

Rent-a-Ride Program at the ZOO

**Fulfill a dream!
Give as a gift!
Unique corporate outing or retreat!**

**We provide EVERYTHING but the YOU!
An authentic race experience!**



The Kalamazoo Speedway's three year old Rent-a-Ride program returns to action on Friday, May 5, competing each night the Flip Flop Cyber Stock division races. A sell-out in 2015 and 2016, men and woman can try out the sport or simply fulfill a lifelong dream of taking the wheel on an authentic track, competing in an authentic race. Racers must be at least 18 years old to Rent-a-Ride with the minimum age for all other drivers set by NASCAR at 14. The Flip Flop Cyber Stocks is a low-cost entry-level division for men and woman who want to participate in weekly stock car racing but don't have the resources or experience to run in any of the four upper divisions.

The experience (\$295) includes a required mid-week orientation and practice session, all in-car and personal safety equipment, pit passes for the driver and two crew members, a track supplied safety/crew chief plus insurance and a NASCAR license. Drivers earn NASCAR points (imagine the bragging rights!), provide their own two-person pit crew, qualify their car through the hot lap session, run in a heat race plus race in the 15 lap Flip Flop Cyber Stock feature – just like the pros who run in the division from week to week.

Back for the 2017 season is Kasten Insulation Blasting & Coatings' challenge to Rent-a-Ride drivers. Kasten is offering \$500 BONUS BUCKS to any first-time Rent-a-Ride driver who wins the "A" Flip Flop Cyber Stock feature.

The Rent-a-Ride program has been a popular gift (birthday, anniversary, graduation) with one novice driver taking the checkered flag on his birthday, never previously having been behind the wheel of a race car. It's not unusual for a Rent-a-Ride driver to take the checkered flag in one of the heat races.



With a nod to the lack of driver and crew experience, all cars in the Flip Flop Cyber Stock division are front-wheel drive, have automatic transmissions and run on stock tires. For the pros who race in the division each week, this greatly reduces the need for extensive set-up knowledge. For Rent-a-Ride drivers, it means individuals can concentrate on things other than shifting. To keep all drivers on an equal playing field and ensure advantageous car set-ups aren't employed, the entire division might race in either direction from one week to the next. Long known for going the extra mile, Speedway owner Gary Howe and his crew canvass the countryside for suitable cars and spend the off-season in his garage building 12-15 new Rent-a-Ride racecars for the season.

An immediate fan favorite, the Flip Flop Cyber Stocks field averages 18-20 entries per night, four to six of them being rentals. That's enough cars to make it competitive but few enough to avoid a demolition derby. Feature races run surprisingly smooth despite some rather unique displays of car handling.



Rent-a-Ride dates sell out early so reserve your ride now. The last night to Rent-a-Ride in 2017 is Friday, August 18. Corporations and groups are welcome for a day or evening of team building or entertainment; group and corporate pricing is available. For more information or to reserve a car, contact the Speedway office at 269-692-2423 or Gary Howe at gary@kalamazospeedway.com.