



NEWSLETTER

Racing at the British Nürburgring!



KUMHOTYRE MAZDA MX-5 CLUBMAN CHAMPIONSHIP FIFTH ROUND

Cadwell Park August 7th & 8th

Test Day: First mechanical failure of the season.

Luke's preparation for the Cadwell Park weekend followed a familiar routine. Ahead of the event, he completed a couple of track familiarisation sessions with his coach, Graham Johnson, at the Goodwood Sim facility, helping him build a better understanding of what was waiting for him at one of the most challenging circuits on the calendar.

As with every race weekend this season, Friday was dedicated to a full day of testing. The weather was good, the track looked simply awesome, but there was a different feeling around the paddock. Nothing on the race calendar so far had created quite the same sense of trepidation amongst the rookie drivers. Cadwell Park is exhilarating, but it is also unforgiving. With limited run-off in many areas and barriers noticeably closer to the track, any mistake could have much bigger consequences.

With that in mind, Luke headed out for his first session with a little more caution than usual. The aim was to build confidence gradually, learn the circuit and find his rhythm without taking unnecessary risks.



Old Gearbox



Another New Challenge for Luke

Every circuit has its own character, but Cadwell Park is a track that seems to have a personality all of its own.

Known affectionately as the "Mini-Nürburgring", Cadwell Park is famous for its dramatic changes in elevation, fast flowing corners and narrow, twisting layout. Nestled in the Lincolnshire countryside, it is a spectacular circuit to drive — but, as Luke was about to discover, a very different proposition when it comes to racing.



Cadwell Park is particularly popular with motorcycle racing fans, with thousands of spectators travelling to the circuit to watch some of the UK's best superbike racing.

During Friday's testing, one of the more experienced drivers summed up the challenge perfectly:

"Probably my favourite track to drive, but not the easiest to race."

It was certainly going to be an interesting weekend for Luke and the LJB Motorsport team.

Race Day: Qualifying & Races 1 and 2

Saturday morning brought a different challenge for Luke. With just 15 minutes of qualifying available, there was very little time to find his rhythm, bed in the new race tyre and, perhaps most importantly, adapt to the replacement gearbox fitted by the Misty Racing team the previous afternoon. The new gearbox had a slightly different feel to the one Luke had become accustomed to over the first eight races of the season. With limited running available on Friday, there was little opportunity to adjust his driving style before qualifying, so Luke knew he would need to keep his head and make the most of every lap.

Given the gearbox drama of the previous day and the tremendous effort from the team to get the car back on track, simply being able to take his place on the grid was a positive in itself. Luke eventually qualified 16th, although his best lap was some way off the pace he had managed during Friday's testing. It wasn't the qualifying result he had hoped for, but the focus now turned to the races.

With the bigger championship picture in mind, Race 1 was all about making progress, avoiding unnecessary risks and bringing home some valuable points. Starting from 16th, Luke drove a measured and determined race, gaining four places despite the limited overtaking opportunities that Cadwell Park provides. He crossed the line in 12th overall — a solid result that gave him an excellent platform to build on in Race 2.

However, the replacement gearbox continued to provide Luke with something else to think about. Having spent the previous eight races developing his driving style around the original gearbox, his natural instinct was still to operate the new one in exactly the same way. On several occasions during both races, this resulted in Luke slipping a gear. This wasn't a fault with the replacement gearbox; it was simply a case of Luke needing more time to adapt to its different characteristics. By the closing laps of Race 2, that adaptation was beginning to happen. Luke settled into the new gearbox, found his rhythm and held his own in another tightly contested race. Once again, he brought the car home in 12th position, matching his Race 1 result and securing another valuable haul of championship points.

Considering the unique challenges of Cadwell Park, the gearbox failure during Friday's testing and the limited opportunity to prepare the replacement gearbox and new tyres, finishing 12th in both races represented a strong outcome for Luke and the team.

More importantly, the weekend continued to keep the bigger picture on track. Another two consistent finishes, more valuable championship points and another weekend of experience for a rookie driver still learning his craft.

Ten races into the season and Luke secures a TOP TEN position in the overall standings
And 2nd in the Rookie Championship.

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	90	98					9	985	797
2	22	Matt FLOWERS		84	DNF	88	92	98	98	92	96	100	92						840	756
3	2	Matthew MCLUCKIE		94	92	DNF	90	96	96	94	92	1	97						752	751
4	11	Keith DALTON	Masters	92	90	92	96	90	94	90	90	94	94						922	742
5	79	Harrison LEACH		80	94	94	DNF	94	DNF	96	94	98	86					6	730	730
6	88	Alex CATLOW	Rookie	90	88	84	82	82	88	88	82	86	90						860	696
7	73	Adam LAWRENCE		82	DNF	86	94	80	DNF	86	84	84	88						684	684
8	666	Simon PRIVETT	Masters	78	80			74	84	78	80	78	82						634	634
9	178	Kevin DENGATE	Masters	86	84	90	86	92	92			96	DNF						626	626
10	16	Luke JEFFREY-BASHFORD	Rookie	70	78	72	78	76	80	76	76	80	80						766	624
11	21	Liam MARTIN-BRADLEY	Rookie	60	76	78	DNF	86	76	74	DNF	88	84					6	616	616
12	19	Benjamin AMORIM-D'RAPER	Rookie	74	70	80	72	78	82	82	72	72	74						756	614
13	27	Jack SPOONER	Rookie	76	DNF	70	76	72	72	80	86	74	76						682	612
14	94	Denis PILIMONKIN		DNF	82	96	88	88	90	84	88							6	610	610
15	3	Chris WINSTANLEY	Masters	66	72	74	74	56	70	70	70	70	72						694	572

LJB Motorsport is actively seeking partners for the 2027 Season. If you share a passion for motorsport and want to support emerging talent, we would love to hear from you. For sponsorship enquiries please contact:

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