



## Paul Holmes wins British Championship Final!

Holmes Racing's Paul Holmes showed exceptional speed and style to win the final round of the 2011 GOLDSPEED British championship at Milton Park this past weekend. Taking 2 wins and a 5th place Holmes moved to 2nd place in the overall Championship which is an amazing result considering he missed the entire first round due to an event clash with the European Championship in which he also claimed 2nd overall. This final round of the Championship came just 1 week after Holmes represented his country in the 2011 Quad-X of Nations event in Germany where he took one win and a 2nd place claiming the 2nd place overall individual honours.

### Round 6, The final, Milton Park, England (02/10/11)

The fast and flowing technical track of Milton Park saw sunshine all race day and with the usual format of 2 races being pushed to 3 races due to an earlier rounds cancelation, The qualifying session was cut down to just 15mins. Holmes once again claimed the fastest lap in qualification, firmly putting himself in the record books for managing 100% 1st place qualifying results in rounds attended in one season.



Photo by Alistair Plant

**Race 1:** With confidence high following qualifying Holmes grabbed a good start but was unfortunately caught up on the 3rd corner with a small pile up of quads whilst tussling with Championship points leader Mitchell. Leaving the carnage unscathed Holmes battled with Mitchell and once the pass was made Holmes pulled an instant gap and caught the 6 riders battling ahead of him on lap 2. By lap 4 Holmes had moved into second place and after another 2 laps he closed in on and passed early race leader Murphy. Holmes made the pass stick and began to pull a gap which he kept until the end of the 30min race and won comfortably by 11 seconds over Bunce.

**Race 2:** With another front of pack start, Holmes found himself in 2nd place on the opening laps before moving into the lead. Whilst maintaining a 7 second lead trying to replicate race 1's performance, a slight lapse in concentration caused Holmes to spin the quad on the slick polished track and he stalled the engine. Once restarted Holmes had an issue with the track markers and was way down in 15th place when he finally got going again. Holmes rode his heart out and slogged it out in the hot conditions all the way through the pack to end the race in 5th place.

**Race 3:** Needing a 1st place to claim the overall win, Holmes wasted no time in the final race by moving from 2nd to 1st on the 2nd lap and by setting the fastest lap of the race began instantly to pull a gap on the rest of the field. Holmes kept his composure and rode a flawless race to take the chequered flag and the overall victory by a comfortable 12 seconds.



Photo by Alistair Plant

### Round 6 overall results

<b>1st – Paul Holmes</b> .....	<b>66</b> points
2nd – Carl Bunce	66
3rd – John Mitchell	61
4th – Stefan Murphy	53
5th – Oliver Sansom	46

### 2011 Championship Overall points

1st – John Mitchell	256 points
<b>2nd – Paul Holmes</b> .....	<b>219</b>
3rd – Carl Bunce	190
4th – Mark Watson	174
5th – Stefan Murphy	167

**Rounding up Holmes's results for the season, he was the only rider to consistently stay in the top 5 positions in the races he finished and all except one of those results were in the top 3.**

*Holmes commented after the days racing action; I am really pleased with how today has gone. Qualifying again in 1st was great and I that set me up for a great day. I was kicking myself after making the mistake in the 2nd race but without giving up and working hard I stayed determined to the finish line and that 5th was good enough to go with my 2 wins to give me the overall victory. It was a huge shame there was an event clash this year with the European Championship and although I am happy to have claimed 2nd place only attending 5 from 6 rounds, I feel I have ridden stongly and could have possibly taken the Championship title, but I will carry this momentum on through my winter program and come out next year even stronger. I would like to say a huge thank you to the team for not only this weekend but the year, They have been great and I couldn't have done it without them and my amazingly supportive sponsors.*

