



JAMIE STANLEY RACING

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LAST LAP DRAMA DENIES GWS MOTORSPORT VICTORY

In a cruel twist to the start of the 2013 Lotus Cup UK, Winchester's GWS Motorsport were robbed of a potential victory after suffering a technical problem on the final lap of the 90 minute race at Snetterton circuit on Sunday 7th April.

Jamie Stanley took solo driving honours for the season opener as co-driver and team principal Glenn Sherwood unfortunately had prior commitments with his Tructyre fleet management services firm, which meant he was unable to compete at the Norfolk venue.

The former British GT4 Champion used his extensive racing experience to power GWS Motorsport's Lotus Exige to an impressive third on the grid in qualifying. Stanley topped the timesheets for much of the session but was pipped to the post during the final five minutes, although he was the quickest of the cars eligible for the Lotus Exige Cup.

A disqualification for another competitor promoted GWS Motorsport to second place ahead of the race start and from his front row vantage point, Stanley was able to make a clean getaway when the lights went out. The Chester-born racer dived into the lead on the opening lap, successfully fending off a four-way battle for first position until the Esses, where he slipped back slightly into third place. He kept in touch with the lead cars however, emerging from the mandatory pit stop in fourth place before quickly fighting his way back into second position.

With his fighting spirit fully ignited, Jamie closed the gap on the race leader and a brief safety car period in the final stages put him within striking distance of first place. But, with just one tenth of a second separating him from victory on the last lap, disaster struck: the Exige suffered a CV joint failure, causing Stanley to pull off the circuit.

Despite the frustrating retirement, as Jamie had lapped the majority of the field he was still classified sixth overall and claimed victory in the Lotus Exige Cup class. The result was enough to secure third in the championship standings and provide the team with a solid platform on which to build as the season progresses.

Jamie Stanley, GWS Motorsport driver, said: "It was frustrating to lose a podium finish on the final lap but these things happen. We know after this weekend that the car has good pace and we're taking the technical issue on the chin – we'll get revenge with a good result in the next round!"

Glenn Sherwood, GWS Motorsport team principal, added: "Obviously I was disappointed not to be competing at Snetterton but the team did a fantastic job in my absence. Thanks to Jamie for his excellent racecraft and Essex Autosport for preparing the car. It's a shame a mechanical problem prevented us from scoring a podium but I'll be back for round two and we will be going all guns blazing to score a good

result."

GWS Motorsport will be seeking redemption in round two of the Lotus Cup UK, which takes place at the home of the Formula 1 British Grand Prix, Silverstone, on Sunday 28th April.