



## Historic Touring Car Association Championship - Round Six

19-20 October 2019

Wakefield Park

Round six of our championship was held at Wakefield Park on 19-20 October, 2019. This was an AMRS meeting. Fields across all categories were small in numbers and were combined with other groups.

The entry list comprised 6 cars, all of which took part in the Friday practice. The toll on the mechanicals of many Club members' cars from the Sydney Master Blast was evident.

Practice was conducted over three sessions on Friday 18 October 2019 and Historic Touring cars were combined with Utes.

This combination stayed for the Qualifying session on Saturday morning, which got underway at 9.30am in dry, windy conditions, which made for a slower track than Qualifying for some, while others went faster!

Adam Walton in the Mustang set himself into pole position with a 1:07:733, with Chris Thomas in his Torana taking second position, with a 1:08:6234, then Bill Attard in his Mazda coming in third with a time of 1:08:8946.

David Noakes, in his immaculate Escort, achieved a time of 1:11.5922, then Tony Land getting the ever-reliable Ford Capri at 1:11:7900, and Quentin Bland in his impressively presented Ford Capri up to 1:12:4994. It was great to see the Bland Capri competing, after some months of chasing mechanical gremlins.

Race 1, a twelve lapper, started with HTCA NSW taking up the grid first, with a couple of rows separating the Utes, in the combined grid. Off the start, Adam Walton got a good jump, while Chris Thomas was a little slow initially, which result in David Noakes managing to run with him into Turn One.

There was then a great and close battle up front, with Adam Walton taking the win, just ahead of Chris Thomas. Bill Attard steered his Mazda into third place.

Race 2, again another twelve-lap excursion, was the HTCA NSW Trophy race, and it got underway just before 2.00pm. Once again, Chris Thomas and Adam Walton led from the front. On the fourth lap, Adam Walton came to a halt, discovering later on that he had fuel problems. This resulted in Chris Thomas dominating his Torana, taking the win. Bill Attard got his Mazda to second place, and Tony Land managed a very creditable third place. This was Tony's first time out in the family Capri after 2 and a half years on the sideline. Fourth was Quentin Bland in his Capri, after a long



battle with David Noakes in the Escort. Despite best efforts, Noakes, who could just match the speed of Bland in a straight line, was beaten home by a nose by Quentin Bland.

Race 3 on Sunday morning saw another 12-lap race, which got underway at 9:50 am. Chris Thomas got his Torana home in first place again, with a quickest lap of 1:07:3953, with Bill Attard coming in second place, followed by Tony Land, Quentin Bland and David Noakes. Adam Walton managed a 1:06:8550 before his Mustang again had fuel issues on lap 6 of the race, which saw him retire.

Race 4 got underway at 2.45pm and it became clear that the 12-lap race format was having a toll on Historic Touring car competitors. David Noakes and Quentin Bland had called it a day after Race 3. The order of finishers in this 12-lapper was Adam Walton home first, with a best lap time of 1:07:3344, then Chris Thomas, Bill Attard third, and Tony Land.

Race 5 had three starters, for a six-lap race. Adam Walton led them home, achieving a lap time of 1:07:1079, followed by Chris Thomas and Bill Attard in third place.

Overall, the event was enjoyed by competitors and spectators, as the weather held out at Wakefield Park, and the format provided by AMRS was challenging for Historic Touring cars. The 12-lap races were certainly a step up from the usual 6 laps, and proved to be taxing, not only on competitors, but also on the cars.