

BRENTOR ROAD RACE 2

RACE REPORT

BY CARLA HAINES

My first road race of the season and I was pretty nervous. I have competed in a few crits before but its not quite the same.

I had a good spin on the turbo just to warm my legs up a bit. There were only 6 females in the race which wasn't too bad.

The start was pretty much the same as in a Crit a bit slow so people could get in to there positions. The laps were roughly 5 miles of undulating roads. We had 5 laps to do which was pretty good.

On the 1st lap I sprinted up a hill and made a break just to see how the riders reacted. No one really did anything so I just kept leading for a bit then eased the pace a bit for them to catch up again. I think they were a bit shocked and it was quite unexpected to but that's what happens in road racing.

The first two laps were quite easy. We worked through and off for a bit until it came to the hill leading on to the 3rd lap. I decided to pick the pace up a little bit on the climb but nothing strenuous. When reaching the summit I realised myself and another rider (Gail Aspen) had made a break. I thought lets pick up the pace a bit more so we can keep going and increase the gap.

We worked really well together taking turns on the front. I was stronger on the hills than Gail so tended to lead on them. I pushed the pace more and more on the final two laps so I knew we had a good lead and try to slowly drop Gail.

The last sharp left hand turn on the last lap I could see the finish in the distance. It was a slight climb and at least a quarter to half a mile away. Gail was out of her saddle already so I just tucked in behind her.

As we got about 200m-300m to the finish I changed gear and sprinted out of my saddle and left Gail behind. I had won my first road race!! 😊

I was really pleased with how the race went..If I know I can go harder then that's what I will do else It wont be proper racing. It was a great experience and enjoyed it, so will hopefully be able to do the next one.

From that win I think I have now moved up to 2nd cat which is even more good news 😊