

SPORT IN BRIEF

World wildcard

**MOTORSPORT:** Evesham's Simon Andrews and the Jentin Racing Lloyds British Superbike team have been handed a wildcard entry for the British round of the World Superbikes at Brands Hatch.

They have been recognised for their performances in the British Superbike series and face the world's best on the first weekend in August.

Andrews said: "This is a great opportunity for me to test my skills against some of the best riders in the world.

"The rules are slightly different for engine specification and the team have already started the development to meet the challenge.

"My target is to make super pole, have fun and push for a finish in the top 10."

Scores update

**DOMINOES:** The latest results from the Worcester Thursday League.

**Division One:** Railway 6, Bridge 'A' 3; Vine 7, Alma 2; Plough 4, Winning Post 5; Punchbowl 3, FHWM Club 6.

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
FHWM Club	13	11	2	68	49	90
Winning Post	13	10	3	66	51	86
Railway Club	13	8	5	69	48	85
Gun Tavern	12	5	7	54	54	64
Alma Tavern	12	6	6	51	57	63
Bridge Inn 'A'	12	5	7	51	57	61
The Vine	13	5	8	50	67	60
Plough Inn	12	3	9	50	58	56
Punchbowl	12	3	9	45	63	51

**Division Two:** Virgin 5, Goodrest 4; Crown 6, West Midland 3; Bridge 'B' 6, Redhill 3; Lakes 5, Arboretum 4.

Bridge Inn 'B'	12	10	2	65	43	85
The Lakes	13	9	4	63	54	81
Virgin Reds	12	7	5	58	50	72
Crown Kempsey	12	5	7	54	54	64
West Midland	12	6	6	51	57	63
Goodrest	13	4	9	55	62	63
Lamb & Flag	11	6	5	48	51	60
Redhill SC	12	5	7	50	58	60
Arboretum	13	3	10	51	66	57

Fourth place best for Droitwich driver

# Neal clings onto second spot in table

MATT Neal remains second in the British Touring Car Championship leaderboard despite failing to secure a podium place at Snetterton.

The Droitwich driver's best position was fourth in the third race of the day after 10th and sixth placed-finishes in the first two rounds.

Neal, competing for VX Racing, saw SEAT Sport UK's Jason Plato (two) and Henley-in-Arden's Mat Jackson, of BMW Dealer Team UK, bag the race wins in Norfolk.

But his team-mate, reigning champion Fabrizio Giovanardi, leads the standings by an increased margin.

Italian Giovanardi achieved a seventh and two third-placed finishes.

Plato's two wins took him ahead of Neal in the standings but a non-finish in race three

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dropped him back. Tom Chilton, from Pershore-based Team Halfords, was third in race one.

Vauxhall and their VX Racing squad continue to comfortably head the manufacturers' and outright teams' championships.

The title race next heads to the daunting Oulton Park circuit in Cheshire on July 27.

**Results, race one:** Plato 21 laps in 27 minutes 38.560 seconds, Darren Turner (SEAT Sport UK) +0.583s, Chilton +1.364s; **race two:** Plato 20 laps in 25.39.832, Colin Turkington (Team RAC) +3.169s, Giovanardi +3.700s; **race three:** Jackson 18 laps in 22.00.124, Steven Kane (Motabase) +0.770s, Giovanardi +2.352s.

**Leading points:** Giovanardi 171, Neal 137, Plato 132, Jackson 122, Turkington 121, Tom Onslow-Cole 108.

**Manufacturers' points:** Vauxhall 418, SEAT 344.

**Teams' points:** VX Racing 350, SEAT 212, Team Halfords 156.



Matt Neal: Still in second.



Torton's Alex Ashby with Team Wintun's car for the Funcup.

## Ashby having great time in the Funcup

RACER Alex Ashby and Team Wintun have won trophies in all three races at the Funcup so far.

The 19-year-old, of Torton, near Hartlebury, drove the last 50-minute stint of the five-hour race on the new international circuit at Anglesey.

In only his third car race, he took the chequered flag in fifth place from 28 starters for the team who won the highest-placed rental team trophy.

Ashby said the last stint was the drive of his life as he battled it out with the Team O'Brian Perrys car.

He was racing against Neil Walker and briefly passed him to gain fourth place only to be overtaken a couple of laps later.

Ashby finished two car lengths behind Walker and only

28 seconds behind the winner. The team of Dan Jones, Lance Robson and Ashby had competed in two previous races at Croft.

They came fourth on the first day to win their first highest-placed rental car trophy.

Despite an engine which played up, they came seventh near the back of the grid to win the cup for team of the day.

Ashby has been racing karts since 2004 and then just missed out on a Funcup scholarship in the final round.

But Jones invited him to join his new team of three drivers for the 2008 series.

The team is now striving for a podium finish in the next race at Snetterton on August 24.