further up the road. Bennett recomposed himself and began to attack Thomas once more with a run onto the back straight forcing Thomas to go defensive on the way into The Boot, putting Bennett on the outside. Thomas went deep into The Boot with Bennett setting himself up for the cut back and getting the run out of The Boot and moving ahead into the final corner. A mistake from Bennett on lap 32 unfortunately saw Bennett drop down to 10th, undoing his good work against Thomas.

Khan was continuing with his recovery after his own mistake, now onto the back of Russell Horton in the fight for 5th as they lapped David Glover who let them through at Christmas. Horton held off Khan as they cleared Glover but Khan was looking very determined to make up for losing ground earlier on. Khan began to get a little impatient and tried for a move up the inside into The Boot, but couldn't make it stick and lost momentum and 1 second to Horton. With 15 minutes remaining, Horton was still holding off Khan for 5th having briefly lost the position to Khan, but a successful move through The Boot saw Khan get through at the final corner with the pair seeing Thomas closing in on them from 7th. Golding's lead was out to 14.5 seconds over Slijepcevic with 10 seconds now back to Leslie in 3rd. Sibley had held the gap to Leslie at 2.8 seconds for much of the race with a gap of 20 seconds over Khan thanks in part to the intense battle between Khan and Horton.

With Khan now through and settled in 5th, Khan began to put some daylight between himself and Horton to try and secure a solid 5th place finish with 10 minutes remaining as Golding continued to put in fastest lap after fastest lap. Golding started the final lap with a lead of 17 seconds over Slijepcevic and completed a comfortable final lap to take the

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chequered flag with his second dominant win in a row ahead of a well-deserved 2nd for Slijepcevic and another podium for Leslie. Golding's championship rival came home in 4th to limit the damage done ahead of a recovering Khan in 5th.

pos	competitor	laps	total time	diff	best time	best lap	best speed
1	Tom Golding	69	00:33.2		52.15	60	82.838 km/h
2	Axel Slijepcevic	69	00:50.4	17.176	52.28	66	82.632 km/h
3	Ben Leslie	69	01:01.5	28.3	52.456	59	82.355 km/h
4	Tom Sibley	69	01:08.7	35.529	52.467	67	82.337 km/h
5	Kameron Khan	68	00:37.1	1 lap	52.606	31	82.12 km/h
6	Russell Horton	68	00:44.8	1 lap	53.04	52	81.448 km/h
7	Dean Thomas	68	00:53.9	1 lap	52.828	39	81.775 km/h
8	Sam Bennett	68	01:01.9	1 lap	52.272	68	82.645 km/h
9	Graeme Cobb	68	01:10.3	1 lap	53.323	68	81.016 km/h
10	Karlis Elmanis	68	01:19.4	1 lap	52.704	68	81.967 km/h
11	Harrison Pughe	67	01:08.6	2 laps	53.448	44	80.826 km/h
12	David Glover	66	00:41.9	3 laps	53.654	64	80.516 km/h
13	Dane Christison	65	01:14.0	4 laps	54.848	56	78.763 km/h



Axel Slijepcevic

Tom Golding

Ben Leslie

Inters Qualifying

Championship leader, Bobby Trundle, was the early pace setter at a warm and sunny Whilton Mill for Round 8 of the 2016 TW Steel Daytona DMAX Championship, with Luke Cousins sitting in 2nd ahead of Xander Mahony and Richard Lacey with Whilton Mill specialist, Oliver Peacock also expected to be in the mix. Trundle held provisional pole over Luke Cousins for the first half of the session, but Cousins responded to move ahead

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only for Trundley to jump back ahead by 0.114 seconds with Mahony a further 0.021 seconds to make it very tight at the top of the pile. Martin Bourke was looking good in 4th as Cousins moved back into provisional pole by 0.048 seconds with a 52.597.

Cousins bettered his time with Mahony slotting into 2nd, 0.092 off pole and 0.073 ahead of Trundley with Dan Sullivan sitting in 4th with one minute left. No one managed to improve as the final laps were put in meaning it was Cousins on pole ahead of Mahony with Trundley and Sullivan on the second row and Richard Lacey and Michael Coppin on the third row.

pos	competitor	best time	In lap	best speed	diff	gap	laps
1	Luke Cousins	52.48	12	82.317 km/h			17
2	Xander Mahony	52.572	13	82.173 km/h	0.092	0.092	17
3	Bobby Trundley	52.645	9	82.059 km/h	0.165	0.073	17
4	Dan Sullivan	52.811	16	81.801 km/h	0.331	0.166	16
5	Richard Lacey	52.983	17	81.536 km/h	0.503	0.172	17
6	Michael Coppin	53.049	12	81.434 km/h	0.569	0.066	16
7	Martin Bourke	53.096	7	81.362 km/h	0.616	0.047	15
8	Oliver Peacock	53.107	15	81.345 km/h	0.627	0.011	16
9	Tor Ryan	53.243	11	81.137 km/h	0.763	0.136	16
10	Lawrence Tombs	53.291	17	81.064 km/h	0.811	0.048	17
11	Tom Eastwood	53.453	12	80.819 km/h	0.973	0.162	17
12	Alan Hindley	53.594	12	80.606 km/h	1.114	0.141	15
13	Seb Cook	53.918	11	80.122 km/h	1.438	0.324	16
14	Ian Hindley	53.939	15	80.09 km/h	1.459	0.021	16
15	Andrew Grove	54.2	11	79.705 km/h	1.72	0.261	16
16	Stuart Shearman	54.795	10	78.839 km/h	2.315	0.595	16
17	Giles Carlow	55.587	8	77.716 km/h	3.107	0.792	16
18	Andrew Duff	56.084	8	77.027 km/h	3.604	0.497	13
19	Greg Carlow	56.456	14	76.52 km/h	3.976	0.372	16

Race

Luke Cousins made a textbook start from the rolling start pulling a few kart lengths as Xander Mahony had Bobby Trundley attacking him with Trundley stealing 2nd into Christmas. Cousins completed lap 1 0.980 seconds ahead of Trundley, Mahony, Richard Lacey, Dan Sullivan and Whilton specialist Oliver Peacock in 6th. Trundley took a tenth out of Cousins on lap 2 to edge closer to the race leader as Peacock moved into 5th through The Boot to get ahead of Sullivan. Lap 4 saw Peacock post a new fastest lap in his pursuit of Lacey as Trundley continued to close in on Cousins by a tenth of a second a lap.

Peacock was on the back of Lacey on the way out of Christmas as Cousins responded to Trundley's pace to start building his lead back up as Peacock moved ahead of Lacey for 4th. Trundley dug deep and found some extra pace to once again, start reeling in leader Cousins by a fraction of a second a lap. Cousins and Trundley had dropped Mahony by 2.440 seconds as Peacock closed in from 4th in his pursuit of a third straight Whilton Mill win of the year. As

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the leaders began to make their way through the back markers with some blue flag assistance, Trundley was caught out at turn 2 and went for a spin, dropping him to 5th as Peacock got ahead of Mahony moving him into 2nd and 3.415 seconds behind Cousins. Cousins now enjoyed some breathing space, but had Peacock coming at him, taking a tenth a lap as the race approached the 20 minute mark.

The full course yellows were brought out at the half way stage to recover Seb Cook from The Boot with Greg Carlow and then Bobby Trundley judged to have driven too fast under the full course yellow with Trundley lapping 5 seconds a lap faster than those around him. The green flags waved with Carlow and Trundley serving their black flags and dropping the both down the order. Cousins and Peacock resumed their battle with Cousins getting the upper hand in the early stages of the restart and extending his lead over Peacock to 4.4 seconds as the race reached the 40 minute mark. Trundley chose to retire from the race giving Cousins and Peacock the chance to close the points gap to Trundley in the Championship.

Cousins and Peacock continued to trade lap times at the front with the gap hovering around 3.5 to 4 seconds with 10 seconds back to Mahony who was holding on to the final podium spot with Sullivan running on his own in 4th, 8 seconds off third and 13 seconds clear of Tor Ryan in 5th place. Alan Hindley and Tom Eastwood were enjoying the closest fight on track in the battle for 7th with Eastwood right on the back of Hindley and pressuring him for position with 10 minutes of the race remaining. Eastwood grabbed the position through the final corner with 3 minutes remaining having trailed Hindley for so long, but made the move stick when it counted. Cousins was held up with two back-markers despite blue flags allowing Peacock to get the gap down to 1.194 seconds as they started the final lap. Peacock pushed hard as the chequered flag was readied but Cousins held on to win Round 8 by 0.659 seconds from Peacock with Mahony completing the podium ahead of Sullivan and Ryan.

pos	competitor	laps	total time	diff	best time	best lap	best speed
1	Luke Cousins	68	00:18.2		52.088	48	82.937 km/h
2	Oliver Peacock	68	00:18.8	0.659	51.839	63	83.335 km/h
3	Xander Mahony	68	00:38.2	20.059	52.354	46	82.515 km/h
4	Dan Sullivan	68	00:53.4	35.195	52.406	24	82.433 km/h
5	Tor Ryan	68	01:02.3	44.149	52.614	67	82.107 km/h
6	Michael Coppin	68	01:06.6	48.434	52.489	56	82.303 km/h
7	Tom Eastwood	67	00:18.6	1 lap	52.767	61	81.869 km/h
8	Alan Hindley	67	00:20.6	1 lap	52.842	11	81.753 km/h
9	Martin Bourke	67	00:28.7	1 lap	52.758	25	81.883 km/h
10	Andrew Grove	66	00:21.2	2 laps	53.494	20	80.757 km/h
11	Lawrence Tombs	66	00:38.5	2 laps	52.311	66	82.583 km/h
12	Richard Lacey	66	01:03.4	2 laps	52.587	30	82.15 km/h
13	Seb Cook	65	00:37.6	3 laps	52.871	62	81.708 km/h
14	Stuart Shearman	65	00:38.1	3 laps	53.989	41	80.016 km/h
15	Ian Hindley	65	01:04.2	3 laps	53.116	63	81.331 km/h

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16	Giles Carlow	64	00:19.8	4 laps	55.014	63	78.525 km/h
17	Andrew Duff	64	00:29.4	4 laps	54.414	39	79.391 km/h
18	Greg Carlow	62	00:45.0	6 laps	54.925	51	78.653 km/h
19	Bobby Trundley	59	00:39.9	9 laps	52.164	55	82.816 km/h



Oli Peacock Luke Cousins Xander Mahony

Heavies Qualifying

The Heavy drivers took to a warm and sunny Whilton Mill circuit to begin Qualifying for Round 8 of the 2016 TW Steel Daytona DMAX Championship with Chris Carter, Malcolm Clark and Tomasz Zaustowicz at the top of the timing screens in the early stages. Carter pulled into the pits from 3rd as Tomasz Zaustowicz moved to provisional pole with a 53.515 ahead of Adam Nakar with an identical time only to have Clark go 0.007 seconds faster. Zaustowicz moved back ahead but Nakar and Tom Pughe responded to move ahead of Zaustowicz.

Nakar posted a 52.897 to go 3 tenths clear of Pughe and Zaustowicz, but Zaustowicz soon halved the gap. Carter had been into the pitlane and was currently sitting in 7th as he wound himself up for another run at pole with 5 minutes to go. Zaustowicz reduced the gap further as Nakar struggled to beat his own lap time with Carter improving by 4 tenths to go 6th as his kart got up to temperature.

Nakar found an extra gear with a minute to go to extend his advantage. Zaustowicz responded as the chequered flag was readied to move into provisional pole by 0.034 seconds from Nakar with Nakar unable to get back ahead and claiming 2nd. Pughe and Clark claimed the second row with Carter and Rob Moore securing the 3rd row.

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pos	competitor	best time	In lap	best speed	diff	gap	laps
1	Tomasz Zaustowicz	52.761	16	81.879 km/h			16
2	Adam Nakar	52.795	15	81.826 km/h	0.034	0.034	17
3	Tom Pughe	53.204	9	81.197 km/h	0.443	0.409	17
4	Malcolm Clark	53.211	17	81.186 km/h	0.45	0.007	17
5	Chris Carter	53.304	14	81.045 km/h	0.543	0.093	14
6	Rob Moore - SH	53.355	13	80.967 km/h	0.594	0.051	17
7	Lee Witney	53.413	15	80.879 km/h	0.652	0.058	17
8	Diogo Silva	53.767	16	80.347 km/h	1.006	0.354	17
9	Blaze Sienko	53.983	9	80.025 km/h	1.222	0.216	16
10	Vinod Hirani - SH	54.119	14	79.824 km/h	1.358	0.136	17
11	Anthony Lambert - SH	54.292	11	79.57 km/h	1.531	0.173	16
12	Gary Martin - SH	54.59	15	79.135 km/h	1.829	0.298	16
13	Lee Meayers	55.75	15	77.489 km/h	2.989	1.16	15
14	Ian Zumbuhl - SH	55.797	13	77.424 km/h	3.036	0.047	16
15	Richard Newton - SH	56.455	15	76.521 km/h	3.694	0.658	16
16	Toby Whiffin	56.754	12	76.118 km/h	3.993	0.299	15

Race

Tomasz Zaustowicz and Adam Nakar led the field away to start an hour of racing with Zaustowicz getting a good start and pulling a few kart lengths as Nakar came under attack from Rob Moore with Moore snatching 2nd with a move up the inside into Christmas. Chris Carter then grabbed 3rd from Nakar and set after Moore.

Carter was not hanging around and was eager to get on terms with Zaustowicz as Zaustowicz began to build an early lead. Carter got a run on Moore as they headed towards The Boot with Carter having to go for the outside and Nakar tucking in behind the pair of them. As they hit the brakes, Nakar locked up and had a half spin as Carter held on around the outside of Moore to give him the inside as they switched back through The Boot and into the final corner, giving Carter 2nd place as Tom Pughe had a look to pass the pair of them. Carter held the position however and set after Zaustowicz who was now 3 seconds up the road.

Carter was a man on a mission and was taking chunks out of Zaustowicz's lead as he left Pughe, Moore and Malcolm Clark behind him. Carter was soon all over the rear of Zaustowicz and a run out of Christmas and down the hill towards turns 4 and 5 saw him slip past and into the lead. Zaustowicz tried to come back at Carter, but Carter placed his kart well and kept Zaustowicz behind him. Clark moved into 4th, ahead of Moore at turn 5 and set after Pughe ahead of him in 3rd, with 4 seconds to close up as Carter tried to shake off Zaustowicz who had upped his pace since being passed by Carter. The leading pair were gapping Pughe in 3rd by 2 to 3 tenths a lap with Zaustowicz coming back at Carter as they completed the first quarter of the race.

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Adam Nakar had been pushing hard in the first third of the race, setting the fastest lap with a 52.468 and move himself back up to 5th after his earlier spin with Clark as Nakar's next target. Nakar was on Clark and didn't waste time in getting ahead with lap 23 seeing Nakar get through and into 4th with Nakar's pace more than enough for a podium and matching the leading pair, but with 14 seconds to leader, Carter, a chance of winning was going to be difficult. Nakar was still closing in on Pughe for a podium spot as Carter continued to extend his lead over Zaustowicz with a tenth or two a lap. Pughe now had Nakar close enough behind to start feeling the pressure for the final podium spot, but not succumbing to it just yet as he kept Nakar at bay. Carter and Zaustowicz were working their way through the traffic as the race approached half distance with Carter's lead out to 4 seconds. Nakar managed to sneak past Pughe for 3rd with Nakar lapping a couple of tenths a second a lap quicker than Zaustowicz at this stage with the gap at 11 seconds.

With 15 minutes remaining, Zaustowicz and Nakar had hit a stalemate as they matched each other for pace and the gap hovered around 10 seconds. Carter on the other hand, was enjoying a leisurely Sunday drive, 11 seconds up the road from Zaustowicz. Pughe was running on his own in 4th as the field was relatively spread out by this stage. The closest fight on track was between Richard Newton and Ian Zumbuhl in their private battle for 14th and 5th in the Super Heavy category.

Moore was currently the leading Super Heavy, 6th overall, 8 seconds behind Clark. Carter posted a new fastest lap on lap 57 with a 52.149 with lap 58 seeing a 52.111. Nakar had found some extra pace and was bringing the gap down once again with 7.4 seconds between them and 8 minutes to go. Vinod Hirani had been closing on Blaze Sienko for 9th having lost ground after an earlier battle with Hirani now breathing down Sienko's neck once again. Carter was under no such pressure however as the chequered flag was soon readied. Carter claimed the win, 18.179 seconds clear of Zaustowicz in 2nd with Nakar a further 6.991 seconds behind in 3rd despite his spin at the start of the race. Pughe and Clark rounded out the top 5.

pos	competitor	laps	total time	diff	best time	best lap	best speed
1	Chris Carter	69	00:42.1		52.111	58	82.9 km/h
2	Tomasz Zaustowicz	69	01:00.3	18.179	52.566	21	82.182 km/h
3	Adam Nakar	69	01:07.3	25.17	52.468	16	82.336 km/h
4	Tom Pughe	69	01:25.5	43.306	52.806	39	81.809 km/h
5	Malcolm Clark	68	00:43.0	1 lap	52.985	21	81.533 km/h
6	Rob Moore - SH	68	00:55.0	1 lap	53.095	15	81.364 km/h
7	Lee Witney	68	01:08.1	1 lap	53.183	38	81.229 km/h
8	Diogo Silva	68	01:34.0	1 lap	53.631	66	80.55 km/h
9	Vinod Hirani - SH	67	01:01.4	2 laps	53.878	13	80.181 km/h
10	Blaze Sienko	67	01:04.1	2 laps	53.358	15	80.963 km/h
11	Gary Martin - SH	67	01:18.1	2 laps	54.015	57	79.978 km/h
12	Anthony Lambert - SH	67	01:31.8	2 laps	54.059	54	79.913 km/h

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13	Lee Meayers	65	00:47.8	4 laps	55.191	63	78.274 km/h
14	Ian Zumbuhl - SH	64	00:53.4	5 laps	55.545	43	77.775 km/h
15	Richard Newton - SH	64	00:54.0	5 laps	55.148	25	78.335 km/h
16	Toby Whiffin	62	00:59.2	7 laps	55.038	62	78.491 km/h



Tomek Zaustowicz

Chris Carter

Adam Nakar

The next round is at Daytona Tamworth on Saturday 15th October for Lights and Sunday 16th October for Inters and Heavies.

Call Mark on 033033 27870 to reserve your space on the grid.