



Just like her Kawasaki mount, Vick Schouten's rivals were green at Mosport...with envy.

Perfection

Schouten scores maximum at Mosport

By John Hopkins // Photos by Matt Grant

Vicki Schouten considers Mosport International Raceway one of her favourite tracks, and it showed over the course of the Pro Honda Oils Women's Cup doubleheader July 17-19.

The Richmond, ON racer qualified on pole and won both feature races on her Kahuna Powersports Kawasaki ZX-6R to leapfrog from third to first in the series standings. It's hard to imagine how her weekend could have gone much better. Indeed, the only blemish on her record was a poor start in Sunday's second race, which prevented her from leading all 16 racing laps in the two events.

"This is one of my favourite tracks," Schouten said after her second race win of the weekend. "My bike's got a lot of power. Jim Brooks and John Sharrard have been a

great help getting things set up."

With three points for qualifying on pole and 25 points for each race win Schouten unofficially vaulted into the lead of the Women's Cup standings after five of eight events (official points weren't posted at press time). The Kawasaki rider now has 98 points to the 80 of Natalie Catherine Provost and the 73 of Vanessa Gareau-Dominguez, the series leader heading into the Mosport weekend.

Schouten led all eight laps on Saturday, setting a fastest lap of 1:27.998 on lap 3 that topped her pole qualifying lap by a second and a half.

"I knew that Gigi [Genevieve Lesieur] was turning fast times and I wanted to get out front and stay out front, because she can be hard to pass," Schouten explained. She stretched her lead to eight seconds by

lap 6 and crossed the line 8.405 secs. clear of Lesieur.

Lesieur held second all the way on her Chaine Performance Suzuki GSX-R600, despite feeling worn out from competing in the Yoshimura Pro Sport Bike race earlier in the day and suffering from a slight oil leak.

The Quebec City racer caught a break when series newcomer Amy Karthaus missed a shift and dropped back in third place at half distance. Karthaus' troubles gave Provost a scent of the podium and the winner of round 3 at Mirabel passed the Waznie Racing Kawasaki ZX-6R on the final lap to claim third on her Les Souers en Vrac Honda CBR600RR.

Karthaus settled for fourth and Gareau-Dominguez took fifth aboard the Seamount Brokerage Suzuki GSX-R600, just ahead of Roxanne Gravelle's Gym-Max / Hybrid Racing Yamaha YZF-R6.

As on Saturday, conditions were overcast for Sunday's back half of the doubleheader, but also cool. Schouten didn't get a great start and Karthaus and Lesieur jumped ahead off the line. The Kahuna Kawasaki was into second behind Karthaus at the end of the first lap and took the lead on the second tour. Schouten finally crossed the line 6.682 secs. in front.

Karthaus said she had a couple of chances to regain the lead in the turn 5 hairpin, but as a result she was losing her drive onto the following backstraight and finally decided to settle for second place.

Lesieur was still bothered by her oil leak and completed the podium. Her weekend's work brought her into an unofficial tie for fourth in the standings with Ottawa's Josee Bouchard on 60 points.

Provost was fourth on Sunday and Gravelle fifth, while Gareau-Dominguez and Bouchard were next up, both the victims of jump start penalties.

The Women's Cup series takes the month of August off before a pair of September battles at Shannonville Motorsport Park, followed by the Dec. 5-6 finale in the Dominican Republic.



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