

## Scottish Riders Robbie and Rory on a Roll Sept 2017

The success of the two Scottish youth quad racers at PDV, reported here last week, proved to be no flash in the pan as they stepped on to the British Championship podium this weekend after the final round of the series at West Meon. Robbie Wood (12) from Melrose was runner-up and namesake Rory Wood (11) from Forres was third. Between them they clocked up over 12000 miles in six months to compete in the Komfort Services 150cc British Championship which runs alongside the Nora-MX series.



Topping the podium was Luke Berlyn (12) from Devon whose performance on the 150cc Yamaha has been remarkable all season. His skill, determination and sheer pace meant the bar was set at a high level, giving the young Scots and the rest of the pack a proper challenge, if they were ever to catch him.

And on the final event of the season, Robbie Wood on his 150cc Honda finally did just that in a thrilling finale on the tough and twisty Hampshire track. Luke won the first moto after slipping past hole-shotter Robbie when he went wide on a berm. Another hole-shot for Robbie on the second moto saw Luke right on his tail and they stayed glued together like that for the whole race, dodging back markers in moves that left observers with no fingers nails! The third moto brought a new challenge, running in heavy rain and

despite getting the hole-shot this time, goggle issues got the better of Luke, leaving Robbie with a clear road and his first and last win of the year.

Behind the group leaders, Rory Wood had a pressured day too, starting the final event only a few points ahead of Aled Davies from the hugely successful EDR stable and knowing only a trouble-free run would keep him in third place. Young Aled got better starts than Rory on the first two races, but Rory proved that he and his pocket-rocket, the 85cc KTM Cobra, were capable of the best of passing manoeuvres. So, by the third moto Aled's cracking start, which saw him nearly take the hole-shot, had no effect on the championship positions. Aled and Rory have been battling it out all season on their 85cc 2-stroke quads. They run in the same class as the 150cc 4-strokes and their pace has been impressive all year, regularly beating several of the higher-powered bikes.

The two Scottish Wood lads started their quad racing careers competing in the northern based QRS and NETT Championships. These club championships have provided a great start for youth riders, giving them competitive tracks and events in a less pressured environment. These clubs have produced some great riders from their junior ranks including Murray Graham and Lorne Sinclair, both of whom have gone to compete successfully at British, Irish and International level. And the latest young Scot to venture beyond the homeland was 7-year-old Taylor Hyndman from Airdrie who also headed to the Nora MX club for West Meon and won the 50cc Auto class at the weekend on his first attempt.

And while the season is now over for Southern based Nora-MX riders, in Scotland a double header still awaits. It will take place on 21/22 October at Humbie (just south of Edinburgh) and is a counter in both the QRS and SACU Championships. More details are available on the QRS FB page.