



NZV8 Utes
Round 2 - Ruapuna - Christchurch
December 2011

Proud to be partnered with:



WAITE 'THE MAN' IN UDC V8 UTE CHAMPIONSHIP

Andrew 'DJ48' Waite of Auckland is 'The Man' in the UDC V8 Ute Championship at the moment. After winning the opening round last month he did it again at Round 2 of the championship at Powerbuilt Tools Raceway at Ruapuna in Christchurch this weekend.

Waite took control as the round progressed. He slashed his way through the traffic to place third in the opening race and repeated the dose in the second the following day, making short work of the opposition. He led all the way to win the third in his Falcon to close out the round and take a healthy championship lead into the Christmas break.

He was joined in his podium celebrations by two fellow Aucklanders - second placed Mike 'Buzz' Lightfoot and Chris 'Hammer Time' Hanley. Lightfoot was a hot contender all weekend and Sunday saw him finish second in both races behind Waite.

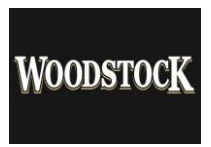
Hanley had a mixed bag in his Holden. The man known as 'Hammer Time' hammered them on Saturday, recording a crushing victory before charging from the back of the grid to sixth place on Sunday morning. It was 'game on' in the decider on Sunday afternoon with Waite and Hanley side by side on the front row of the grid. However it was 'game over' at the first corner as Hanley was monstered down the order. A bruising battle followed but again Hanley received some 'assistance' which sent him into a spin that rotated him to the back of the field. His earlier form was still good enough to give him third for the round and his spectacular departure from the leader board of the final race earned him the dubious honour of the Xtreme Race Clutches 'Xtreme Moment Award' for the incident. His prize, a radio controlled Holden Ute!

The pack was not a place for the faint hearted this weekend. There were some heavy hits and many will be performing cosmetic surgery before the action reignites at Teretonga Park near Invercargill next month.

Dave 'The Boss' Stewart was in the thick of battle all weekend scoring a best result of third in the final race. Scott 'Precious' McKelvie of Auckland finished third in Sunday mornings race but his efforts in the other two races were ruined after taking hits. Peter 'Kaos' Ward took a weekend off from his demolition work in the Christchurch CBD to grab two fourth placings while Geoff 'SOS' Spencer of Palmerston North celebrated his 80th race start in the category on Saturday with a second place finish followed by a ninth and a fifth on Sunday.

Hugh 'Ace' Gardiner of Blenheim is a two-time Porsche GT3 996 Cup Champion who had a one-off drive in the Protecta Insurance Falcon this weekend. After being fastest in testing and qualifying he discovered the brutality of the UDC V8 Ute Championship when racing began. He was given a helping hand into retirement in Saturdays race and then was frustrated in his efforts to slice through the field on Sunday. He was whacked with a 50 second penalty in the first race and had to work hard to collect a sixth place in the finale.

Battle lines will be drawn again at Teretonga Park in Invercargill from 13-15 January.



HOLDEN

