

TRACK TALK

January 29, 2022

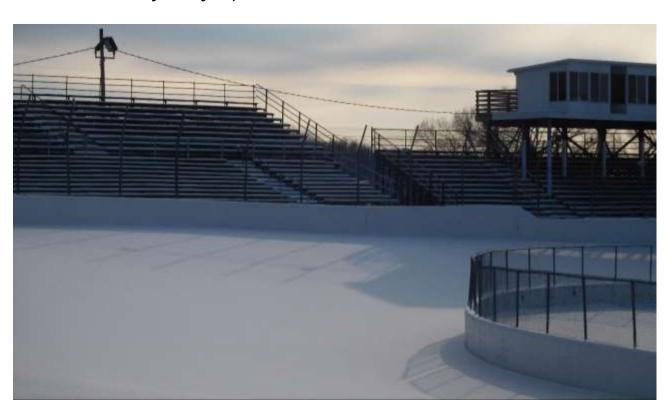
IN THIS EDITION

2021 BANQUET

2022 RENTALS

2022 TIRES

2022 TRACK IMPROVEMENTS



Well it's January and while the weather is decidedly inhospitable for racing, Kalamazoo Speedway staff is hard at work getting ready for its 72nd year of racing in 2022!

But wait! First, we need to wrap up the 2021 Awards Party. Those driver trophies, sponsor trophies and Top 10 driver posters for each class are more than ready to be presented to the drivers and sponsors who earned them. So mark your calendars for Friday, April 22 and let's come out to celebrate the achievements of our drivers. We'll start taking ticket orders in February (watch for the February newsletter). We'll be under the big (huge, in fact) big top at the Speedway with music from the Bronk Brothers. We'll provide complimentary beer (until it runs out), soft drinks and water plus there'll be a cash bar.

5:00 PM – Mingle

6:00 PM - Dinner

7:00 PM - Award Presentations

8:00 - II:00 PM Music and Dancing

And now it's on to the 2022 season. Here's what you need to know! Where it was possible to keep pricing the same, we've left prices at the 2021 levels. We weren't able to hold the price line on all concession items or tires, but we're trying to take as much sting out of the increases as possible.

Season Pit Stall Rentals. If you rented a seasonal pit stall in 2022 and want to rent the same space this year, you must let us know no later than February 14. After February 14, the pit stall will be considered "open" and it may be rented by another driver. There will be plenty of free paved spots (all with electric) for part-time drivers and for those who don't mind having a different pit location and different neighbors every week. Infield pit stalls are \$100 for the season and upper pit stalls are \$50. The rules governing seasonal pit rentals are located under the Driver Tab on the navigational bar of the Speedway website (www.kalamazoospeedway.com) in the document titled Season Passes, Pit Stalls & Skyboxes. Please call 269.492.4275 if you rented a pit stall last year and wish to rent it again in 2022. Payment is due at the time the reservation is made.

Seasonal Skyboxes. If you rented a seasonal skybox last year and wish to rent again in 2022, you must let us know no later than February 14. After February 14 the box will be considered "open" and may be rented by another guest. An 8-person skybox runs \$3,200, while the 16-person boxes run \$6,500 or \$7,200 depending on the floorspace. All 16-person skyboxes are equipped with a restroom. The rental fee includes all races (no practice sessions) on the schedule except the November 26 leased event (when skyboxes will have already been winterized). Seasonal rental fees are due no later than March 31; weekly skybox sales will begin on April 1. While contact has been made with all seasonal boxholders, we haven't heard back from everyone yet so skybox inventory for 2022 is unclear. Please call or text 269.355.4628 with your skybox reservations and questions.

Grandstand Punch Passes. A 10-punch Grandstand Pass (\$125) is good for 10 events with a ticket price of \$15. No problem purchasing more than one pass. 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 \$20 event, simply pay an additional \$5 plus one punch. Leased events are typically excluded. Whether passes are valid for a particular event may be located by clicking on the actual event listed on the Schedule page of the website or by reviewing the newsletter. Please call or text 269.355.4628 with questions or to order a pass; passes will also be available at the ticket windows once the season has begun.



Pit Pass Punch Cards. Pit passes may be purchased as a 10-punch (\$275) or 15-punch (\$400) pass. These passes are good for any event on the 2022 Kalamazoo Speedway schedule. One punch is good for one day (e.g., three punches would be needed for the 3-day Super Shoe Nationals). Leased events are typically excluded. Whether passes are valid for a particular event may be located by clicking on the actual event listed on the Schedule page of the website or by reviewing the newsletter. Please call or text 269.355.4628 with questions or to order a pass; passes will also be available at the ticket windows once the season has begun.

Sponsorships and Company Outings. Kalamazoo Speedway is still one of the hottest weekly short tracks in the Midwest. Contact <u>barbara@kalamazoospeedway.com</u> or call 269.355.4628 to discuss any track sponsorship opportunities, track signage or company outings on one of the two party decks. Decks may be rented with or without food and on race nights or during the week.

2022 Schedule. We posted the tentative schedule about two months ago and have been busy making enhancements to make the 2022 season even better. Many of the changes have added payout cash. We've included a few highlights. The full schedule is posted on www.kalamazoospeedway.com (click on Schedule on the navigation bar at the top of the website).

- Kalamazoo Klash XXX for the Outlaw Super Late Models is Saturday, July 16 (note the new month and day of the week!) and will pay \$12,000 to win and \$1200 to start. The Outlaw Super Late Models are also the headliner for the Season Opener when the Intimidator 100 will pay a cool \$5000 to win.
- The Hutcherson Construction Grand Slam for the Template Late Models is coming to Kalamazoo Speedway in 2022. Hot off the presses, the Templates will run three \$1000 weekly 35-lap point races (May 6, June 3 and July 22). The top three drivers from each race will be locked into the Grand Slam Finale (along with the top Template drivers in Speedway competition points as August 5 to bring the field to 12.) The August 12 Grand Slam Finale, also 35 laps but not a point race, will be limited to the 12 drivers who have advanced (or received a provisional) in the preceding weeks. The August 12 date is a BYE for drivers not in the group of 12. The Finale payout is \$2500 1000 600 400 250 230 225 220 215 210 205 200.
- The Street Stock will have a minimum of four races that pay \$750 \$1000 to win, including the Zeigler Auto Group \$1000 to win race on Saturday, April 23. July 15 marks the 3rd Annual Raber's Rumble which will be the warm-up event for the next day's running of Kalamazoo Klash XXX. The Rumble has a \$2000 to win purse.
- The Outlaw FWDs will start their season with the Autism Awareness Race paying \$1000 to win. They, too, will be racing several high paying special events.
- The mighty Zoo Stocks have it going strong in 2022 when right out of the gate they race for \$500 to win on April 23 plus have three other events paying \$350 \$1000 to win.

Tires. Who could have ever thought that the four round black donuts from Hoosier would have such an impact on the sport. Between material and labor shortages and raw material pricing going through the roof, both the availability and the tire pricing is sure to impact weekly short track racing across the country. Unfortunately, Kalamazoo Speedway doesn't get a free pass in all this mess. Speedway tire models and 2022 pricing follows.

- Toutlaw Super Late Models will race on the premium 3035/3045 tires at \$150 per tire.
- Template Late Models will race on the F-70 at \$140 per tire.
- Treet Stocks will race on the same ribbed 800 tire at \$130 per tire.
- Toutlaw FWD will stick with the 790 tire. The cost for a 14" 790 will be \$120 per tire.
- Zoo Stocks will remain on the same 2021 DOT tire program.

All tire prices include mounting and sales tax.

Outlaw Super Late Models will be allowed 4 tires per night. No soaking tires of any kind.

Template Late Models, Street Stock and the Outlaw FWD will be allowed four new tires only on the first week that their classes race. After that, each car will be allotted two new tires that may be purchased each week. On a few special races drivers may be allowed to buy a 3rd new tire. Each car in these classes will be racing on two used tires on most nights. No soaking of any kind will be permitted on the new or used tires. The exact procedure to ensure a level playing field each week will be announced shortly.

Randy's Facility Improvements. New ownership continues to have big plans for many facility improvements for both drivers and fans during the 2022 season. The biggest hiccup in completing these ambitious plans will be securing products and materials. Watch us grow with the following!

- A wheelchair lift will be installed to serve the 16 front stretch skyboxes and announcer's
- Many new concession selections are on the way with improvements planned to address the long concession lines.
- A new Snack Shack area for "Carnival Like" foods and treats for the youngster in all of us!
- Additional PA system upgrading and speaker replacement throughout the grandstands.
- Modern restrooms in the top pit area.
- Improved seating for the top pit patrons.
- Track lighting improvements will be phased in.
- Improved water pressure to eliminate the water issues that cropped up when fans packed the grandstands (expanding the restrooms on the midway had unforeseen consequences!)
- A pedestrian walkway over the track to allow much easier access to and from the infield pit area is on the drawing board!





FAST, FAMILY FUN FOR 72 YEARS

Photos A. Fisher

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