



WRS Opens Saturday at Scotia Speedworld

May 26, 2009

If you were with us last Saturday at the track, you saw two fantastic races from the Maritime League of Legends and CARQUEST Pro Stock Tours.

The Maritime League of Legends Tour saw their race cut short to 49 laps following a wild ride taken by Port LaTour's Jeff Atkinson as he went flipping end over end down the front straightaway as more than a half dozen cars piled into the wreck behind the 15 car. Last season's points champ Ian Mollins (Berry Mills, NB) and Jeff DeCoffe (Bedford) waged a war up front for the top spot before the two made contact in the second turn with less than ten laps to go. Chris Johnson (Halifax) and Justin MacNeil (Bedford) battled with Elmsdale's Cy Harvey for the win in the feature but in the end it was MacNeil scoring a big win in the first race over Johnson and Harvey.

MacNeil will begin his attempt to duplicate what Mollins did one year ago on Saturday – win the Maritime League of Legends Tour and Scotia Speedworld Weekly Racing Series Legend titles in one year! "We're certainly going to give him (Ian) a run for his money this season," MacNeil said in Victory Lane on Saturday. With nearly 40 Legend cars in the Maritimes and weekly fields averaging in the mid-twenties in 2008, it will be a well earned title in '09 for the driver who ends up on top of the heap in September.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE CARQUEST PST RACE – VISIT MY CORNER AT MARITIMEPROSTOCKTOUR.com!

Their INEX siblings are also on the docket for Saturday afternoon as the Bandoleros will hit the track for their first race of the Summer of '09! Many of the front running cars are registered to compete in 2009, including all three former track champs DJ Casey (Hatchet Lake), Shelby Baker (Fall River) and Dylan Blenkhorn (Truro). Two drivers that have been racing down south this season are registered as well. Last season's Canadian champ Brad Eddy (Lower Sackville) is planning a couple of runs with the Maritime League of Legends Tour in 2009 and has raced down south as recently as last weekend at Speedway 95 in Hermon, ME with the North East Legend Car Auto Racing tour (NELCAR). 2008's co-Rookie of the Year Ryan Mackintosh (Amherst) has teamed up with Dan Snyder Racing and Chris Woods Racing and has enjoyed multiple weekends down in the Southeastern states! Add into the mix the return of Emily Meehan (Rawdon), Brad Bevan (Middle Sackville), the Butchers (Jarrett and Cole, Porter's Lake) and the Ritcys (Jarret and Jacob, Lawrencetown) – you have the ingredients for another close fight for the championship in 2009!

One name not mentioned in that last paragraph – Brandon Niles. The Truro driver is moving up this season to contend for the Rookie of the Year award in the C&R Auto Supply Sportsman division! We already mentioned Scott Thibodeau (Williamswood) and last season's Hobby Stock titlist Mike Alexander (Cole Harbour) moving up to the division and it is possible that a few other rookies will be present on Saturday, creating one of the most heated battles for the award in recent years! Terry Roma (Chezzetcook) will be back this season to defend his title but he will have his hands full with the likes of Harry Ross White (Noel Road), Tony Leonard (Halifax) and Larry Fisher (Porter's Lake) among others.

The biggest change to the 2009 season is the Lockhart Truck Center's Hobby Stock division. Not only are the six-cylinder automatic race cars returning for another year, they will be joined in the same division by ¼ ton trucks! The trucks will eventually evolve into their own division once the Hobby Stocks are phased out but there are still drivers who are planning to stick by their cars. Pre-registered drivers include,



among others, former multi-time Hobby Stock champ Mark Wilson (Lantz), Ben Sheehy (Stewiacke), Randy Doucette (Bass River), Gordon Ritchie (Elmsdale) and rookie April Moore (Lakeside).

Rounding out the Weekly Racing Series schedule is the Miller Tire Thunder and Lightning divisions. Both divisions will have their '08 champs back to defend their titles as Derek MacCallum (Lower Sackville) and Andrew Starks (Truro) will be racing in the Thunder and Lightning divisions this season. Starks will be greeted with a field of rookies and returning drivers including Russell Smith Jr (Lakeside), Brian Parrott (Beaverbank), Dan Smith (Middle Sackville), Joey Sutherland (Sackville) and Dan Michaud, Jr (Lawrencetown) among the early registrations.

Some of the biggest car counts in the Thunder cars are expected this year as many drivers and a field of rookies are expected to mount a charge for MacCallum's title. Former champ Tim Webster (Beaverbank) is among the pre-registered drivers as well are Kyle Gammon (Sackville), Tyler Hawes (Porter's Lake), Dave Matthews (Kennetcook), Jeremy Hallett (Rawdon). Car counts were in the low-thirties last season for this division and early indications are that they will be at that level at the drop of the green flag on Saturday.

Speaking of Miller Tire, the fine folks that "go further" for you in the tire business want you to do the same for your favorite driver. Starting Saturday, Miller Tire is proud to present the "Miller Tire Going Further Fan Award", which will be given to the fan who shows the most support to their favorite driver on race day. Paint your face, bring a sign, wave flags, wear your driver's gear; anything to support your driver that you can think of. The winner will win a prize courtesy of Miller Tire for "Going Further" to support their driver!

Should something happen that Mother Nature decides to not be a race fan on Saturday, the program will be moved to Sunday. Keeps tabs on the website and the track hotline on Saturday should the weather start to look worst than Jeff's wreck last Saturday.

Questions or comments on Tim's Corner can be directed to me by emailing tim@timterryonline.com! We'll see you on Saturday!