

## **Oran Park Weekend Not a True Indication of Wood's Pace:**

Kyle Wood openly admits that his outcome to the third round of the New South Wales (NSW) Formula Ford Championship last weekend (June 17 & 18) at Oran Park Raceway didn't serve justice to the pace that he had shown and as a consequence it has now seen him drop from fifth to languishing down in eighth in the Championship point standings.

The driver of # 22 [www.Alpanel.com.au](http://www.Alpanel.com.au) / Subway supported RF98 Van Diemen qualified in seventh and progressed forward in the opening race to fifth, then was turned unfortunately taken out in the second race and fail to finish, and after starting from the rear of the grid in the third and final race of the weekend Wood placed eighth after he was forced to take evasive action whilst successfully avoiding an opening lap incident that cost him valuable track time.

Wood looked back at his weekend, as one that could have been a lot better had good old lady luck been on his side.

“The long and the short of it is that I was disappointed with how the weekend turned out, I thought I had used up all of my bad luck in the opening round at Wakefield Park, but that obviously wasn't the case,” mused the 20-year-old.

“I came into this weekend full of confidence after our positive run at Eastern Creek and everything was going well in Friday's practice as we were at the pointy end of the field in each session.

“In qualifying I was held up in lapped traffic and that hampered my chances of getting down a good lap and seventh was where I ended up, which wasn't where I wanted to be as I had strong hopes of being in the first two rows.”

After making encouraging progress in the opening race where he placed fifth from his seventh place on the starting grid, Wood had a spanner thrown in the works in the early stages of the second race on Sunday morning.

“I got away to a good start and was well placed in fourth when the safety car came out due to an incident back in the field on the opening lap,” recalls Wood.

“Once the safety pulled off (the track) I had a good run coming on to the main straight and I was brake tested by a car ahead of me and that ruined my momentum and saw me get swamped on the restart.

“I managed to get a few positions back going into turn one when I copped a hit from behind which turned me around and I stalled the car. I tried to restart the car, but it wouldn't fire after numerous attempts and I disappointingly failed to finish.”

Due to recording a non finish in the second race, Wood started from the rear of the grid for race three and in the end of the 10 lap event he finished in 8<sup>th</sup>.

“I was pleased with a Top 10 result in the third race things could have been better if I hadn’t been caught up in the opening lap incident in turn one and after that I was just playing catch-up.”

The fourth round of the NSW Championship on July 29 & 30 will see Wood and his team return to Oran Park Raceway, and this time they are hopeful of getting in a test day prior to the event.

“I certainly hope we can get a test day in, as that will allow our team to try a few new things with the car,” Wood enthused.

“For example this weekend we tried a number of different things with the car, but a race day isn’t the most ideal place to do those sorts of things, especially when it’s so touch and go, and you just simply cannot afford to take those gambles with the competition being so close.”

Wood now sits eighth in the NSW Championship Standings with a total of 126 points.

To find out more about Kyle Wood visit his official website: [www.KyleWood.com.au](http://www.KyleWood.com.au)

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