

# Gault in top gear to make his point

By Andrew Weston

**LOCAL** race ace Alex Gault has been celebrating this week after picking up his first ever championship points in round three of the Brit-

## ish National Super Stock 1000 championship.

Carlisle-based Gault, the youngest rider in this year's championship, finished eleventh from the 42 starters as the British Super Bike series visited Donington Park.

The event had been in danger of being re-sited after safety fears were raised by the organisers, as preparations continue at the venue set to host the British round of the Formula One World Championships from 2010.

However, the week before the series started, the circuit passed an inspection by the Mo-

torcycle Circuit Racing Control Board (MRCB) and the round went ahead as planned, much to the delight of the local racer.

Boosted by his two enthralling victories at the Aintree series last month, the 18-year-old went into the Donington event full of confidence and this proved to be well-founded.

In free practice, Gault posted the 17th fastest time of 1:30.936 aboard his ASTRO Kawasaki ZX10R, before moving up four places to provisional 13th position in 'Qualifying One' with a time of 1:37.28.

A technical problem saw him go backwards in the standings on Sunday as he slipped down to 18th for the start of the Bank Holiday Monday race.

But there was a sign of things to come when the youngster impressed in the morning warm up setting the 11th fastest time (1:37.1).

Having been bathed in sunshine for most of the weekend, the skies were overcast as the teams lined up on the grid.

Confidence grew in Gault's camp that he could finish in the top 15 and pick up his first championship point – which would be regarded as a massive milestone in any racer's career.

A superb start saw him move

up from 18th to 12th after the first lap.

Despite dropping back to 14th position Gault eventually crossed the line in 11th place which gave him five championship points.

"It has been a fantastic weekend apart from the little hiccup in qualifying two and I'm very happy," Gault said this week.

"I did a 1:36.230 lap in the race, a personal best and to take almost three seconds from my lap time over the weekend is good going."

He added: "I would like to thank my sponsors for their help and my mechanics for the work they have done over the weekend."

Upfront, the championship continues to be dominated by Alastair Seeley on the Relentless Suzuki.

The Irishman has won every round so far from pole position.

To keep up with Gault's progress go to [www.alexgaultracing.com](http://www.alexgaultracing.com)

**OFF THE MARK:** Alex Gault, number 17, secured his first ever points in the British National Super Stock 1000 championship last weekend.

