



Forgettable Weekend for Luff and LDM

Unlucky circumstances robbed the Lucas Dumbrell Motorsport (LDM) team and their driver, Warren Luff, of their desired results throughout the Falken Tasmanian Challenge weekend at Symmons Plains Raceway.

Aboard the team's # 30 Gulf Western Oil supported VE Holden Commodore; Luff struggled for results in the two races over the weekend, which was the latest round of the 2011 V8 Supercar Championship. In the opening race of the weekend, where he had qualified 27th, Luff sustained a bent steering arm in the opening lap after slight contact with another competitor and it resulted in a lengthy pit stop to fix the damage. The team managed to get Luff back out on track, although a total of six laps down on the leaders, and finished in 26th place.

Luff posted the 26th fastest lap in qualifying for the second race and was hopeful of finishing what was a tough weekend on a solid note. Even with the best intentions, Luff went out in the second race on the Sunday, but was hampered by brake problems in the early stages. These brake problems required yet another lengthy pit stop in order to overcome the issue. The team was successful in solving the issue, but when they re-entered the track they had lost a total of five laps. With a slim chance of improving their rear of field positions, Luff focused on circulating and did so with promising signs. At the fall of the chequered flag for the second, Luff managed to show plenty of speed and recorded the 12th fastest lap of the race.

The speed the LDM team demonstrated in the latter stages of the second and final race was the lone shining light from what was a bleak weekend. Luff said that the team has shown that they have the race speed to be a regular Top 15 contender, but they need to get on top of their qualifying performances.

"We've shown all year that we've got what it takes to run competitively in the races, but we just need to get on top of our runs in qualifying and last weekend was just another example of that," expressed Luff. "It was pleasing to be able to take some positives out of a tough weekend, but we'll fight on and I'm confident that we'll be able to bounce back next weekend."

There is now a sort turn around for the LDM team, as they will contest the penultimate round of the 2011 V8 Supercar Championship this weekend (November 19 and 20) at Sandown International Raceway in Victoria for the Norton 360 Sandown Challenge. The Sandown circuit has been a happy hunting ground for Luff in the past and the highlight was result was his podium finish in the Sandown 500 in 2004 driving for the Dick Johnson Racing team with Steven Johnson. Luff is looking to be able to continue that with a good result driving for the LDM team this weekend.

To find out more about LDM visit www.ldmotorsport.com.au or Gulf Western Oil visit: www.gulfwestern.com.au

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