

Law Tigers Arizona Mile

Law Tigers' 3rd annual Arizona Mile Flat Track Racing was held on Saturday May 12, 2018 at Turf Paradise in Phoenix. The race review is below, but there's other stuff to share about the day as well.

Attendance this year was \approx 8,000 people.

Opening ceremonies included presenting sponsor Buddy Stubbs riding his 1972 HD 750 for several laps; plus Ari Levenbaum of Law Tigers and Grand Marshal Adam Sandoval riding in carrying American Flags on their motorcycles.

Attendees had the chance to visit the pits and meet their favorite racers during the autograph session. To start the day there were 28 racers in the AFT Twins class & 24 in the AFT Singles class.

Other activities included Mini Bike races during a break on the main track. Racers were Adam San-

doval, Barry Caraway [CycleRides.com], Tony Mei [Ramjet Racing], winner Frank Stubbs [Buddy Stubbs HD], & Ari Levenbaum [Law Tigers].

There was a '70/80s 'Throwback Party' in the Throwback Pavilion. It included live music by 'Doc and Gal'. There was a display of 12 vintage motorcycles. A costume contest had 25 participants. Crissy Benyo was the winner. She & her guest were upgraded to a VIP experience at the race ~ including catered lunch & all access pass.

"Law Tigers would like to thank Giselle Levy for providing social media coverage of the Arizona Mile on the Law Tigers Facebook and Instagram pages. We would also like to thank Adam Sandoval for being Grand Marshal and the dedicated staff of Law Tigers for preparing for the event, especially

Bob Moellman, Red Fordyce and CJ Rodden. Also a big thank you to the Arizona Mile promoters Charlie Frank and Chris Morgan."

The Law Tigers are injury attorneys that also support & sponsor other aspects of the motorcycling community ~ including racing. "Law Tigers is looking forward to Arizona Mile 2019 and a chance to bring together the public and the racers to promote the sport of flat track." Learn more about the Law Tigers at www.lawtigers.com

Thank you Ari & Jeanine for sharing additional details & photos for this report.

Betsy

Videos from the day can be seen at
<https://youtu.be/T59uowmDDhQ> &
<https://tinyurl.com/ycnlw8sn>



PHOENIX, Ariz. (May 12, 2018) – American Flat Track held its first Mile of the season on Saturday afternoon, and it was only natural that the rider ranked first in the 2018 AFT Twins presented by Vance & Hines standings took center stage.

While the big Miles have made their legend over the years as ultra-tight drafting duels waged at triple digit speeds and measured by centimeters at the checkered flag, the Law Tigers Arizona Mile presented by Buddy Stubbs Harley-Davidson at Turf Paradise instead served as further testament to the current state of supremacy owned by reigning Grand National Champion Jared Mees (No. 1 Indian Motorcycle Rogers Racing SDI Scout FTR750).

The AFT Twins Main Event was expected to take shape as yet another strategic, too-close-to-call affair at the front, similar to last year's Arizona Mile. Mees immediately extinguished those hopes as he stormed to the front at the start and promptly assembled a multi-second advantage before his rivals knew what hit 'em.

By the time his fellow Indian Wrecking Crewman Brad Baker (No. 6 Indian Motorcycle Racing backed by Allstate Scout FTR750) had worked his way into the runner-up position, Mees already had more than a second's worth of padding. A handful of laps later and that gap was stretched out to more than three seconds.

A concerted late-race push by Baker, combined with lapped traffic and a conservative finish on Mees' part, made things at least appear a bit less certain at the end. Still, the champ managed to cruise to the checkered flag with 0.937 seconds in hand.

After the race, Mees said, "It was a long day, honestly. No offense, but I'm glad it's over. The track was pretty treacherous out there. Hats off to the whole AFT crew for trying their hardest to give us the best they could. There were some delays with track prep, and I just applaud them for throwing the best they could at this racetrack and giving us the best, safest track possible."

"In the Main Event I got a good start and was just able to run my own race. We got into some lappers at the end, and I thought for some reason maybe the tires were going away because it seemed we were slipping and sliding a bit more. So I just kind of paced myself there and was able to bring it on home for another victory."

That victory served as yet another reminder of the rarified air in which Mees has placed himself thanks to this historic run of form; his 34th career AFT Twins victory moves him out of a tie with Kenny Roberts for seventh all-time and into a tie for sixth with Bubba Shobert. It also further confirmed the fact that he is no longer just a spectacular Half-Mile performer, but an all-around master. Today's win was his seventh Mile victory (four of which have



Mees Masters AFT Law Tigers Arizona Mile Kevin Stollings and Dan Bromley go 1-2 in AFT Singles

come in the last year alone), moving him into a tie for 10th all-time in the discipline.

Runner-up Baker was another three-plus seconds clear of a tremendous scrap for the final spot on the box contested by Henry Wiles (No. 17 Wilco Racing/Willy Built/Bandit Industries Indian Scout FTR750) and Briar Bauman (No. 14 Zanotti Racing Kawasaki Ninja 650).

The two swapped the position repeatedly throughout the Main, with Bauman executing a bold outside strike on the final lap. However, the cagey Wiles, who's best known for his exploits in tighter confines, showed he's got a few Mile tricks tucked up the sleeves of his leathers as well. He squared Bauman up coming out of the final turn as they raced up the back of a lapper, and powered past at the stripe to put the finishing touches on another all-Indian Motorcycle podium.

Works Harley-Davidson ace Brandon Robinson (No. 44 Harley-Davidson Factory Flat Track Team XG750R) rounded out the top five.

Five races into the season and Mees has yet to get beat in a straight fight. Even with a DQ negating an apparent Atlanta Short Track victory, Mees leaves Phoenix with 100 points to his name, 25 up on second-ranked Wiles (75), with Bauman third at 72.

AFT Singles

The AFT Singles class continued to deliver the goods with a wild pack battle for victory at Turf Paradise. The win was ultimately taken by Kevin Stollings (No. 99 Roof Systems Honda CRF450R) over Dan Bromley (No. 62 KTM North America/Bromley Motorsports 450 SX-F) by a mere 0.057 seconds.

In doing so, Stollings joined Bromley, Brandon Price (No. 92 Parkinson Brothers Racing/DPC Racing Honda CRF450R), Ryan Wells (No. 94 RMR/AI Lamb's Dallas Honda CRF450), and Morgen Mischler (No. 69 Cycle Craft Yamaha/Rohde's Sales & Service Yamaha YZ450F) to become the class' fifth different winner in as many races this season.

Stollings said, "The track was a little iffy here and there, but there were good parts. My strategy was to just keep my line, avoid all the bumps I could, stay smooth and catch the draft if I could. Luckily I was out front and got a good drive. Glad I was able to get it, and they couldn't get past me at the line. It was pretty fun – it was real close."

Price – who controlled the race as much as any rider could manage during such a back-and-forth affair – was shuffled down to third at the stripe. Still, that result allowed him to hold onto his AFT Singles championship lead, albeit by just a single point over the on-form Bromley (85-84).

Jesse Janisch (No. 132 Roof Systems/West Bend



Photo Credit: Scott Hunter/American Flat Track

Harley-Davidson-backed Yamaha YZ450F) and Cory Texter (No. 65 CTR/Law Tigers Honda CRF450R) finished the race in fourth and fifth, respectively.

The excitement of the battle was interrupted momentarily when early leader Tristen Avery (No. 16 Ron Ayers/Mr. Sign Honda CRF450R) high-sided out of contention. Avery clipped Price's rear wheel after he, Price, and Stollings attempted to slide through Turn 3 three-wide on lap 10 of 15. The incident brought out the red flag, but the intensity picked right back up when the action resumed for a six-lap shootout for victory. Avery proved fit enough to rejoin the race, charging his way forward from the tail end of the field to finish just outside the top ten in 11th.

Meanwhile, the difficult early-season title defense of reigning AFT Singles champ Kolby Carlile (No. 1 Estenson Racing Yamaha YZ450F) became all the more difficult in Arizona. His day ended early due to a mechanical DNF in Semi 2. Five races in and Carlile is still in search of his first podium of the season. He's now 46 points back of title leader Price in 10th position.

How to Watch American Flat Track:

NBCSN and FansChoice.tv are the official homes for coverage of AFT. The complete schedule for AFT on NBCSN can be viewed at <http://www.americanflattrack.com/events-nbcn/>. FansChoice.tv remains a cornerstone of AFT's digital strategy, providing live streaming coverage of every event on AFT's live page while previous events and exclusive features are available on AFT's VOD page.

About American Flat Track:

AFT is the world's premier dirt track motorcycle racing series and one of the longest-running championships in the history of motorsports. Sanctioned by AMA Pro Racing in Daytona Beach, Fla., the series is highly regarded as the most competitive form of dirt track motorcycle racing on the globe. FMI on AFT, please visit www.americanflattrack.com, like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, check us out on Instagram, live stream the events at FansChoice.tv and catch all the AFT racing action on NBCSN.

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