AFX Pinewood Raceway HO 6 hour Endurance Race 2009.

The 6 hour event was to be the newest organised HO endurance event to be held in the UK with the only other being the 24 hour event at Derby HO club.

The 6 hr event was to be held in one of the best venues in the UK. It is home to Pinewood Raceway, deemed to be the premier slot car venue in the UK with a purpose built 6 lane 105ft 1/32 track for scalextric type cars and a 6 lane 130ft 1/24th track for BSCRA (British Slot Car Racing Association) type cars which use high power motors, metal chassis and Lexan bodies. The 1/24th track was replaced in January with a new longer track. Being a premier raceway it has the websites [www.pinewoodraceway.co.uk/](http://www.pinewoodraceway.co.uk/) for the 1/32nd and [www.pinewoodraceway.com](http://www.pinewoodraceway.com) for the 1/24th.

We were lucky enough to secure a race held on the larger 1/24th track.

A six lane HO track using Tomy AFX track was laid ontop of the existing track following the main contours of the track. The various elevations of the track led to that extra dimension of racing to which most UK HO racers do not get due to tracks being laid ontop of flat surfaces or tables. Some custom bends were manufactured (from AFX track) to allow the track to follow the long straights of the pinewood track.

Once the track was constructed it had a total length of 41.454 metres (136 foot).

For the event, control was via personal controllers which varied from standard AFX controllers, Parma’s, and up to transistorised electronics. Each driver had the option of choosing 6 different braking settings (built into the drivers plug in station) to tailor their driving style.

Timing and race controls were via TrackMate software and control modules with infra-red sensing equipment built into the Tomy AFX track.

Power was supplied by standard AFX power packs with additional power jumpers to provide power evenly over the long track length.

Cars were standard Tomy Turbos with hand out motors provided by race control. Tyres were also handed out by race control and there were 3 sizes available using the SuperTires brand.

The teams had the option of using any body they wished as long as it fell withing the rules of being based on a FIA approved car, being manufactured by casting or injection moulding, and weighing a minimum of 3 grammes.

The teams raced with variety of bodies which included 2 Rokar Porsche 911s, 2 AFX Ford GT40’s a Aurora Porsche 917 and a Rokar Datsun 240z.

The Team list was:

*DHORC.*

Derby HO Racing club, the largest regular club and hosts of the 24hr HO Lemans race.

*Allsorts.*

Members of DHORC and regular HO racers. All members have raced at the HO 24hr Lemans .

*Pinewood Raceway.*

Members from the 1/32 track put very good team if slim-line team together. Have had an ever increasing interest in HO and have hosted EAHORC races over the past few years.

*ToJoMo.*

John Ovens , Micheal Ovens , and Tony Ryder, all HO, Scaley and BSCRA racers put this team together. John and son have had many attempts at the HO 24hr Leman.

*FLBT.*

A BSCRA based team which have had an ever increasing interest in the HO scene, especially since their clubroom was destroyed in an arson fire, and other forms of racing were investigated and tried out.

*Race Control.*

Made from the Race controllers and members from a BSCRA club in Brighton, SE England. One team member had never raced a HO car before this event!

As racing begun at 10:30, DHORC took an early lead and held their own out front with fastest lap times and winning all lanes but white. Only FLBT came as close to DHORC with DHORC getting 314 laps on blue and FLBT getting 313.

Allsorts had a difficult start with a new chassis showing less ground clearance, causing it to ground out on all tyre sizes. A replacement chassis was sourced and able to start the race with the other teams, but various troubles continued to creep in and precious time was lost each time.

ToJoMo had a slow start with a slow motor costing them laps. A new motor let their pace increase and the lap times dropped and the laps came in thick and fast and letting them have a winning lap counts in the second and third hours. However, less than average laps due to a few offs and car troubles later on pushed them down the field.

Pinewood, FLBT and Race Control toyed position all day with good consistent laps being put in all day. Few car troubles were had by the 3 teams with only regular cleaning and a pickup change carried out by the teams.

Drives by the experienced 1/32 pinewood racers ensured that they were always on the pace.

FLBT's Clive put in some very impressive lap times and the rest of the team continued to put in consistent lap times with few offs, eventually resulting in a very close 3rd position. Race controls penalty for a marshalling offence brought the gap down to 1 lap!!!

Race Controls Phil Hemsley had one of the best drives. Having not 'played' with HO cars before, he was straight on the pace putting in some demon laps.

In the end the laps count was:

**DHORC Evo        1930 laps**

**Race Control        1808**

**FLBT                     1807**

**Pinewood RW      1761**

**ToJoMo                 1726**

**Allsorts                  1538**

**136 ft x 1930laps = 262480 ft travelled.**

**That equates to 49.71 miles travelled by the race winning car and team. At an average speed of 8.29mph.**

Prizes were awarded to the winners DHORC who received a Trophy, individual medals, certificates, AFX Stickers and AFX Mega G’s

2nd placed team, Race Control all received Certificates, AFX Stickers, Mega G Pit Kits and a AFX Banner.

3rd Placed team, FLBT all received Certificates, and AFX stickers.

4th Placed team, Pinewood Raceway all received certificates.

All those who took part in the event received a keyring with the race details on it to keep as a memento of the event.

Many thank were given for all the racers coming along and making it a very enjoyable and memorable day.

Thanks was also given to AFX for providing many of the prizes.

Also, thanks went to Pinewood Raceway for their hospitality and allowing us to use their venue.