

## **Positive progress**

### **Toyota Sprint Series Rd 2, RAF Barkston Heath, 3<sup>rd</sup> May 09**

During the build up to round 2, I'd finally got to upgrade the cars braking. The cars stopping power was now significantly improved. My confidence was much higher now, particularly as Barkston Heath is like an old friend to the Toyota Sprint Series (TSS). Barkston Heath was the scene of my very first sprint in 2007 and this is my third visit to the airfield circuit.

*My previous best times at Barkston Heath.*

2007 64.35 seconds

2008 63.97 seconds

On arriving it soon became clear that my class, Class C (Normally aspirated cars over 1600cc) was a little thinner on the ground than normal. With only 4 entrants from class C, the chances of a good finishing position looked promising.

The two untimed practice runs went well, and I settled happily into the rhythm of the track. My first run felt good, and with a time of 62.89 seconds, I was already over a second under my personal best. This also placed me firmly in second place, in class.

During the course of the morning session, I steadily improved, up to the point of setting a laps of 61.92 seconds, on my fourth and final run of the session. A great time for this class, and over two seconds quicker, than my time last year.

I was extremely pleased to be in the position I was in at lunch. Being second in class, with a 3 second buffer back to third place, and less than 2 seconds from first. However my experience from the last round at Rockingham, where I lost 2

places during the last run, told me that I should not rest on my laurels, and try to push on.

My first 3 runs after lunch all contained large mistakes, which prevented any further progress. It appeared I was trying a little too hard. My final run was a lot better, but a small error on the second to last corner cost me dear, and I came in at 61.99 seconds, 7 1/100ths of a second slower.

This time however I was lucky, my time from the morning session was enough, to secure 2<sup>nd</sup> in class and 27<sup>th</sup> overall. This was a fantastic result and a personal best for me at any circuit.

I can now approach the next round at Waterbeach, Nr Cambridge, with great confidence. A repeat off this result at that circuit would be a great achievement too.

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#### **Notes to the Editor**

- **Scott Briance, 30 year old, Sussex born, living Crawley Down**
- **Scott's Second year competition in Toyota Sprint Series, having achieved 4th in class 2008**
- **TSS is a 6 round timed race for club level competitors, all driving Toyota/Lexus road legal vehicles, March – Oct 2009**
- **Scott's car is a modified 1996 Toyota Celica ST**
- **www.toyota-sprint-series.com**
- **Full time job as a Production Engineer for a Pharmaceutical company**
- **Previously, played American Football for England**
- **For further info please contact Scott on 07970 539682 / scott@scott57.wanadoo.co.uk**

