

The logo for MAG Sport, featuring the word 'MAG' in a bold, white, sans-serif font inside a dark blue oval, with the word 'Sport' in a smaller, white, cursive font below it.The logo for MAG Sport Racing, featuring the word 'MAG' in a bold, yellow, italicized font, followed by 'Sport Racing' in a white, sans-serif font, all set against a background of a motorcycle helmet.

## IT'S ALL CHANGE FOR MAGSPORT'S ALEX GAULT!

If you read the last issue of "The Road" you would know that young motorcycle racer Alex Gault had everything planned for 2007, was well ahead of schedule and the team surrounding him were very optimistic as they looked forward to Alex's first season on a 600cc Machine..... Well as they say 'The best laid Plans of mice and men!'

As more details were released on the GSXR Trophy which they had planned to use, it came to light that the prize for winning the Championship was a 1000cc motorbike and ACU help with the entry into the 2008 British Super Stock Cup, with the greatest will in the world, that would be no use to Alex, So the search was on for an alternative.

Of the nine one-make series running at various levels in the UK this year, Alex is eligible to compete in eight, by the end of December we had narrowed it down to 3, The Triumph Triple Challenge, The Virgin Mobile Cup and the Yamaha R6 CUP.

**Triumph Triple Challenge,** This Championship will run within the BEMSEE Club over 9 weekends. The entry cost is billed at £12,000 but when you look closer it was going to be more than this once all the extras were bought. We estimated that we'd have needed a budget around £22,000 if we were to do all the test days etc. The prize?.....your existing bike tuned and entries and tyres paid for to run in the Bemsee / MRO Super Sports Championship in 2008.

**The Virgin Mobile Cup,** This is the most famous one-make series running in the UK today, running alongside British Superbikes over 12 rounds the entry cost is £18,000 + VAT, again when you take into account testing ect. The Budget would have to be around a WHOPPING £35,000, The prize? A seat in the Virgin Yamaha Supersports team at the 2008 British Championships.

**The R6 Club** This runs with the North Gloucester Club over 12 rounds at tracks such as Silverstone, Thruxton, Donington Park and Norfolk Snetterton under the jurisdiction of Virgin Yamaha, entry cost £10,000 + VAT. Taking everything into account for this one, and we'd need a

budget of around £22,000. The prize? The top three riders mid season get a free race in the Non Championship VMC race at the Donington Round of MotoGP, The winner of the series gets a free entry into the 2008 Virgin Mobile Cup at BSB in 2008.

As far as we were concerned it was going to be an easy choice, Alex is not ready for the VMC Championship, nor do I have the money to pay the entry fee never mind the Budget required. The Triumph Triple Challenge looks like being a cracker of a series and ran with one of Britains' biggest and safest Clubs, British bikes.....but in our opinion the prize in the R6 Club far out-weighed anything else. So that is going to be our first choice, with the Triumph a close second. So let's take a closer look at this R6 Championship in their words from a press release.

*A new series using Yamaha Supersport R6 machines is to be run in conjunction with Bike Sport News / Yamaha and the NG Road Racing Club.*

*It will run alongside the amazing Virgin Mobile Cup and will allow young riders to progress to the Premier League and be part of the most successful youth development academy in British motor sport.*

*All riders will enter through the Virgin Mobile team; bikes will be prepared to mirror the Virgin Mobile Cup championship thus ensuring a genuine clarity and even level of racing.*

*The series will be run over 12 scoring rounds, at NG Road Racing Club events, the schedule to be confirmed. The mid-term championship top three will be invited to compete in the Virgin Mobile Moto GP event on official Virgin Mobile Cup machines, with the overall champion earning a free entry into the 08 series. This is the first time a genuine stepping stone has been put in place at club level, a very cost-effective way of starting racing with an amazing prize for the winner. The Virgin Mobile PR team will promote this series as well as Bike Sport News, the fantastic TV programme 'Natural born Racers.' A documentary following the footsteps of the Virgin Mobile Cup competitors will be planned to come along to see the grass roots talent coming through.*

*Rob McElnea and his team will co-*

*ordinate this series with test days planned and new talent scout Niall Mackenzie taking time out to spot new talent!*

That said it seems there has not been the anticipated interest in the series and the chance of it running is in doubt, so we are keeping a close eye on the Triumph series as our back up.

So by the Start of January the quest to raise the money needed to let Alex compete in the series was on, unfortunately I am writing this in early January so by the time you read it.....it will either have happened or not. I hope I have something to write for the next issue. As usual if you would like to be involved with the team in anyway; you can contact them direct through Alex's dedicated web site at [www.minimotoracer.com](http://www.minimotoracer.com)

Alex got in the saddle of a Super Sport 600 machine for the first time at a Donington Park test day. The reason? A ride with MKW Racing in the British Super Sports Cup, all things considered Alex did very well in adverse weather conditions on an older 'borrowed bike and with the suggestion from me that my toe would be stuck somewhere if he crashed. After only 4 sessions Alex posted a time which would have got him into this year's BSS Race.

Then money came into play, although the ride was heavily subsidised, I did not feel I had enough money to do Alex justice at that level (Budgets for this class range from around £35K to £50K+). Now, Chris Moore of MKW Racing was so impressed with Alex that he has given up plans to contend this year's British Super Sport Cup and joined our team as Alex's race technician in the hope of taking Alex to BSB in 2008. We are very pleased to welcome Chris on board and we are sure the knowledge and experience he can bring will be invaluable in Alex's future.

We would also like to welcome another new sponsor to the team, HTS Forma are to supply Alex with their excellent F1 Boots for the foreseeable future. The range is to be distributed in the UK, so with any luck you'll be able to buy boots just like Alex's soon.

You can keep up to date on Alex's progress and the latest news at his web site [www.minimotoracer.com](http://www.minimotoracer.com)