



NEWSLETTER

Wet & Windy in Wales – Stunning Location



The Penultimate Race weekend of the Championship.

The LJB Motorsport team set off from their home base on the south coast of England late on Thursday morning, beginning the long journey north and west towards the island of Anglesey. After a six-and-a-half-hour drive, the team finally arrived at one of the most spectacular locations on the championship calendar — the Anglesey Circuit, perched on the north-west tip of Wales.

Set against a stunning coastal backdrop, the circuit offers far-reaching views across the Irish Sea and Caernarfon Bay, with the mountains of Snowdonia providing an impressive backdrop. It is certainly a unique setting for a race circuit, and one that makes an immediate impression.

During an earlier training session, Luke's sim coach had commented that when you first drive the Anglesey circuit, it is difficult not to take a moment to simply sit back and enjoy the view. With the circuit so exposed to the elements, however, the forecast of strong winds and rain suggested that the weekend might offer rather more than just spectacular scenery.

With only two race weekends remaining in the championship, the season was entering its final stages. Anglesey was set to provide Luke with another new circuit to learn, another new challenge to overcome, and potentially some very different conditions in which to put everything he had learned throughout his debut season to the test.

Friday Testing – Learning the Circuit



Anglesey proved to be a deceptive circuit. At first glance it appears relatively open and flowing, but behind that open appearance lies another technically challenging track, requiring precision, commitment and a good understanding of the car.

Fortunately, the weather remained dry throughout Friday's testing. In some respects, that was a little unfortunate, as some rain would have provided valuable experience of the conditions that looked increasingly likely to feature on race day. Nevertheless, every minute of track time was used productively, with Luke and the team working methodically through their strategy, fine-tuning the car and searching for those all-important gains in pace.

By the end of the third and final session, the hard work was beginning to pay off. With valuable and constructive input from the more experienced members of the Misty Racing team, Luke was consistently producing lap times that put him exactly where he needed to be heading into Saturday's qualifying session.

Qualifying: Rain and 40mph Winds

As forecast, the wind arrived with force, and the paddock was soon taking an early pounding from the elements. The Misty Racing team quickly set about making the area safe and workable, and in true stoic British fashion, Luke's car was prepared and ready to go on time for qualifying.



By now, the rain had joined the 40mph-plus winds, transforming what had been planned as a decisive and aggressive qualifying session into something altogether different. The priority became one of survival — keeping Luke and the car safe and avoiding any unnecessary damage in conditions that were becoming increasingly challenging.

With two races still to come that afternoon, and the forecast suggesting those races were likely to be run in much drier conditions, protecting the car was an important part of the bigger picture. Luke ultimately qualified 16th, a result that reflected what could realistically be achieved in the conditions while ensuring both he and the car were ready for the races ahead.

Race One & Two: All to Play For

The afternoon racing certainly lived up to expectations. With the front end of the midfield locked in a constant battle for position, there was little opportunity for anyone to relax.



Going into the two-race afternoon, Luke held 2nd place in the Rookie Championship. Three other Rookie drivers were all within less than 12 points of him, each with the ability, the car and the determination to take that position. It was clear that the battle for places 10th to 15th was going to be fiercely contested from the opening lap to the chequered flag — and it certainly didn't disappoint.

Starting 16th on the grid, Luke fought his way forward to finish 12th in Race 1, putting together another strong and determined drive. Race 2 proved equally competitive, with Luke finishing 14th after an intense battle in which four, and at times as many as six cars, were running nose-to-tail for much of the race.



Although Luke was disappointed that, for the first time this season, he finished a race lower than his starting position, the standard of racing throughout was exceptionally high. On this occasion, he simply couldn't find a way through the tightly packed group, but he did enough to retain his 2nd position in the Rookie Championship.

With just one event — and two races — remaining, Luke heads to Silverstone next month with everything still to play for.

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