



CASTLE COMBE SALOON CAR
CHAMPIONSHIP IN ASSOCIATION WITH
NATIONAL MOBILE WINDSCREENS

Round 4, Sunday 20th June.



Brian Cox took his third win from four Castle Combe Saloon Car Championship starts in 2010 last weekend, but he was made to work hard for it by two front-wheel-drive Peugeots from lower classes. The 106 GTi of Nick Charles and Tony Dolley's 206 GTi kept the Mitsubishi Evo driver honest throughout the 12-lap battle.

Ahead of all three on the grid, however, was reigning champion Jason Cooper. The remarkable 1600cc Ford Fiesta driver swept round in 1m16.103s in qualifying to pip Charles by 0.167 seconds and push Cox onto the second row. That meant an all-Class C front row!

Unsurprisingly, it didn't take too long for the four-wheel drive Evo to drag ahead at the start. Cooper made a poor getaway and slipped to fourth, behind Charles and Will di Claudio's Peugeot 106 GTi.

With the leaders getting away, Cooper dived ahead of di Claudio, into Tower on the second tour, and set about closing the gap to Charles. Dolley soon followed. He qualified fifth, and had already suffered a blown oil cooler and ensuing crash during practice for the Open Sports and Saloon Car race, but had strong pace.



Cooper threw his Fiesta around, cutting across the grass on the apex of Camp, and getting sideways on a couple of occasions. Out of Camp at the end of lap five the Fiesta got too sideways and Dolley powered past into third on the run up Avon Rise.

(One of Jason Cooper's many sideways moments. Image: Oliver Read.)

Less than four laps later and Cooper was out, retiring with gearbox problems. He nevertheless could take consolation from finally breaking Tim Hanlon's eight-year-old lap record by four tenths, leaving the new mark at 1m16.539s.

Despite being delayed in traffic, Dolley edged towards Cox and Charles, who was still pressuring the big Mitsubishi. But neither Charles nor Dolley could find a chink in the armour of the man ahead and Cox held on to win, just 1.4 seconds covering the trio. Each one was a class victor.

"He's a naughty little boy making me work that hard," was Cox's view of Charles after the race. Like Cooper, the 106 had also gone under Hanlon's old record mark, less than a tenth slower than the Fiesta's best.

Di Claudio came home fourth after a lonely race, well clear of Daryl Radford's Volkswagen Bora.

While the smaller cars gave the large Evo trouble up front, the sizeable Volvo S40 of Julian Ellison also had a good showing. After starting ninth, Ellison got ahead of a struggling Mark Wyatt (in his usually frontrunning Vauxhall Astra) early on and chased after the Peugeot 106 GTi of David Kift.

The big Swedish machine finally slotted past the diminutive French hot hatch with four laps to go to take sixth overall and third in Class B.

Back in 11th overall, Russell Akers won Class D in his Vauxhall Corsa, five seconds ahead of the Ford Fiesta of Will Burns. Both were well clear of class championship leader Russell Poynter-Brown, who crossed the line 14th in his Corsa.

Pos.	Cl.	Cl. Pos.	Driver	Car	Time	Qual.
1	A	1	Brian Cox	Mitsubishi Evo	15:32.196	3
2	C	1	Nick Charles	Peugeot 106GTi	+0.845	2
3	B	1	Tony Dolley	Peugeot 106GTi	+1.390	5
4	C	2	Will Di Claudio	Peugeot 106GTi	+23.338	4
5	B	2	Daryl Radford	Volkswagen Bora	+27.775	8
6	B	3	Julian Ellison	Volvo S40 T4	+43.416	9
7	C	3	David Kift	Peugeot 106GTi	+44.724	6
8	C	4	Nick Mizen	MG ZR	+46.580	10
9	B	4	Mark Wyatt	Vauxhall Astra	+57.603	7
10	C	5	Martin Chivers	MG ZR	+1:13.351	14
11	D	1	Russell Akers	Vauxhall Corsa	+1:14.649	11
12	D	2	Will Burns	Ford Fiesta	+1:19.681	15
13	C	6	Anne King	MG ZR190	+1 Lap	12
14	D	3	R Poynter-Brown	Vauxhall Corsa	+1 Lap	13
15	C	7	Richard Marsh	Rover 200	+1 Lap	17
16	C	8	Geoff Wade	Honda Integra Type R	+1 Lap	16
17	C	9	James Keepin	MG ZR160	+1 Lap	19
18	D	4	C Hyde-Andrews-Bird	Ford Fiesta	+1 Lap	20
19	B	5	Kelly Williams	Ford Fiesta ST	+1 Lap	18
20	D	5	Nick Clark	Suzuki Swift GTi	+1 Lap	22
21	B	6	Jamie Diccox	Alfa Romeo 156	+1 Lap	23
22	D	6	Eddie Benton	Citroen Saxo	+2 Laps	24
23	D	7	Jonathan Benton	Citroen Saxo	+2 Laps	25
DNF	C	N/A	Jason Cooper	Ford Fiesta	+4 Laps	1
DNF	D	N/A	Geraldine Duff	Rover 25	+9 Laps	21

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