

## CAREER-BEST ON HOME SOIL AT THE GOLD COAST

Shae Davies couldn't have wished for a better result at the most recent round of the Australian Formula Ford Championship, registering a career-best result after a stellar run throughout. Unlike many of his competitors, Shae never as much as scratched his machine throughout a competitive and consistent weekend, the Main Beach based youngster enjoying a stellar run while battling right amongst the lead pack.

The Gold Coast street circuit is a car breaker, with the ever present concrete walls ready to punish any errant driving and Davies was delighted with his practice and qualifying form, but felt a late session improvement was possible. Race 1 of three saw Shae make a great start before latching onto the leading group then battling with the current championship leaders all the way to the flag. His fifth place finish was a career high but there was more good news to come.

Race two was Shae's best drive in his short Formula Ford career and the 21-year-old held sway in third place for the majority of the distance, before a small mistake late race saw him drop back to fourth at the chequered flag. Sunday dawned with great expectation and Shae went all out for a podium spot in the final. Battling with the lead bunch throughout, things looked good early, before a late race incident saw him caught up with another competitor, allowing two cars past.

Sixth at the finish line felt like a comparative disappointment when compared with what he had already achieved, but nothing could hide Shae's delight at scoring his best ever result.

"I said after Phillip Island that we would be right amongst it here and I was right. The car was awesome all weekend and I just love the GC street circuit. The Borland boys gave me the car to do the job and while scoring my first ever podium was within reach we fell just short in the end. Mum, Dad and some family friends were up in the corporate suite and I could see them jumping about enjoying the result too - what a great weekend all round and a great place to have my best ever points haul.

"Equal fourth overall is a fantastic result in my first full year and I know I can run with these guys now, and I can't wait for the final even in Tassie in a few weeks time ... I'll be after another career-best effort down on the Apple Isle."

As a result of Shae's excellent weekend, he now leads the coveted Formula Ford Rookie of The Year Award with one round remaining.

RESULTS: Rd 7 - 2011 Australian Formula Ford Championship - Gold Coast, QLD (11-23 October, 2011)

	P1	P2	Q	R1	R2	R3	Overall	Points	Title
Started				8	5	4			
Finished	7		8	5	4	6	4	67	9

NEXT EVENT: Final - Rd 8 Australian Formula Ford Championship - Symmons Plains, TAS (11-13 November, 2011)

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