

British Grand Prix

Alf Bullen, driving his Coventry Racing Cougar powered by a Johnson V6, emerged the winner of the British Grand Prix held at Chasewater after a tremendous battle with Peter Thorneywork. The race was decided on the result of two 1½ hour heats.

1st Heat

The lead was immediately taken by Peter Thorneywork in Embassy Cougar Too (Cougar/Johnson V6) followed by Peter Inward in Incisor (Milesmaster/Mercury T11X) and Andre Dierckx driving James Beard's rig Embassy Cougar (Cougar/Evinrude V6). By the 4th lap, Brown had moved up to 2nd place in Venus (Burgess/Cosworth) and was slowly closing the gap on Thorneywork. After 25 minutes racing Brown was forced to retire as one of his new gears disintegrated leaving Thorneywork and Bullen well clear of the field. The lead changed hands between these two throughout the next hours racing with Bullen just pipping Thorneywork by two seconds.

2nd Heat

The second heat began as the first ended with Bullen and Thorneywork continuing to fight it out. However, racing was stopped after ten minutes when the third place driver, Andre Dierckx, rode over the top of Brian Grimshaw's SE outfit, spilling wreckage across the course. The race was restarted but was reduced to an hour and a quarter and the fight between Bullen and Thorneywork restarted. In the final stages, Bullen opened up a 15 second lead which Thorneywork, despite putting up the fastest lap, could not close.



Alf Bullen receiving the trophy for his 1st major International win.

Class Results

Class Posn.	Name	Boat/Engine	Laps
Class ON			
1	A. Bullen	Cougar/Johnson V6	170
2	P. Thorneywork	Cougar/Johnson V6	170
3	H. Pelster (H)		165
4	P. Inward	Milesmaster/Mercury T11X	153
5	J. Edwards		150
Class OE			
1	J. Hill	Burgess/Mercury	136
2	D. Rundle	Burgess/Mercury	134
3	A. Hoy	Burgess/Mercury	128
Class SE			
1	D. Tilke	Burgess/Johnson	129
2	J. Knights	Nibo/Mercury	127
3	C. Wall	Burgess/Evinrude	127
Class SD			
1	G. Higgins	Barracuda/Volvo Penta	104
2	P. Wilde	Fugitive/Volvo Penta	100
3	M. Clayton	Clayton/Johnson	79