

We had a positive weekend at Mac Park for the first round of the South Australian Championships, Mac Park Easter cup and the first leg of the Master of Mac Park. I got the 125 outright and junior lap record and I'm leading the South Australian limited class.

On Friday we had a full day of practise and testing before the racing started. The spare bike was running wide out of corners and didn't want to turn through the corners. We made a few adjustments and sorted out the turning issues, and now we were focused on the exit of the corners. We made a couple more adjustments to the bikes suspension and did one more session on the bike to test how it was. We got the issues sorted and took the good bike out the last session to test it. I was running great and I felt good on the bike. By the end of the session I did a 1.16.783.

On Saturday we had 2 qualifying. It had rained in the morning and we had a wet track. I was feeling good in the wet and was one of the quickest. A rider went down and they red flagged the race. We had 5 minute session restart. I went out in this to have a look at the track conditions, not really to get a time as the track was a drying track and I was on wets.

The second qualifying was dry and I knew I had to push to get on pole. I was pushing all session and my third lap was my quickest when I did a 1.16.212. This put me on pole position for the rest of the weekend.

Race one was a good race to start the weekend. I didn't get the best start and fell back to fourth. By turn 2 I was in third and was getting held up by a SV 650. On the third lap of the six lap race I was able to get pass him on the third and pulled a gap of 13 seconds and was behind a 656 Ducati by three seconds and was able to maintain that gap until the end of the race. I finished second and got good time of 1.15.971.

The second race of the day was the last. I got the holeshot for race two and soon pulled away. I tried to do consistent lap times all race and my best lap time was a 1.16.368 and I was doing 1.16's all race. I won the race by 15 seconds.

On Sunday there was a 5 minute warm up. I used this time to get back into the rhythm again. I felt good and did a lap time 1.18.097.

In race one I got a great start and got the holeshot into turn one. I pulled away and by the end of lap one I had a 2 second gap. I was doing consistent 1.15's all race and had a 12 second gap over the 125 behind me by the end of the last lap. I got a new PB of 1.15.264 only 0.145 off of the 125 outright lap record. I won the race overall The last race of the weekend was the best race. I was able to get down to a 1.14.929 this lap time got me the 125 outright and junior lap record. I did this on the second lap after a good start. I fell back to third by the time we got to turn 1, I had a SV 650 in front of me but I went around the outside at turn 1 and had a 125 in front of me. I soon passed him down the straight and then pulled away and on the second lap went for the best time I could because I knew I would only have this race left to do it in. I crossed the line and my lap timer said 1.14.929. I was so happy and excited with myself. I still did some fast times for the rest for the race but not as fast as the 1.14 I did on the second lap. I had won the race with a 9 second gap.

I wouldn't have been able to get the lap record if it wasn't for dad and Dave Atkinson for getting the bike running great and reliable. My sponsors were also a big part of this as well, I would like to thanks them all for the contribution to my racing:

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Photo Courtesy of Richard Wills

