

KALAMAZOO SPEEDWAY est. 1950

TRACK TALK

August 15, 2022

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AUGUST 19, 2022 WEEKLY RACING

FRIDAY, AUGUST 19	
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



Only three regular season races remain in the 2022 season. This week we've got the Outlaw Super Late Models, the Template Late Models, the Outlaw FWD and the Zoo Stock racing. Street Stock have the night off. The Outlaw Super Late Models sponsor, Landscape Forms, is on the hospitality deck! We will see YOU at the races.



Individuals who purchased a pit pass on August 5 or fans who purchased a grandstand ticket may use their wrist band or grandstand ticket on any one of the next three nights (August 19, 26 or September 2) by presenting their grandstand ticket or wrist band at the ticket window.

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AUGUST 26, 2022 🏁 AUTO VALUE OSLM CHAMPIONSHIP NIGHT

FRIDAY, AUGUST 19	
Pits Open	3:30
Adult Pit Pass (13+)	\$30
August 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



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This year the Outlaw Super Late Model season champion will be determined on a different night than the rest of the weekly race classes. The Outlaws will be running the Auto Value '75 to determine the champion. As of this writing there are four drivers within 37 points of the point leader, Rick Senneker: defending champion Todd Harrington (-3), Paul Jakubik (-33) and Zack Cook (-37).

Season championships for the Template Late Models, Street Stock, Outlaw FWD and Zoo Stock follow on September 2. September 2 will also be the Crazy 8's make-up date. More details to follow on that! Point races are tight in all classes.

Coolers are allowed when they are 14" or smaller, no glass! Coupons and punch cards are valid for this race (and for the remainder of the regular season).

TECH CORNER

The General Rules have been updated for clarity. The General Rules are the same for each class and are contained in the class specific rules. Rules are posted on the website.

AUGUST 12, 2022 🏁 RACING RECAP

The five weekly classes all ran for the first time since opening night back in April. With the Crazy 8 program rained out on August 5, we moved autograph night and the back-to-school giveaway to August 12. The Crazy 8 program will run on September 2 (perhaps with a few adjustments) though a bit of early and unscheduled crazy snuck into August 12.

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Just shy of 150 backpacks were handed out to our younger fans and the pits were packed during the autograph session. Thank you to our race teams for making autograph night so rewarding and to race teams and staff for their generosity in donating backpacks and school supplies. We couldn't do it without you.



The very talented Michael Dunn-Haley (red) and Ben Schultz (turquoise), both with Nightmare Racing, put on a drifting exhibition around the track. Not content to merely show off their stuff around the oval, they also showed off their technical skill with synchronized moves. We'll be seeing them and others at upcoming events. The AutoMODIFIED Car Club is hoping to establish regular drifting events at the Speedway. Bring it!

The **Spartan Insulation Zoo Stock** put up a few surprises with Joe Carlin (16.759) qualifying at the top of the 32 car field in his first outing at the Zoo in 2022. Previous feature winners Ryan Diamond (also the Zoo Stock point leader going into the August 12) and Summer Velasquez put up lap times faster than the 16.750 permitted in the class and are now contenders in the Outlaw FWD class. Tim Sigourney (right), with previous heat races under his belt as well as being towed from the field a couple of times, won the 15-lap B feature.

The 20-lap A feature started out with a few quick cautions before settling down and Cody Warren (right) moving into the lead. A little brotherly rivalry between the Meades saw Rielly (2019 Champion) coming out ahead there. Cody Warren went on to take the checkered flag followed by Rielly Meade, Logan Meade, Chet Terry and Charles Anderson. The second half of the order started with Scott Monroe followed by James Moore, Aaron Anderson, Christina Rantz and John Gonzales. Logan Meade is the new point leader over Aaron Anderson (-83).



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Matthew Eley, Jr., put up fast time in the **O'Reilly Auto Parts Outlaw FWD** (15.087). Dave Leonard Jr., flew up to the lead early in the race from an 8th place starting position. Eley Jr. started in the 3rd position and couldn't advance any higher. Will Slaughter started 9th and moved through the field where he and Eley Jr. squared off before Slaughter moved ahead of him. At the line it was Dave Leonard Jr. (left), Will Slaughter, Matthew Eley Jr., Chris Harman and Dan Rigoni rounding out the top five. Rodney Russell II, Matt Eley, Brandon French, Ryan Diamond and Cory Sobraliski completed the top 10. Slaughter's point lead over Eley Jr. remains at 26.



The **Techworks Street Stock's** Jeremy Young qualified at the top of the 22 car field (14.988). Bob Metheny led the 30-lap feature for the first 11 laps before Ricky LaDuke made the pass with Danny Oxford taking the second position. With 5 laps to go the caution flew and a final shoot out was set up between LaDuke, Oxford, Colin Bozell, Jeremy Young and Matt Weenink. LaDuke (left) prevailed for his fifth trip to victory lane this season. Danny Oxford finished in the runner-up spot followed by Bozell, Weenink and Young. Blake Hybels led off the second half of the order followed by Bob Metheny, Jeffery Town Brain Slaton and Keith Wilfong. With the win, Ricky LaDuke extended his point lead over Jeremy Young to 47.



Was there a blue moon? Because how often are the **Landscape Forms Outlaw Super Late Models** not the headliner? Nonetheless, the Outlaws were in the house and though fewer in numbers than usual, it was a solid field and a decent race. Todd Harrington, the point leader going into tonight's race, was fast qualifier (12.513). Zack Cook started in the front row and maintained his lead over the field until only 13 laps of the 35-lap feature remained when a single car mishap forced early retirement. Matt Frazier had been running second and took full advantage of the change in circumstances and used that advantage to hold off

Doug True and Craig Everage. Rick Senneker appeared to have some nose damage but with a championship on the line made the best of what he had. At the finish it was Matt Frazier taking the checkered flag, followed across the line by Doug True, Craig Everage, Rick Senneker and Paul Jakubik. Despite Harrington's fast start, he wasn't able to finish the race and with no margin for error, Rick Senneker is the new point leader by a slim 3 points over Harrington. A lesson in "never give up". A lesson that was further refined in the Template race.

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In the **Hutcherson Construction Template Late Models**, it was the Hutcherson Grand Slam Finale with the field of 12 qualifiers. With a \$2,500 purse and bragging rights on the line emotions were running higher than usual. Lucas Krick hit a 13.858 in single car qualifying to start things out. In the 35-lap feature, a series of unrelated events took out a number of contenders and suspensions have resulted from a late race crash (see below). Buddy Head and Dylan Stovall had been running neck and neck trading the lead for 17 laps when, with 11 laps remaining, they

crashed, also taking out Jared Blanchard who was running 3rd at the time. Suddenly 21-year-old Taylor Sexton found herself in the lead with 16-year-old Nate Koester trailing. Lucas Krick was in the 3rd position having pitted under caution during an earlier track incident. The final 11 laps of the race was a shootout with Koester taking the lead and the checkered flag for his first win at Kalamazoo Speedway; he'd raced at Little Kalamazoo Speedway for the previous 5 years. Taylor Sexton (also a Little Kalamazoo Speedway graduate) was the runner-up followed by Lucas Krick, Lon Putnam and Ken Papesch all on the lead lap. Honorable mention goes to A.J. Foote, also involved in an earlier track incident, who pitted and returned to the race with his hood secured with what looked like straps of electrical tape. Billy Shannon is the point leader in the class; the Finale was not a point race.

Says Gary Howe, "Once again, tempers have been flaring up out of control as we have two more suspensions to hand out. Come on guys—we're better than this!"

Dylan Stovall has been suspended for two weeks (August 19 & August 26)

Buddy Head has been suspended for one week (August 19)



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Except as noted, photos by A. Fisher

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