

The format of this race was the same as previously, an invitation class plus an open class. These consisted of four minute, 6 cell races.

The invitation class has got to be one of the toughest formats of all. A total of 6 two wheel and 6 four wheel drive races. Points are scored from finishing positions with two race scores to be dropped.

The track was a little different this year with the 180% bank bend turned into a 90%. This turned out to be a much faster track. The large concrete corner markings proved to be lethal, just touch these and the cars would roll over. The surface was damp clay which meant the use of foam tyres and even faster speeds.

The winner of the open

class received a 35 inch television as their prize. (It took him and three of his mates to carry it away!) plus an invite to next years invitation race.

In the invitation class last year Jamie Booth came second to Masami Hirosaka with his Tamiya cars. This year racing for Kyosho he must of felt fairly confident. But as Jamie found out anything can happen at this sort of race and track.

After the two wheel drive races, the point situation was close, with Satoshi Kayano and Masami Hirosaka at the top. Craig Drescher the best placed British driver, with Marc Neale and Rory Cull having a private battle in the middle of the field. Jamie had not been happy with his car in practice and spent a lot of time rebuilding and modifying it to make it similar to his team mates. When it came to racing all the luck he had

was bad.

In the four wheel drive Masami looked unbeatable and had clinched the overall win with one round still to go, so the rest had to fight it out for the remaining places. Second place was between Craig and Satoshi Kayano. Unfortunately Craig had drawn a tough heat while Kayano had an easy run. Kayano therefore gained second place. Rory managed to get a win and so edge in front of Marc in their private battle. Marc was driving really well with his Yokomo, it was the first time he had raced the car since leaving Kyosho.

# Reedy JAPAN

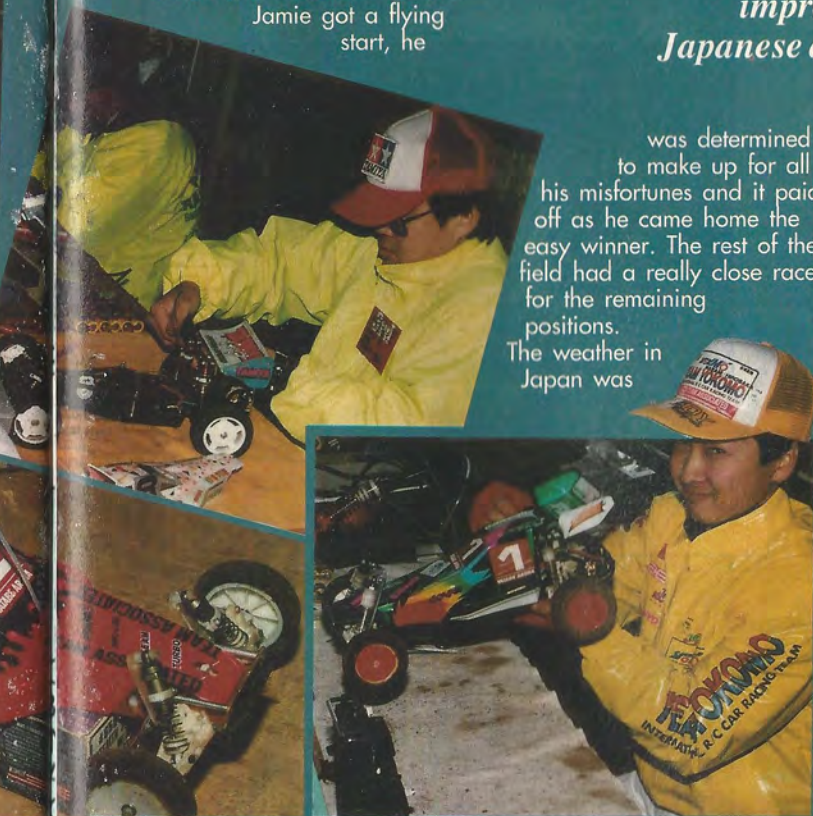
The very last heat saw what must have been the most competitive race with the four Americans, three British and Masami Hirosaka. Jamie got a flying start, he

*Masami Hirosaka confirmed yet again that he is the man to beat in off-road. Roger Cull reports on another impressive win for the young Japanese driver at the Reedy race.*

was determined to make up for all his misfortunes and it paid off as he came home the easy winner. The rest of the field had a really close race for the remaining positions. The weather in Japan was

almost like home with frequent rain and snow showers. Although the arena is covered it was still bitterly cold. One of the highlights of the meeting was the look on the Japanese faces when the British and Americans had a snowball fight. I am sure they thought they were completely mad. But they joined in with cheers and clapping at the amazing water fight after the presentation where even the man himself Mike Reedy tried to join in!

The next round of this tough series of races will be held in this country on May 23, 24 and 25th at the Aire Valley track. An excellent chance to see some of the worlds best. I understand that spectators facilities will include a grandstand. See you there!



The winners on the rostrum! Masami proved yet again that he is still the best. Life at the Yatabe Arena isn't all fun - Craig Drescher shows just how cold the track can be! Right: Taki form Tamiya works on his TRF201. Far right: First major outing for the Kyosho Lazer of Jamie Booth.

Pos	Name	Total
1	MASAMI HIROSAKA	14
2	SATOSHI KAYANO	15
3	CRAIG DRESCHER	16
4	BRIAN KINWALD	22
5	MARK PAVIDIS	31 1-3
6	KRIS MOORE	31 1-1
7	SATOSHI MAEZUMI	31 1-0
8	HIROSHI SUZUKI	33
9	RORY CULL	36
10	KIYOKAZU SUZUKI	37
11	MARK NEIL	38 1-1 2-1
12	KAZUTAKA SUMIDA	38 1-1 2-0
13	HIDEKI KAJIWARA	39
14	JAMIE BOOTH	40
15	HIROYASU KIKUCHI	41
16	HIROYUKI MATSUMOTO	45
17	J.D.BECKWITH	46 1-1
18	MASAYUKI MIURA	46 1-0
19	TOSHIHIRO NOMOTO	47
20	YUKIO WAKASUGI	49
21	MAHITO SASAKI	61 3-1
22	TATSUYA SANPEI	61 3-0
23	HIROMITU KIMOTO	65
24	FUMITO TAKI	68

Pos	Name	2WD	4WD
1	MASAMI HIROSAKA	RC10	Yokomo
2	SATOSHI KAYANO	RC10	Yokomo
3	CRAIG DRESCHER	RC10	Yokomo
4	BRIAN KINWALD	RC10	Yokomo
5	MARK PAVIDIS	RC10	Yokomo
6	KRIS MOORE	Triumph Laser ZX-R	
7	SATOSHI MAEZUMI	RC10	Yokomo
8	HIROSHI SUZUKI	JRX	Yokomo
9	RORY CULL	RC10	Yokomo
10	KIYOKAZU SUZUKI	Tamiya	Tamiya