

## Three different race winners at Timaru Raceway

The Suzuki New Zealand Production Racing Championship competitors faced mixed conditions at Timaru Raceway this weekend. There were three different outright race winners, with former Class B champion Zane Coppins showing that he is really coming to grips with his Class C Mitsubishi Lancer Evo 9 by winning the opening race by in wet conditions.

The Auckland driver was especially pleased with the win, saying his team had faced a steep learning curve with a new car since the start of the season. Class C championship leader Simon Sceats (Subaru Impreza) drove a canny race to take second right on Coppins tail, while Logan Childs was third in his Evo 9.

Sceats was pleased that he had been able to take some of the "success ballast" out of his car since the previous round at Manfeild and said the weight, mounted in the "passenger" compartment, was less of a hindrance at anti clockwise circuits like Timaru.

There was a spectacular incident at the start of race two when Grant Aitken's Mitsubishi got squeezed between Mike Modgill's Honda and Dale Williams Mazda at the first corner and launched into the air. The rest of the field took evasive action, and this time it was Childs who took out the race win from Sceats and Coppins.

In the handicap race Sceats tussled with race veteran Aitken as the four-wheel drive Class C cars tore through the battling Class B field. Sceats was able to hold on to take the win and win class C for the weekend and extend his class lead.

Class B featured some of the best racing of the season, with Dale Williams (Mazda3 MPS) taking out the first race from Steve Taylor (Honda Civic R). In the second race Mike Modgill (Honda Integra) and Taylor finished first and second after Williams was delayed. In the handicap race it was all on and Williams, Modgill and Taylor raced wheel to wheel until the Class C cars came powering through and interrupted their battle.

Cody McMaster, familiar with the Timaru circuit from his days in Sport Saloons, won the Suzuki Swift Sport Cup section in the first and second races, but in the delayed start handicap race his archrival Brock Barrie got through traffic the best to take the class victory.

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