

# TRACK TALK

**April 23, 2021** 

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# **TECH BULLETIN (51719) - TIRE SOAKING**

As the rules for each class state, there is **Absolutely No Tire Soaking or altering of the tire of any kind allowed at Kalamazoo Speedway.** It doesn't say that teams can go down to a certain softness or Durometer number—**NO TIRE SOAKING PERIOD!** 

Effective May 24, 2019, any team will be subject to the track confiscating a tire(s) of our choice off the driver's car. We are in no way accusing a team or driver that they have soaked tires; we are simply trying to keep an even playing field between all cars. If an official is sent over to a car and tells a driver that one or more of their tires are going to be tested, the team is expected to cooperate fully without any incidents or backlash from team members. The driver or team member will remove the chosen tire and without allowing the tire to touch the ground, we will instruct the driver or team member to place the tire in the back of a golf cart where it will immediately be taken to the tire barn.

In front of the tire barn, and with at least one person from the team whose tire is being tested (driver, crew chief, car owner, etc.) present, we will follow the step-by-step directions sent to us from Blue Ridge Lab Tire Testing. We will cut two samples out of the tread of the suspected tire with a sterile razor blade knife and immediately seal it in an evidence bag. The sealed bag will be signed, dated (with the time noted) by a track official; the team representative will sign off on the evidence bag as well.

The bag will then be sent to Blue Ridge Labs in Hudson, North Carolina and results will be returned to the track within 5-8 business days. The driver of the suspected tire will be allowed to race the following week if the results are not back yet. The results from Blue Ridge labs will be final with no exceptions—this testing procedure is a black and white process; there will be no appeals.

If Kalamazoo Speedway chooses to confiscate a tire(s) for testing, that driver's pay and points for the entire event will be held until the test results have been returned. If the tire sample sent in is found to have been altered, the driver will forfeit their earned money and points from that night of racing as well as receiving a four-week suspension from participating in the next four events scheduled for that class. The driver will then pay a \$500 fine before being allowed to race at Kalamazoo Speedway. If the tire sample sent in is found to be clean, all points, money and a new tire will be given to the driver.

If a driver refuses to allow a tire to be confiscated by the track, the driver will forfeit his/her pay and points for the night and have a four-week suspension from participating in the next four events scheduled for that class.

Tire soaking is not healthy, it's expensive and it's illegal.

## **ZOO STOCK SPEEDS**

(From the Zoo Stock Rules) "The Zoo Stock class is an entry level class for entry level drivers. The track retains the option of moving a driver up to the Outlaw FWDs if the driver's performance exceeds most of the other drivers in the class. Cheap cars. Great fun for the whole family. A top lap time of 16.750 seconds has been established for Zoo Stock. Qualifying or racing below that time will result in being moved to the Outlaw FWD class. The time may be adjusted throughout the season to help maintain a level playing field in this entry level class. If a driver clocks a lap faster than the cap in qualifying or a heat race, the car and driver will be running in the Outlaw FWD class for the heat (when applicable) and/or feature. If a driver goes faster than the cap in the feature, the driver will be disqualified but will receive their start money. That's the rule: one lap speed under the cap and it's graduation to the Outlaw FWD class for the remainder of the season."

### **DRIVER REGISTRATION**

Drivers, please register through MyRacePass before coming to the track for the first time this season. Registration must be completed prior to picking up your transponder.

Please visit the Kalamazoo Speedway homepage: <a href="https://www.kalamazoospeedway.com">www.kalamazoospeedway.com</a>. On the right side of the site is an icon for MyRacePass. Click on the icon and you will be asked to create an account if you have not previously done so. Once you have an account, complete the registration form. This registration takes the place of the Driver Information Form that the Speedway has used for years. Registering ensures your car is scored when you are qualifying and racing. Thank you.



## **JULY 3, 2020 TICKETS FOR USE IN 2021**

Kalamazoo Speedway has the replacement tickets for 166 of you who bought tickets for the 2020 Season Opener and did not ask for a refund when the season was shuttered due to COVID. Tickets were only sold by phone using a credit card; a record was kept of each transaction. The Speedway processed refunds for anyone who requested one and doubled the number of tickets purchased for those who did not request a refund (our way of saying thank you). Those originally purchased tickets multiplied like bunnies over the off-season and if you purchased two tickets, you now have four. You may use some or all of your replacement tickets for the 2021 Season Opener. You may share them with your friends. You may save them for later in the season. It's up to you. The Speedway has factored in a percentage of the outstanding replacement tickets into its capacity count for the Season Opener (also referred to as the Intimidator 100). The Opener is anticipated to be a sellout given the capacity limits we are operating under. Replacement ticket holders will not be turned away from attending the Opener, nor will persons holding valid skybox tickets. While the majority of 2020 ticket holders did not pick up their 2020 tickets, scores of you did. Those old tickets are void; you must pick up your replacement tickets. If you have your old tickets; please return them at the time you pick up your replacement tickets.

Replacement tickets may be picked up at this Saturday's Open Practice. We encourage you to pick them up at the practice if possible. We recognize that many ticket holders are from quite a distance away and we do not expect anyone to drive in solely to pick up tickets. Replacement ticket envelopes will be available at every event until they are picked up. Replacement tickets may be used at any Kalamazoo Speedway sponsored event. They may not be used for the following leased dates: May 15, May 28, May 29 or August 7. If the ticket price for an event is higher than the face value of the purchased tickets (\$15), just present the ticket and pay the difference at the ticket window. If you are attending a \$15 race event (the face value of the tickets purchased in 2020) you DO NOT have to go to the ticket window; just proceed to the grandstand entrance and our gatekeepers will be happy to take your ticket. You may call or text (preferred) 269.355.4628 if you would like to verify we have tickets with your name on them.

#### EMAIL ADDRESSES



There are thousands of email addresses on the lists we use to send out emails via our e-mail provider. Based on the number of non-deliverable addresses and permanently full mailboxes we are thinking that some of the addresses on the list are obsolete; so it's time for a spring cleaning. While there is no plan to get overzealous, we might lose a couple of legitimate addresses. If we lose you (or if you would like Trace Talk delivered to your email address), please click on the email icon and simply add your address. Kalamazoo Speedway never shares addresses or bombards your mailbox.



Photos by A. Fisher



