

# Gault moves up a gear



By Andrew Weston

**MOTORCYCLE** racer Alex Gault takes the next step in fulfilling his dream to race Super Bikes, when he contends the British National Super Stock 1000 Championships this year.

The 18-year-old, from Carlisle, will be racing on Astro Racing's Kawasaki ZX10R, which is capable of speeds in excess of 175mph.

Gault, who started racing Minimoto bikes in 2000 at the age of 10, has won races in ever class in which he has competed.

However, this year there are no expectations as he is taking an enormous step, which will put him alongside the best in Britain.

More than 40 vastly experienced riders will contend the National Super Stock Championship, including Super Bike contenders Smart, McGuinness, Jenkinson and Quiggley and seasoned 1000cc Super Stock contenders Brogan, Neil and Cummings.

Gault said: "This is a fantastic opportunity and a great challenge.

"To be able to race in this series is a dream come true and I thank all my sponsors and supporters as I know without them it would have been impossible."

He added: "I'm looking forward to

learning as much as I can this year in the hope I can challenge for the title in 2010".

Astro Racing have put in place a three-year plan for the young rider, who contended the National Stock 600 Championship for them last year.

Their strategy will see Gault race in the National 1000cc Super Stock Championship, with the planned move to the Super Bike Cup in 2011.

Team owner Stuart Tromans said: "Alex impressed us last year with his talent and determination.

"I think he is one rider who deserves to be there and has a bright future in the sport."

While almost all the other riders in the Championship have been testing abroad,

due to financial worries Gault had to delay testing until the weather got warmer in the UK.

However, recent sessions around Leicester's Mallory Park and the East Fortune circuit just outside Edinburgh, have opened the youngster's eyes to what lies ahead.

A few more tests are planned before Gault's first race in the Scottish Championship at Knockhill on April 5.

The first of the 12-round British Super Bike Championship kicks off the following weekend at Brands Hatch in Kent

There are many advertising opportunities available with the team and any one interested can make contact with Alex via [www.minimotoracer.com](http://www.minimotoracer.com).