



NEWSLETTER

Scorching Track Temperatures



KUMHO TYRE MAZDA MX-5 CLUBMAN CHAMPIONSHIP FOURTH ROUND Croft Circuit July 10th & 11th

New conditions. New strategy. New lessons.

Racing drivers often say that no two race weekends are the same, and Croft proved exactly why. After mastering torrential rain at Donington just a few weeks earlier, Luke arrived in North Yorkshire to find the UK heatwave waiting. Instead of standing water and changing grip levels, the challenge would be relentless heat, punishing track temperatures and a race that demanded patience as much as outright speed.

Friday testing highlighted just how important tyre management would become. Every adjustment to tyre pressures and car setup could make the difference between maintaining performance or fading as the temperatures climbed. By race day the conditions had eased slightly, but the heat still ensured strategy would be just as important as pace.



Qualifying: Fighting the car a bit more than usual

Following a productive day of testing in soaring temperatures, qualifying presented a fresh challenge. Changing track conditions left Luke battling significantly more understeer than he had experienced during testing, requiring him to adapt his driving style on the fly. With just a 15-minute qualifying session and lap times of around 1 minute 43 seconds, every lap counted, leaving little opportunity to fine-tune his approach. Despite the difficult handling characteristics, Luke remained composed, extracted the maximum performance available from the car, and secured 16th place on the grid for the opening race. It was another valuable learning experience, demonstrating his growing ability to adapt under pressure and make the most of challenging circumstances.

Race Day: Keeping it cool

With the season now in full swing, the competition was becoming fiercer with every round, making every position and every championship point increasingly valuable.

Starting Race One slightly further back on the grid than he had hoped, Luke approached the race with a clear objective: keep out of trouble during the opening laps, race cleanly, and work his way forward through the field. After several hard-fought battles and some close, competitive racing, he delivered another mature and consistent drive to cross the line in 14th place, adding more valuable championship points to his tally.

Race Two provided another opportunity to build on that momentum. A strong start saw Luke hold position through the opening three corners before settling into an excellent race pace. Running in a tightly packed group just outside the top ten, every lap was fiercely contested as the battle for positions intensified. Saving his best move until the very end, Luke executed a confident late-braking overtake on the final lap to gain another place and secure an impressive 13th-place finish.

While the result may only show 13th overall, it was undoubtedly one of Luke's strongest performances of the season. His racecraft, consistency and determination were evident throughout, particularly considering the handling challenges the team had faced all weekend.

Reflecting on the weekend, Luke was delighted to leave Croft with a damage-free car, a healthy haul of championship points and another significant step forward in his development as a racing driver. He also described Croft Circuit as one of the most enjoyable and rewarding tracks he has driven so far this season—a venue he is already looking forward to returning to.

THE CHAMPIONSHIP IS HOTTING UP WITH ONLY 3 EVENTS AND 6 RACES TO GO. After the dropped total calculation being applied – Luke now sits amongst a strong group of 4 Rookies separated by only 24 points.

2026 KUMHO TYRE MAZDA MX-5 CLUBMAN CHAMPIONSHIP | PROVISIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS

All points and standings tables will remain provisional until announced as final by the Organisers



OVERALL

Pos.	Car No.	Driver	Class	Snetterton		Oulton		Donington		Croft		Cadwell		Anglesey		Silverstone		Penalty	Total	Dropped Total
				Race 1	Race 2	Race 1	Race 2	Race 1	Race 2	Race 1	Race 2	Race 1	Race 2	Race 1	Race 2	Race 1	Race 2			
1	1	Jordan PIMLEY		101	101	101	101	101	101	100	100								806	606
2	2	Matthew MCLUCKIE		94	92	DNS	90	96	96	94	92								654	564
3	22	Matt FLOWERS		84	DNF	88	92	98	98	92	96								648	564
4	11	Keith DALTON	Masters	92	90	92	96	90	94	90	90								734	554
5	79	Harrison LEACH		80	94	94	DNF	94	DNF	96	94								552	552
6	178	Kevin DENGATE	Masters	86	84	90	86	92	92										530	530
7	94	Denis PILMONKIN		DNF	82	96	88	88	90	84	88							-6	610	528
8	88	Alex CATLOW	Rookie	90	88	84	82	82	88	88	82								684	520
9	73	Adam LAWRENCE		82	DNF	86	94	80	DNF	86	84								512	512
10	666	Simon PRIVETT	Masters	78	80			74	84	78	80								474	474
11	19	Benjamin AMORIM-DRAPER	Rookie	74	70	80	72	78	82	82	72								610	468
12	16	Luke JEFFREY-BASHFORD	Rookie	70	78	72	78	76	80	76	76								606	464
13	27	Jack SPOONER	Rookie	76	DNF	70	76	72	72	80	86								532	462
14	21	Liam MARTIN-BRADLEY	Rookie	60	76	78	DNF	86	76	74	DNF							-6	444	444
15	3	Chris WINSTANLEY	Masters	66	72	74	74	56	70	70	70								552	430
16	93	Zac HANCOX	Rookie	64	68	66	70	66	68	68	68								538	408
17	6	Jack WARRY		98	96	98	98												390	390
18	555	Lyr JACOBS				64	66	60	64	64	66								384	384
19	60	Stephen DAVIS	Masters	56	60	62	64			60	62								364	364
20	99	Russell HALLEY	Masters	88	86	76	84												334	334
21	95	Mostafa SAYED		72	74	DNS	DNS	64	60	72	DQ							-12	330	330
22	53	William TYRRELL	Rookie	62	66			58	66	DNF	64								316	316
23	42	Ben HOY						84	86	62	78								310	310
24	66	David SCOULLER	Masters	68	64			62	58										252	252
25	18	Kurt ANSCOMBE				68	68	68	DNF										204	204
26	111	Michael TAYLOR								99	99								198	198
27	8	Neil CHISNALL		96	98														194	194
28	58	Dale WHITEMAN	Masters	58	62			DNF	62										182	182
29	32	Edmund BANNISTER	Rookie			82	80												162	162
30	13	Charlie VYE						70	78										148	148
31	17	Andrew GILLIGAN								66	74								140	140



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