



KALAMAZOO Speedway TRACK TALK August 9, 2017



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TONIGHT!!!

KALAMAZOO KLASH XXV featuring Kyle Busch
Sponsored by the West Michigan Toyota Dealers

IT ONLY COMES ONCE A YEAR



Practice 1:30
Qualifying 3:50
Driver Autographs 5:00
Racing 7:00

SERIOUS RACING

Named one of five epic short track race events in the US

\$50,000 total purse

125 lap Kalamazoo Klash XXV

125 lap ARCA/CRA Super Series

Who survives the last chance race?

Who goes home?

DON'T MISS OUT!



Sorry! To make sure there is enough seating and space for people to move in and out of the bleachers, this is a no cooler event.

Admission for Kalamazoo Klash: Adults \$25; 13-15 \$15; 6-12 \$5; 5 and under FREE
Pit Pass \$40

Exclusive Trackside Experience with Kyle Busch

If you waited to open your e-mail we might be sold out, but as of publication time we still had YOUR ticket!

- 🍷 Admission to the Kalamazoo Klash
- 🍷 Seating on the party deck (be assured a seat!)
- 🍷 Private autograph session with Kyle Busch (5:00 – 6:15 PM)
- 🍷 Dinner buffet and soft drinks (5:00 – 7:00 PM)
- 🍷 Exclusive designed T-Shirt that will not otherwise be available.
- 🍷 Add a “hot pass to the pits” for an additional \$18.



Kalamazoo Klash – A Bit of History

In the spring of 1993, Marty and Bobby Jones set out to put together a Super Late Model spectacular that would rival any pavement race in the country. And they succeeded. With ideas from some of the sharpest minds in the business, the “Klash” was established as the prize that hundreds of Midwest Late Model drivers would strive to add to their racing resumes. In 2017, Sweet Manufacturing created the Outlaw Super Late Model Series. The six-race Series travels to 3 different states and 5 different tracks. The Kalamazoo Klash and the Gary Terry “Follow Your Dreams” 125 make up two of the six-race Series. At stake is a \$20,000 point fund with \$2,000 going to the Series champion and paying out (\$1,000) to the 15th place finisher. Several contingency awards are also up for grabs.



KALAMAZOO KLASH PRACTICE – LAST NIGHT



Yesterday afternoon, Klash event sponsor, the West Michigan Toyota Dealers, had a chance to join Gary Howe (Speedway owner/promoter) and Shawn McLaughlin (Co-Race Director) in meeting with Kyle Busch. To offer representatives of the dealerships an opportunity to visit the pits as drivers were arriving and see the track from a different perspective, the get-together was held in the tower. Ryan Warning gave the representatives a chance to experience the oval from the not-yet-released 2018 Toyota Camry (the pace car for the Klash). Busch was engaging, answering questions about his racing career and his family with tales peppered with humor. Busch shared that driving for Joe Gibbs Racing is his job (albeit one he likes) but it’s the short track racing and pitting himself against talented racers who haven’t gotten the “big break” like Terry Senecker or Tyler Roahrig to see how he stacks up coupled with being able to develop and work on his own cars that he’s passionate about. He offered that he’ll have driven Outlaw Super Late Models twice, when he was in 2014 and in a few minutes when practice starts.

Busch met his wife, Samantha, when they were both working for the same sponsor at a racing event, him giving rides on the track and she taking tickets. She didn’t know who he was and he wanted her number (it took him two tries). They married in 2010 and have a 2 year old son, Brexton, already showing signs of following in his dad’s footsteps.

Pictured to the right is Amanda Hatton, one of the two Toyota team members working the Toyota display during the Klash. The display area is located in the Victory Lane on the midway, next to concession/beer barn. Check them out and enter to win a contest!



Once the practice started it was Brian Bergakker posting fast time in the Outlaw Super Late Models with a lap speed of 12.257 seconds. That's 110.141 MPH and 161.54 feet per second. He was followed by Kyle Busch, Brandon Lyons, Tyler Roahrig, and Steve Needles. Terry Senneker Jr., is the defending Klash champion.



John VanDoorn posted the fastest time in the ARCA/CRA Super Series with a lap speed of 12.944 seconds. That's 104.295 MPH and 152.97 feet per second. He was followed by Travis Braden, Brian Campbell, Kyle Busch and Chase Purdy. VanDoorn was a few feet short of a win at the 2014 Klash, won by Kyle Busch (pictured). Brian Campbell is the defending champion in this Series.

Kalamazoo Speedway is proud to have attracted Kyle Busch to race at this event as well as proud to have attracted a field of 42 talented Super Late Drivers and 27 ARCA/CRA drivers. There are as many "back stories" to this event as there are drivers. Will Andy Bozell earn his 5th Klash win and tie Terry Senneker Jr. for the most Klash wins? Will Senneker pull off a miracle and be able to race (during a testing session earlier in the week his car developed fatal engine troubles). Will points leader Mark Shook continue his winning ways and take his first Klash? What about one of the



Sauers (owners of the South Bend Motor Speedway), Kevin Sauer's #24 car is pictured). Will Tyler Roahrig earn his first Klash win after three second place finishes? Will Brian Bergakker find victory lane after his two second place finishes. What about rookie Andrew Brest? Don't read about it later, experience it. See you tonight!

LOOKING BACK – AUGUST 4TH RACING






With the 25th running of the Kalamazoo Klash happening tonight, we couldn't quite bring ourselves to use the traditional "rainout" black border. Most of our immediate area really needed the rain, but it sure would have been nice if the rain had fallen overnight.

IN THE MAKE READY CHUTE

Friday, August 11: NO RACING

We're back to our weekly race schedule on **Friday, August 18**. All divisions race for those all-important season championship points.

-  All Divisions Race
-  Pre-Race Autographs
-  Pre-Race Kids Backpack Giveaway

Join us in the infield to get to know your favorite drivers, get their autographs or take a photo or two. Plus it's the annual giveaway of kids' backpacks. See you then!



Friday, August 25 is Season Championship Night featuring the five Kalamazoo Speedway weekly divisions with the finale to the regular season being a 100 lap feature for the Outlaw Super Late Models.



THE PLACE TO BE FOR FAST, CLEAN, FAMILY FUN!