

## Report of the Grass Track Cycle Racing at Heckington Show 2018 - Part 2

### So, what about the Red Army?

Those in the know will understand that we are talking about Bourne Wheelers here, not a bunch of aggressive military types from Russia. So, what did Chris and Gareth's proteges get up to. Well, they only went and won the Lincolnshire Go-ride Club Championships for the fourth year in a row. The team of 15 year old Bryn Richards, 13 year old twins Dan and Alex Galpin, 10 year old Will Wood, Bryn's younger sister Emily (13) and 14 year old Ellie Peel are pictured with NKDC Chairman Councillor Geoff Hazlewood who presented the prizes.



Photo courtesy of [www.richardhowesphotography.com](http://www.richardhowesphotography.com)

The Lincolnshire Go-ride Club Championship has been running for a few years now and continues to go from strength to even stronger! This year we had 8 teams of 6 riders, all under 16, all from South Lincolnshire, all riding proper fixed wheel track bikes. The traditional format of a sprint event, a team sprint and a bunched distance event proved particularly taxing this year due to the very strong wind blowing down the back straight of the 300 metre track.

The Bourne Red Team took the lead from the word go and never looked back. However, Sleaford Wheelers, who had three teams, provided some stiff opposition and finished in second and third places overall. The complex points system was devised by a Maths Graduate from Nottingham University (Richard Kennedy, joint organiser of the go-ride events with his wife Elaina). The system awards points for every finisher in every event, so gives the judges nightmares when they see 18 riders in one event. However, Chief Judge Katherine Wood and her team of judges did an excellent job, as always and provided the results in good time for the presentation.

After the Sprint events, Bourne Red were on 156 points with Sleaford A not far behind on 132. The Sleaford Team of Samuel Howes (15), Samuel Laird (15), Callum Evans(11), Harrison Evans (9), Amie Hatton (13) and her big sister Elise (15), were not going down without a fight. First off in the Team Sprint, they set a time of 1 minute 45.22 seconds for the three lap effort. This time did not get beaten until the mighty Red Army recorded 1 minute 40.69 seconds to capture the 75 points on offer to the winners.

So, going into the final round, Bourne's lead over Sleaford had increased to 35 points (231 against 196). In a magnificent fight back, Sleaford A were actually the highest points scorers in the distance events, achieving 136 points to Bourne's 133. Unfortunately this was not enough to deny the Red Army their fourth consecutive victory, but they will be back next year for sure.

Special mention must be made of Darcie Parrot from Spalding. Darcie is just 8 years old and took a tumble in the scratch race, which had been reduced from 3 laps to 2 because of the wind. Undeterred, she remounted her bike and continued to the finish and even completed the lap she had lost during the crash.

Final Results were:

1 <sup>st</sup> Bourne Red Team	364 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sleaford A Team	332 points
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sleaford B Team	260 points
4 <sup>th</sup> Witham Wheelers A	230 points
5 <sup>th</sup> Sleaford C Team	170 points
6 <sup>th</sup> Spalding/Boston	161 points
7 <sup>th</sup> Bourne Black Team	150 points
8 <sup>th</sup> Witham Wheelers B	89 points

Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, all teams went away with prizes for their efforts which were considerable on a day when the wind rarely dropped below 30 miles an hour.