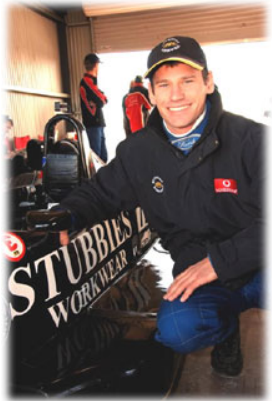


# Morley Secures NSW Formula Ford Championship at Wakefield Park



Ben Morley and the Icon Motorsport team wrapped up the NSW Formula Ford Championship for 2006 at Wakefield Park Raceway, Goulburn during the fifth and penultimate round with two from three race wins. Morley was also over the moon to finally be able to lay to rest the memory of placing second in the same Championship back in 1998.

After his two race victory, Morley built an unassailable lead for the Championship which was unshakable even though he recorded his only non-finish for the year in the third and final race of the weekend. Running second, Morley was hit from behind entering turn two late in the final race, which spun him off the track and into the sand trap and this incident brought out the safety car. Other than that, Morley's weekend was a strong one as he qualified on pole position and won both race one and two.

"It's a major relief now that I have wrapped up the Championship at Wakefield Park, which was our goal going into this weekend," Morley stated.

"Not finishing the third race was naturally disappointing, but by the same token it wasn't too bad, after all we had the Championship in the bag, so that was the main thing for the whole team."

Morley stressed that over the weekend the # 72 Stubbies Workwear supported Spectrum 09 performed strongly and that the Icon Motorsport team setup continued to improve.

"That's what has been our major benefit this year with our setup: we have continued to go from strength to strength, and we haven't hit our peak too soon," he said.

"Everyone in our team has worked hard and it's good to reward them for all their efforts by taking out the NSW Championship, something has also been great for me personally after I finished a narrow second place in the Championship a number of years ago."

The third and final race of the round saw Morley and Kyle Wood engage in a torrid battle for the lead until Wood was able to make a break as Morley fell back into a four way battle for second place which resulted with him spinning around after being hit by a driver from behind before being beached in the sand trap - a poor end to the weekend.

"I'd be lying if I said I wasn't annoyed with the outcome to race three, but that's racing. When you are battling in a group sometimes things are just out of your control," Morley commented.

"All in all that was only a small smearing on a great weekend, and most importantly it was about wrapping up the NSW Championship, which we did, so I couldn't be happier."



Morley's Icon Motorsport teammate (and incidentally team owner), Derryn Harrison, also endured a tough weekend in his # 66 Vodafone Team Spectrum 06B. Harrison, however, was simply delighted that Morley officially claimed the NSW Championship with one round to spare.

"With Ben [Morley] taking out the Championship I'm rapt, as it's only taken us three years to get to this level, and this is just the beginning of better things involving Icon Motorsport for the future," added Harrison.

"All of the Icon Motorsport team has worked extremely hard to set the highest level of professionalism in everything we do, and we are continually trying to raise the bar in competitiveness and enjoyment."

The newest Icon Motorsport team member, Brad Gower, enjoyed a trouble free weekend competing in the Production Sports Car category running the # 41 Mazda RX7 and took out his class honours after recording two top 10 results from his three races.

## Latest NSW Formula Ford Championship Point Standings (after five completed rounds):

- 1 Ben Morley – 416 points
  - 2 Nick Lowe – 280
  - 3 Kristian Lindbom – 271
  - 4 Stephen Payne – 266
  - 5 Leigh Burges – 244
- \*12 Derryn Harrison – 136



The sixth and final round of the NSW State Championship is to be held on the September 23 – 24 at Eastern Creek Raceway.

To learn more about the Icon Motorsport team visit their official website at:

[www.IconMotorsport.com.au](http://www.IconMotorsport.com.au)

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