

Club Racer

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SLCC Season Summary

REPORT MARK TOWNSEND
PHOTOGRAPHY MARTIN SMITH

The Southern League Challenge Cup was again a great success in 2008. With the introduction of brushless motors and LiPo cells to the market and their increase in popularity, new race classes were introduced for this year and the inclusion of a Modified class for the first time. Some brave decisions for the start of the season, but we hope the three race classes of Stock, Pro Stock and Modified with the use of LiPo cells in Stock and Pro Stock has been the right decision.

At the end of September the SLCC visited the Cotswold Model Car Club for the last round of the series and the conclusion of the drivers and club championships. Stock class has always been the most popular class in previous years and 2008 was no exception. A number of drivers had a chance of the overall podium positions including Ashley Finch from Yateley, Darren Tickner and Mark Trinder from EKRCM, Barry and Graham Staples from SHMCC and Jason Moggridge from Southampton.

Pro Stock class also had a handful of drivers who throughout the series clocked up points to challenge the overall podium positions, namely Chris Barrett from the Isle of Wight, Rob Howett, Les Baldry and Mark Townsend from SHMCC and Jason Faulkner from Yateley.

The new Modified class was introduced for the first time this year, following the same rules as the BRCA National class. This class was the least popular, but as the SLCC series continued through the year, more drivers attended and for the rounds at West London and Cotswolds we had the very welcome attendance of Elliott Harper and Ollie Jefferies to put on a great display of car control and outright speed, showing us all how the pros do it. Across the six rounds, the drivers up for the top positions were Ian Mullaney from Yateley, Chris and Simon Newbery and Ian Newton from SHMCC.

The most important trophy of them all is the SLCC Club Championship. In 2007 Adur Model Car Club claimed the trophy from the original holders, Southampton. Was Adur able to defend the title they won in 2007 or would we be crowning a new club champion for 2008?



YOUNG DRIVER OF THE SERIES

It was very encouraging to see a number of new faces and young drivers attending rounds of the SLCC for the first time, we hope that you all had a great time and hope you'll give it another go in 2009. Each year an award is presented to the 'Young Driver of Year', and this year we had the pleasure of presenting this to Craig Campbell from South Hants Model Car Club. Well-done Craig, a great achievement.

STOCK CLASS

All the hard work for the overall top spot was done in the early rounds of the championship for overall winner Ashley Finch from Yateley Model Car Club. Using the Serpent S400 throughout the series, Ashley won three of the qualifying four rounds needed and only dropped three points from a maximum 400 points. Taking the runners-up spot at the last round was Graham Staples from South Hants Model Car Club. Running the Xray T2'008,

Graham won rounds at Bashley and Cotswold's and was only two points behind Ashley at the end. Taking the final podium position in Stock was an excellent performance from Darren Tickner from East Kent RC. Darren using the Yokomo BD throughout the year attended every round of the series and had been very consistent with a couple of second places and other top three finishes. Darren overall ending up only another two points behind Graham.

STOCK CLASS - TOP TEN

1	Ashley Finch
2	Graham Staples
3	Darren Tickner
4	Jason Moggridge
5	Mark Trinder
6	Barry Staples
7	Darr Stone
8	Ian Newton
9	Tim Stannard
10	Simon Gwynne

PRO STOCK CLASS

Chris Barrett was in dominant form throughout most of summer, winning four of the five rounds that he entered in Pro Stock and taking the overall win with a maximum 400 points. Running a Yokomo BD for majority of the campaign, and switching to the HB Cyclone TC for the last round at Cotswold's. Taking the runners-up spot was Rob Howett from South Hants Model Car Club. Running his trusted Schumacher Mi3 for most of the series, Rob switched to the Tamiya 416 for the last two rounds of the series in West London and Cotswold's. Taking the final podium position in Pro Stock was another Tamiya from Mark Townsend at South Hants Model Car Club. Mark consistently showed in the A finals and had an excellent second place in his home round at Bashley.



Young Driver of Year
Craig Campbell



Darren Tickner 3rd Ashley Finch 1st Graham Staples 2nd

The Club Racer section of Racer magazine is for everything that goes on in the UK to do with clubs, racing and events. We want to give all clubs and races the chance to get into print and we need your help to get the reports onto the pages of Racer.



"Mark consistently showed in the A finals and had an excellent second place in his home round at Bashley."

OPEN STOCK/CLASS - TOP TEN	
1	Chris Barber
2	Mark Tresson
3	Mark Tresson
4	Jack Tatters
5	Lee Bailey
6	Dean Williams
7	Darren Galloway
8	Mark Tresson
9	Chris Barber
10	Lee Bailey



MODIFIED CLASS - TOP TEN	
1	Ian Newton
2	Chris Newbery
3	Ian Mulvaney
4	Simon Newbery
5	Lee Bailey
6	Dean Williams
7	Terry Edleston
8	Mark Davis
9	Mark Jones
10	Clive Hoyle



rules, new classes, three new tracks on the calendar, it's been a successful 2008 and we all look forward to taking the series into 2009. Many thanks to all the clubs who hosted a round throughout the year, looking forward to seeing everyone again in 2009!

THANKS

I would like to add my own thanks to each of the clubs for organising their own rounds and also to Jason Moggridge for organising the website and a new online booking system and in particular Schumacher Racing for the Sorex control tyres and excellent end of season raffle prizes.

The year did start in a little chaotic fashion but we have all pulled together and have had a fantastic year racing. Looking forward to 2009 and another successful series.

MODIFIED CLASS

The drivers who were consistent and entered for the majority of the rounds would benefit well from a small entry field in modified. The overall top three drivers did exactly this, entering more than three rounds and collecting enough points to challenge for the top spot. The last round at the Cotswold club would decide the overall title, with both Ian Newton and Chris Newbery from South Hants Model Car Club both in the running. The final outcome was equal points overall but with Ian winning due to higher placed points at earlier rounds. Ian was running the Schumacher Mi3 for majority of the season with great success. Taking the runners-up by the closest of margins was Chris Newbery, on equal points with Ian. Also from South Hants Model Car Club, Chris has been running the Yokomo BD for this campaign. Taking the final podium position in Modified was Ian Mulvaney from Yateley Model Car Club. Ian running his trusted Tamiya 415 since the start of the season had an excellent start to his campaign, with a second and first place in the first two rounds, but then made a comeback for the last round and reached the A final again, giving him the points to take third overall.

2008 SLCC CLUB CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to South Hants Model Car Club in Bashley for becoming the new SLCC Club Champions for 2008! A great effort from everyone that entered and the huge commitment to supporting the club at every round of the championship. A great achievement and one that will be hard to beat in 2009. Can any other club challenge South Hants in 2009?

After a challenging start to the series, the SLCC is as popular as ever. With the introduction of new

