

Yorkshire Classic MCC
Rd1 Pre Unit Championship
Report : Neil Anderton

The Yorkshire Classic staged its first Pre Unit Championship trial of the year at a very cold Manor Farm, Lothersdale near Skipton. With temperatures down to minus four overnight the ground was frozen solid and the sections that Colin Pawson had laid out on the Saturday had to be eased back in case of ice developing in the freezing conditions. Fifty six riders braved the conditions and were rewarded with bright sunshine as the day progressed.

The easier nature of the course resulted in ten clear rounds amongst the pre unit lads with Geoff Walker, Ariel, on one his rare appearances, Dale Harrison, Ariel and Mal Cocking, Triumph, sharing the spoils. The first two sections were gentle openers that didn't cause too many problems and allowed Bob and Maureen Barker to observe both sections from the cab of their 4 * 4 and keep warm.

Section three was altered for the second lap to make it more of a challenge and it proved to be the section where the most riders lost marks. A drop into and out of a steep sided gully was followed by a loose climb to the cards. Many riders were too casual and needed dabs or a bit of footing to keep momentum resulting in a third of the entry losing marks here.

Section seven was keenly marked by Keith Butterfield who felt he needed to be writing on his sheet to keep warm so any flag brushing or rule bending was an automatic five which kept riders well focused on the job in hand with thirteen riders getting penalties. The final two sections, the hill climb at the furthest point of the course and the last section over the rocks at the top of the hill took most marks. The hill was fairly easy with a lot of the loose stones frozen to the ground but it still managed to unsettle a few who got off line a had to resort to dabs to keep going. Section ten was tricky with the drop off a rock on the turn being harder than it looked followed by an angled climb over more rocks to the finish. Quite a few dabs spoiled clear rounds but then we had enough of those anyway so it was not critical to the overall results. Thanks to the observers who braved the early morning cold so the riders could have another good day's trialing.

RESULTS

Class A Pre Unit Springers: Geoff Walker (Ariel) 0 marks lost, Paul Jackson (Velocette) 0, Ian Alderson (Ariel) 0.

Class B Tele Fork Rigid : Dale Harrison (Ariel) 0, Dave Wear (R/E) 3, Colin Pawson (Match.) 15.

Class G Twin Cylinder: Mal Cocking (Triumph) 0, N. Turner (Triumph) 0, Dave Varley (Triumph) 3.

Class J Small Pre Unit : Neil Anderton (C12) 9, Adrian Brayshaw (C12) 10.

Non Competitive: Derek Brooks (C15) 0, Bob Baker (B40) 0, Steve Thomas (Bantam) 0.