

TRACK TALK

July 18, 2022

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JULY 22, 2022 🤲 HUTCHERSON GRAND SLAM RACE #3

FRIDAY, JULY 22	
Pits Open	3:30 PM
Adult Pit Pass (13+)	\$30
Minor Pit Pass	\$15
Tickets Windows Open	3:30 PM
Adult Grandstand	\$15
Youth Grandstand (6-12)	\$5
Kids 5 & under	FREE
Program Starts	7:30 PM



We're back to our weekly race program and the Hutcherson Grand Slam Race #3 is the headliner. Template Late Model drivers will have one final race to lock into the Grand Slam Finale on August 12. The top three finishers in the

July 22 feature (who have not already locked into the Finale) will join the six drivers who have already qualified, bringing the field to nine. The remaining three drivers will move into the finale based on the point standings in the class following the August 5 race. The final qualifying race is a point race; the Finale is not. Drivers who have not qualified to run in the Finale will have a BYE on August 12. But the Templates aren't the only race on tap for July 22, the Street Stock, Outlaw FWD and the Zoo Stock all return to race.



JULY 29, 2022 * WEEKLKY RACING

FRIDAY, JULY 29	
Pits Open	3:30
Adult Pit Pass (13+)	\$30
Minor Pit Pass	\$15
Tickets Windows Open	3:30
Adult Grandstand	\$15
Youth Grandstand (6-12)	\$5
Kids 5 & under	FREE
Program Starts	7:30 PM

We're so sure that the mix of classes on July 22 will be a hit that we're doing it again on July 29. Catch those Hutcherson Construction Template Late Models, the Techworks Trailer Sales Street Stock, the O'Reilly Auto Parts Outlaw FWD and those Spartan Insulation Zoo Stock. The Outlaw FWD and the Zoo Stock will be running their high purse features (\$1,000 to win) and the Zoo Stock \$200 to win B feature sponsored by IAC-Mendon (they're hiring!). The season is flying by and will be gone before we know it. This is the last weekly race in July. Don't miss out!

Coolers are allowed if they are 14 inches or smaller, no glass! Coupons and punch cards are valid for this race as well as the July 22 program.

LOST & FOUND

If you've lost one of the following items, please contact us: 269.355.4628. After 30 days we will destroy cards and donate clothing.

Higher end Android cell phone Two youth jackets

Men's wallet (with ID) One youth sandal

Gift card Visa Credit Card

JULY 16, 2022 RACING RECAP

We can't say that we were happy to have rain show up for the July 15 Raber's Street Stock Rumble but there wasn't much to complain about on July 16 when the Kalamazoo Klash event turned into a triple header with the Rumble joining the Template Late Models and the Outlaw Super Late Models running in Kalamazoo Klash XXX. Including the Street Stock and Template last chance races we're talking 295 laps of high energy racing. It doesn't get much better than that.

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A few words of thanks are in order before we get to the main events. Thanks to the Ritchey and Howe families (and staff!) for making the event such a success. Thanks to the Ritter family and Kurt Ainsworth (Springport Mid-Michigan Speedway) for unselfishly adjusting their schedule for the betterment of the sport and for being our guests at the Klash. Thank you to our drivers and fans who so generously opened their hearts and wallets for the "helmet" pass to raise funds (\$4,000!) for the family of the two young boys who were hit by a car leaving Kalamazoo Speedway following the June 25 event. Thank you to Sweet Manufacturing for providing the trophies for this event for all 30 years! And last but not least, thank you to Denise and Jeff (Bubba) Williams for filling in for the track photographer who couldn't make the event. All of the photos in the Klash recap were taken by either Denise or Jeff.

How about those **Street Stock?** Matt Weenink was the fastest Street Stock in practice (14.809) while Kyle Ribble (right) took top honors in single car qualifying (14.814). Keith Wilfong (bottom right in the #75) won the 12-car, 20-lap last chance race with Terence Hesters in the runnerup position. Both of these drivers advanced to the Rumble with Wilfong finishing the race on the lead lap and one place out of the top 10.

Below, the Streets line up prior to the call to start engines.



In the 50-lap feature it was Raber's former #3 on the pole (driven by Chris Munson) proving the inversion does have a heart. Colin Bozell got out to an early lead and then fought to keep it fending off formidable challenges from Andy Rutherford, Brock Ganus, Lee Slaton, Austin Maynard and a charge by Brandon Zachary. Bozell kept his head and emotionally took the checkered flag and the \$2,503 purse (the extra \$3 in honor of Ben Raber's car number). Andy Rutherford was the runner-up, followed Brock Ganus, Austin Maynard, Jeffery Town, Brandon Zachary, Jeremy Young, Matt Weenink, Scott Whetzel and Dylan Stovall (all on the lead lap). (Pictures on the next page)



(Bozell's #I I taking the checkered flag, Bozell with family immediately following the win and posing for a photo in Victory Lane).



Moving up a class to the **Template Late Models**, Billy Shannon (left) was the fastest in both practice (13.869) and single car qualifying (13.754) for the Templates. Jeff Ganus won the 15-car, 25-lap last chance race followed by Chris Shannon, both advancing to the main event. Ganus skipped his victory lane accolades to attend to business in the pits (a wise decision as it played out). Brandon Lyons led the first lap of the 75-lap, \$5,000 to win feature event. Caution flew as Kenny Head's car stepped out and Head went to the pits with one lap

completed. Ganus pitted and returned to the tail of the field upon his return. While Ganus was making his way back to clean air through the rest of the pack, Eric McGlothlen, Dylan Stovall, Lucas Krick, Nick Pressler and Buddy Head were looking to out-gun the other guy. Nick Pressler ultimately prevailed in getting to the front and establishing a lead. Buddy Head had other thoughts on the subject and a dual was on. Meanwhile with all the action at the front, Jeff Ganus had worked his way back into contention and his car was sending out smoke signals from what appeared to be a left front tire rub. The crowd wondered how long that could go on? Long enough! With 16 laps to go, Pressler had the lead with Buddy Head still in the second position. Ganus, tire still sending out periodic puffs, moved around Head into second. Jerry Pierman

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and Eric McGlothlen are pushing as the laps count down to seven. Then it's Ganus and Pressler with under a handful of laps remaining. Pressler put up a fight but it was Ganus using the same drive he used in the last chance race and starting at the tail of the feature to take a second trip to Victory Lane in the same overall event. Pressler, last year's winner, was the runner-up followed by Buddy Head, Jerry Pierman and Eric McGlothlen completing the top five. Brandon Lyons placed sixth followed by Brandon Smith, Shawn Grace, Isaac Ross and Nathan Koester rounding out the top 10.



(Jeff Ganus comes up on top in the race with Nick Pressler, earlier in the race Ganus edges past Buddy Head to take second place and then in Victory Lane)

Kalamazoo Klash XXX sported a \$12,000 to win purse with a healthy \$1,200 to start purse. Brian Bergakker was on top of the leaderboard for the Outlaw Super Late Models' practice session putting up a time of 12.414. Tyler Roahrig (photo next page) put up the fastest time in qualifying (12.274). Roahrig was going for his fifth Klash win (which would tie him with Terry Senneker, Jr. for most Klash wins). Andy Bozell took the early lead (also trying to tie Senneker, Jrs'. five wins) and put up a substantial lead. With just over 50 laps in, it was Bozell, Matt Frazier, Phil Bozell, Brian Bergakker and JR Roahrig. Phil Bozell moved into second place; Tyler Roahrig was moving up. Phil Bozell moved around Andy Bozell to lead and with about 40 laps remaining, Bozell had a 1.4 second lead over Roahrig, Mark Shook, Andy Bozell and Brian Bergakker. Phil Bozell had increased his lead to 2.7 seconds when the announcer remarked with nine laps remaining that a rocket would literally be needed to catch Bozell. And then there was a caution with 7 laps left. Mark Shook, looking for his first Klash win, had one phenomenal restart and shot into second place; he ran upside of Bozell but couldn't get around him. At the line it was Phil Bozell winning his second Klash. Mark Shook was the runner-up followed by Tyler Roahrig, Brian Bergakker, Adam Terry, Andy Bozell, Matt Frazier, Corey Ryman, Zack Cook and Harold Fair completing the top 10.

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(Tyler Roahrig, fast time award, Phil Bozell #8 gets around Andy Bozell #83 and Phil Bozell in his second Kalamazoo Klash Victory Lane.)



(The 2022 Kalamazoo Klash drivers. Back row (from left): Corey Ryman, Rick Senneker, Steve Needles, Brandon Short, Zack Cook, Todd Harrington, JR Roahrig, TK Whitman, Matt Frazier, Aaron Zimmerman, Harold Fair, Kevin Stewart. Front row: Monte Tolan, Brian Bergakker, Mark Shook, Andy Bozell, Phil Bozell, Adam Terry, Tyler Roahrig, Paul Jakubik, Hunter Smith.

Photos: Klash Recap D & J Williams/A. Fisher