
DILLIGAF RACING NEWS Vol:29

EMRA Championships July 2019



Round 4 of the EMRA club championships began with a compulsory riders' briefing outlining to all competitors blue flag rules and the races it would be used in. Discussions over the use or no use of blue flags to signal to 'slower' riders had been the hot topic on Facebook since the last meeting and here at Dilligaf, we were pleased to hear a sensible decision had been made. So, without further ado, the Moody's put on their Scott Leathers and went racing.



With Erin, Steve's beloved Honda NC29 still out of action after the incident in June that he was unavoidably caught up in at the hairpin, it was Mary, the T-bike and newly built addition to the Dilligaf family that Moody would ride today in the pre-injection and lightweight races. Unfortunately, noise testing revealed a cylinder was mis-firing so the boys set to work to rectify the problem immediately. Elaine would once again take Bessie May out on track in the Rookie class and alongside her husband in the lightweights. Practice commenced at 9:30 as Dilligaf supporters arrived in their orange and blue attire to cheer on the Moody pair!



Not being able to identify the issue with Mary, Steve decided to run her in first practice to see if a good 'blow out' would solve the issue or if the Moody's would have to bike share this meeting! The Pre- injection practice did not go well as it clearly indentified Mary was only firing on three cylinders, so Steve did just two laps before returning back to the paddock to begin pulling her apart! Elaine's first qualifying session went equally as bad as on the first lap, a six bike pile up at Gerard's red flagged the session leaving Elaine and Bessie with cooling tyres held on Devil's Elbow unable to return to the pits. As such her first session was on cold tyres but in second practice, she did much better and although qualified last, she started the day beating her best lap time from last race meeting! But alas poor Mary remained in bits as racing commenced!



All morning and all through lunch the Steve's worked on Mary to try and get all four cylinders operational. Steve missed the first pre- injection race was due to miss the lightweights too but Mrs Moods barked her orders and in a last-ditch attempt to keep this ill season championship hopes alive, she gave up her trusty steed, Bessie May for Steve to ride.



With moments to spare Steve lined up on the grid alongside the rest of the lightweight pack and open 600 riders. Determined to show wifey what bikey could do without any trick bits or race gadgets, he shot off the start line like a bullet out a gun! With elbows sharpen, he bulldozed his way through the pack, throttle pinned, picking off riders one at a time to manoeuvre his way from back of the grid to 4th in class with a fastest lap time of 1:02s on old Bessie, a totally standard 25 year old CBR 400 NC29 that until a few months ago was rusting away under a hedge unloved and rideable!



With barely a second to spare, dear Bessie was back out on grid, but this time with Elaine at helm. She didn't get off to a good start, bogging down off the start but with Moody's time to chase, she gritted her teeth and got on with the job in hand! Although she finished last her lap times were consistently quicker and improvement could visibly be seen!



After a Dilligaf discussion, it was decided that Elaine would ride Bessie May in the second of the lightweight races. The lightweight championship for Steve was now in pieces, along with his bike was over the paddock floor, so the team decided track time for Elaine would be the most beneficial option. Determined to do their best, Elaine and Bessie May lined up on the grid but both races were plagued with red flags and stoppages. However once again Elaine did beat her personal best lap time with a 1:11s lap and were considerably consistently quicker than last meeting lap after lap.

Dilligaf Racing would like to thank their fellow competitors for their help to try get Mary and Old Moods out on track and of course Big Hammer Steve Gilkes who worked tirelessly all day trying everything he could trackside to get the bike running! We would also like to wish all those who were involved in incidents, a very speedy recovery! See you in August folks!!