



FOURTEEN STRAIGHT WEEKS OF FRIDAY NIGHT SHOWS TO DETERMINE CHAMPS AT SSW

June 10, 2009

I hope you all enjoyed the last non-racing Friday night until September 18th, because if you're like me you'll be enjoying some great racing at Scotia Speedworld every Friday night until then! I spent mine in the tranquil and peaceful setting of Northern Colchester with family, soaking up the warm spring rays. The next fourteen though will be spent watching the cars and stars of the Scotia Speedworld Weekly Racing Series as they will race five divisions per night until their finale on Friday, September 11th!

The Friday night under the lights shows begin this Friday evening, June 12th as five of the six Weekly Racing Series divisions take centre stage at the 3/10 mile oval. The Miller Tire Lightning class is off this week, but they will resume the battle for the 2009 crown next week. Russell Smith Jr. from Lakeside is your point leader in the division and the main feature winner from two Sundays ago. Their four cylinder brothers in the Miller Tire Lightning cars will be on track though as a near thirty car field is expected to qualify once again for their 25-lap feature. Thirty-two Hondas attempted to run two weekends ago as Boulton Racing team-mates Kyle Gammon (Middle Sackville) and Derek MacCallum (Lower Sackville) battled for the win in the fight of the top two cars from one year ago. In the end it was Gammon who "doubled down" by winning his heat and the feature on that afternoon. Gammon has a two point lead on car #16, followed by Dave Matthews (Kennetcook), Matthew Scott (East Dover) and Kevin Clarke Jr (Goodwood) – all ten or less points out from the Hella's Diner Civic for the lead!

The landscape of the Hobby Stock division was changed two weeks ago and it wasn't just because of their new sponsor Lockhart Truck Center coming on board. The division now includes race trucks and Gordon Ritchie (Antrim) showed that cars aren't the only thing that can go fast around Scotia Speedworld. He finished second behind eventual feature winner Brandon Watson, who doubled down to win his heat and the feature. Behind Windsor Junction's Watson and the truck of Ritchie was Terry Moore from Shubenacadie, who celebrated a birthday during the time we were off. He'll look to gift himself with a feature win on Friday night in the Lockhart Truck Center Hobby Stock division!

The Legends have shown they are one of the hottest divisions on the track this summer already, as each of their features this season has gone down to the final corners to decide a winner – though in both instances it has been Bedford's Justin MacNeill seeing the checkers first! Twenty-four cars showed two weekends ago for the first weekly show, including Moncton's Gary Bursey and Charlottetown's Gary Dunning. The two drivers visiting from out of province posted respectable finishes of 5th and 11th respectively, and Dunning leads all rookies early in the season in the division. Bursey sits fourth in the standings a mere seven markers out of first, which is held by car #10. Matt Moore (Falmouth), Ray Cox Jr. (Porter's Lake) and Steve Pye (Lantz) sit second, third and fourth in the points after one race. Pye had to fight his way back to the top five in the main feature on May 31st as he encountered problems in the heat race which saw him finish at the back of the order, however they got the #6 Stuart Pontiac Buick entry fixed and Mr. Pye wheeled it back up to the front!

In the closest finish from the WRS opening day – Harry Ross White muscled his Chevrolet to the outside of the Impala of Steve Ross (Waverly) to nip car #24 at the line for his first triumph of the season in the C&R Auto Supply Sportsman feature. The driver from Noel Road battled with Ross, defending champion Terry Roma (Chezzetcook) and division vet Darren Wallage (Enfield) for the win as the four put on a whale of a show for the fans in attendance. First to fourth, is the way they finished on track in the feature on May 31st. Don't count out Leonard Boutilier either, who is currently fifth in points. The Dutch Settlement driver is only five points out of fourth and was one of the drivers in the title hunt one year ago! Twenty-five cars raced on the first day in the C&R Auto Supply Sportsman division which proves the Sportsman division is one of the healthiest divisions not only at Scotia Speedworld, but across the Maritimes!



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Starting off our program on Friday will be the Sojourn Signs Bandoleros. Last season's closest points battle is looking like it could be heading that way again after only one race. Lower Sackville's Brad Eddy doubled down on opening afternoon but was chased down at the end by Amherst's Ryan Mackintosh. The youngster from Amherst has been busy during our off-week. While some of us congregated at Riverside International Speedway for the CARQUEST Maritime Pro Stock Tour for a pro stock show, Scotia Speedworld for a Monster Truck bash or sat back and watched some NASCAR racing or NHL hockey on the tube – Mackintosh was racing deep in NASCAR country. The driver from Amherst was part of the undercard for the UARA Stars Late Model event at Orange County Speedway (NC), posting an eighth place run out of thirteen cars in attendance before heading to Lowe's for round one of the Summer Shootout where he posted a thirteenth place finish in a massive 27-car field of Young Guns/Outlaw division Bandoleros. The Scotia Hyundai sponsored team will now rush home to defend their second place run on May 31st as they try to fend off the '07 track champ Shelby Baker (Fall River), Emily Meehan (Rawdon Gold Mines), '08 track champ Dylan Blenkhorn (Truro) and '06 track champ DJ Casey (Prospect Road) who run third to sixth in points behind Eddy and Mackintosh. The battle was intense two Sundays ago as it is expected to be this Friday night!

Remember, if you bring your USHRA Monster Jam ticket from the events last weekend, you will get into the gates on the grandstand side for only \$5! That monstrous deal is just beginning of the giveaways happening on Friday night as we will have our weekly spotters roaming the stands, presented by Miller Tire and Pepsi. If you are wearing your drivers apparel, sporting a poster or even showing your pride towards your favorite driver on track you could be winning a prize courtesy of Miller Tire in the Going Further Fan award. As well, if you buy an AMP Energy drink from Rudy's Catering and you are caught drinking said drink, you could win a prize from the fine folks of Pepsi.

It all begins starting at 7pm with opening ceremonies, followed by the full field of stock car racing at Scotia Speedworld! Strictly Hydraulics pit gates open at 4:30pm and are restricted to those sixteen and older except for the Bandolero drivers with grandstands opening at 5pm. It's all here on June 12th at Scotia Speedworld – come on out and check it out!

With that, keep the hammer down and we'll see you Friday at the track!