



# ACADEMY MUSTANGS: SNETTERTON SPRINTS

The British GT Championship reached half-distance at Snetterton with a pair of 60-minute sprint races

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**A**cademy Motorsport arrived at Snetterton hoping to continue the consistency that has helped Erik Evans and Matt Cowley achieve 2nd place overall in the GT4 class. So far this season, the #61 car hasn't finished outside of the points and two podium finishes have kept it in the top three.

The nature of the Norfolk circuit revealed shortcomings in the current GT4 Balance of Performance (BoP) during qualifying and in the first race. With qualifying times so remarkably close for all four of Academy's drivers, the team's attention has to focus on the car. Team Manager Andrew Dean

explained: "We get all the performance out of the cars that we have available to us this weekend. We executed without mistake, we got no track limits issues, pit stops were bang on the money and we were left to our own in 8th and 9th (in GT4) while the race took place in front of us. Frustrating because we just haven't got the pace to challenge".

Andrew elaborated, "The car is going as quick if not quicker here than it has ever done before, but this new generation GT4s have left us behind. That's not really how it should be. It's just frustrating with the Balance of Performance, sometimes it works for you and sometimes it doesn't and this weekend isn't

the best, so we just have to make the most of what we have and try and come away with as many points as we can. It's annoying, but since we were so competitive last year and we have been going quicker this year at every circuit that we have been to, but not quick enough. There seems to be an 'invisible' 1.4 secs in qualifying that we can't get anywhere near and in real terms we are 0.8 secs off in race pace from the McLarens, Ginettis, Acuras and the BMWs."

Commenting on the importance of the team's own consistency, Andrew pointed out "We have been consistent in the previous races but we've benefited from other people's

