

Ossett speedway ace wins Amateur Winter Championship

Published on **Sunday 26 February 2012**



OSSETT speedway starlet Jack Parkinson-Blackburn has overcome considerable adversity to win the inaugural the 125cc Amateur Winter Championships with one round still left to race.

The 11 year-old was confirmed as champion after another terrific performance in the fifth, and penultimate, round at Scunthorpe Speedway last Saturday.

A fractured right hand sustained before the weekend threatened to end the youngster's chances of defending his narrow one-point championship lead.

And although he made it to Scunthorpe, his luck appeared to have run out when he crashed out of the first race on a rain-soaked track.

Two points from the next race got him back in the reckoning but the turning point came in race three when he went head-to-head with title rival Kyle Bickley, who had won his first three rides with ease.

The lead changed hands in a thrilling nip-and-tuck race but the Ossett rider pulled off a smart move to overtake Bickley and hold onto the lead that qualified him for the winner-takes-all final.

Fittingly, the four leading riders in the championship lined up on the grid with Parkinson-Blackburn alongside Bickley and Leicester twins Ben and Luke Woodhull.

The start was crucial and it was the Ossett schoolboy who led the field going into the first bend.

He stretched his advantage and was in control when, on lap three, Bickley suffered a bad fall that forced the race to be stopped.

With the race order at the time of the crash making up the result, Parkinson-Blackburn celebrated the victory that clinched the title.