



# KALAMAZOO Speedway TRACK TALK February 14, 2018



*1<sup>st</sup> Open Practice! 58 days*

## IT'S ALMOST THAT TIME!!!



The Daytona 500 marks its 60<sup>th</sup> running this Sunday and you know what that means? It's almost racing time at Kalamazoo Speedway. Only 58 days until the first open practice (April 14) and 71 days until the season opener (April 27) featuring the five weekly classes with the Outlaw Super Late Models running the GT Products Intimidator 100.

Speaking of the Daytona 500, the inaugural "Great American Race" was held in 1959, the year the Daytona International Speedway opened. Not to brag, but Kalamazoo Speedway has the Daytona International Speedway beat by 9 years; the Zoo running its first race in 1950. Since 1982, the 500 has been the season opener for the Cup series. Dale Earnhardt Jr. will serve as this year's Grand Marshall, giving Junior Nation, and everyone else, an opportunity to make some noise. For fans of the Daytona 500, test your chops on 500 trivia.



<http://www.funtrivia.com/en/Sports/Daytona-500-7728.html>

## DON'T FORGET

### Class Rules for 2018

The individual class rules and the general rules have been incorporated so drivers don't have to pull up two documents (check out the link below). Any changes over the course of the season will be written up in a tech bulletin and incorporated into the actual rules for each class impacted.



<http://www.kalamazoospeedway.com/driver-info/rules/>

## Kalamazoo Speedway/Lane Automotive Point Fund

You'll find the point fund for 2018 at the link below plus a couple of new features for the upcoming season. Now there's a financial bonus for drivers who race in each scheduled points race for their class. Also new, the track champion for each class will receive a 15 punch pit pass for the 2019 season.



<http://www.kalamazoospeedway.com/driver-info/payout/>

### Website

We've been busy updating and freshening up the website. Check us out. There's information for fans, drivers and even ideas for businesses or organizations to elevate their visibility in the competitive marketplace.

### Reserved Pit Stalls

Reserved pit stalls are now available for full time race teams. Bottom pit stalls are \$100 and top pit stalls are \$50 for the full regular season. There are PLENTY of unreserved free spots; however, if drivers have a large enclosed trailer or want more than one stall for a teammate and want the stalls next to each other, you can make that happen. Reserve stalls by visiting the Kalamazoo Speedway winter office (Howe Patio in Plainwell) or call the Speedway office (269) 692-2423.

### Discounts!!!

Who doesn't like a bargain? Well have we got some for you! Discounted grandstand passes, pit passes and skybox rentals are available now. Call (269) 692-2423 to purchase yours.

#### GRANDSTAND PASS

The 10 Punch Grandstand Pass (\$100) is good for 10 - \$12 events. Use any number of punches per visit (e.g., if you bring 4 people, you can use 4 of the punches for that visit). If you attend a \$15 event, simply pay \$3 cash plus one punch.

#### SEASON PIT PASS

Pit passes may be purchased as a 10 punch (\$275) or 15 punch (\$400) pass. These passes are good for any Kalamazoo Speedway sponsored event during the 2018 season. One punch is good for one day (e.g., three punches would be needed for the 3-day Super Shoe Nationals).

#### SEASON SKYBOX (8-PERSON)

Rent an 8-person skybox for every Kalamazoo Speedway sponsored event in 2018 (\$3000). No exclusions.

### WEEKLY SKYBOX RENTALS

(when available)

Weekly Rental	\$12 Event	\$15 Event	\$18 Event	NDD Event (June 30 or September 15)	Kalamazoo Klash XXVI	Super Shoe Weekend
8 Person	\$200	\$250	\$300	\$325	\$400	\$500
16 Person	\$375	\$450	\$550	\$600	\$625	\$850
16 Person (Deluxe*)	\$425	\$500	\$600	\$650	\$675	\$900

\* with restroom and kitchenette

## NEW ADDITION TO THE HOWE FAMILY

There's a new JJ in town as Jonathan James made his appearance late this past Sunday night. Track owner, Grandpa Gary Howe (pictured) is explaining to his first grandchild that it's only 14 more years before he can drive the #43 and take up where Grandpa left off. The proud parents are (daughter) Kellie Jo and MJ, you see where the JJ came from? No, he wasn't named for the elder JJ, Jason Seltzer. Kidding aside, congratulations to Gary, Donna, Lacey and the proud parents!



## DRIVER BIRTHDAY TRIVIA

We were missing a number of Driver Information Sheets for 2017 so the charts that follow aren't all inclusive but given there isn't any racing news to share this month, we thought we'd include some trivia!

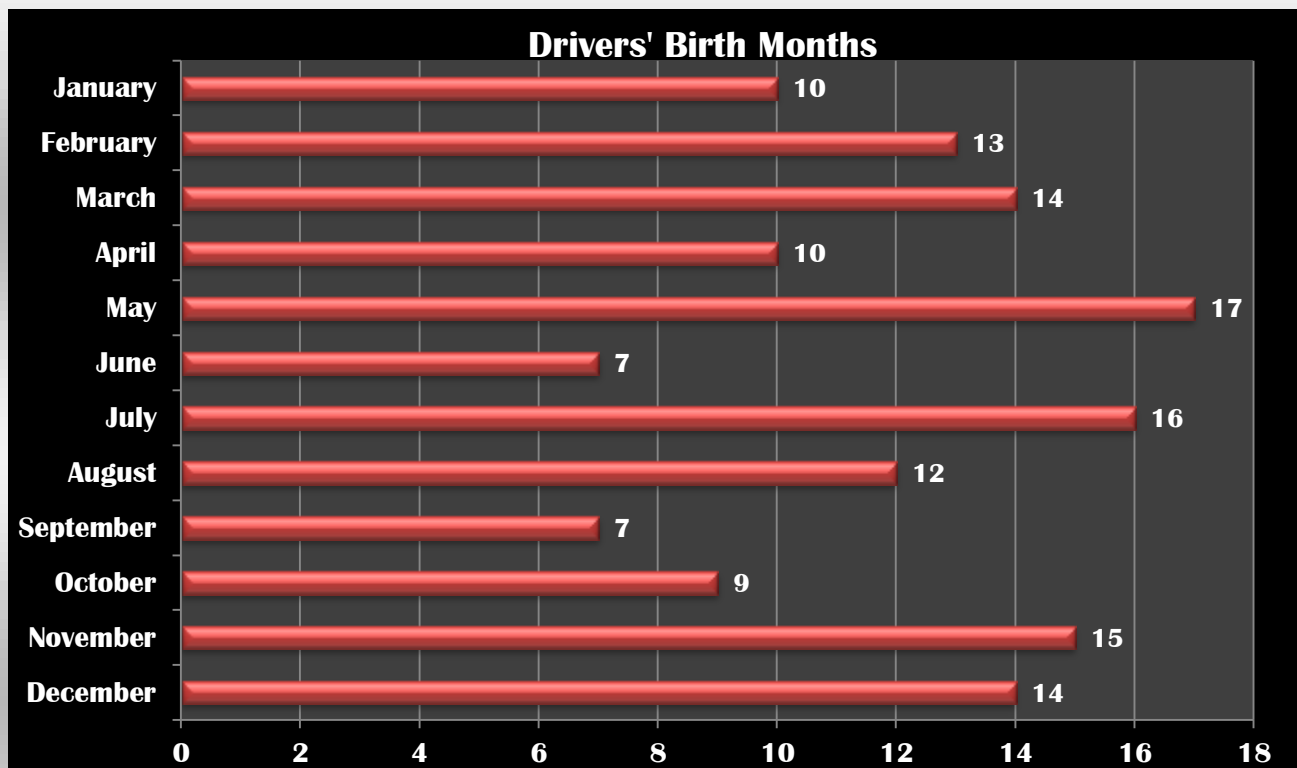
Heath Bronkema celebrates his birthday today (Valentine's Day).

Keith Wilfong, that firecracker, was born on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Joe Gonzales was born on Veteran's Day.

A few holidays bounce around from year to year and this year we've got a couple of Easter birthdays (Carl Burlingham and Pete Doxey); Larry Richardson's birthday falls on Thanksgiving in 2018.

May, July and November were the most popular birth months for Speedway drivers with 15 or more drivers being born in each month. Nationally, according to the CDC (2006), the top birth months were July, September and October.



Represents 144 of the 194 drivers who earned points in 2017

Drivers' birthdays fall on 118 days of the 365-day year. Interestingly, 35.4% (24 drivers) share a birthday with one or more other drivers. (See next page) Headline: Kalamazoo Speedway proves in a scientific study that race car drivers are more apt to be born in May, July or December! (Yes, we are making fun of our trivia.)

### Drivers Sharing a Birthdate



What would a Kalamazoo Speedway newsletter be without a couple of race related photos?? Featured are the cars of Andrew Locey (left) and AJ Foote (because they boldly raced in pink). Happy Valentine's Day! ❤️

