

LAPOLT RULES THE UNRULY IN RON HILLS MEMORIAL

In a racing series that welcomes a wide variety of cars, all on DOT street tires, the Open Racing Challenge Series visited Bethel Motor Speedway for it's second visit of the 2022 season.

Skip LaPolt won on May 22, in his asphalt modified sporting a sprint car wing. Well if it worked the first time, why not try it again? LaPolt definitely had to work for it, on Saturday night with the likes of a few dirt late models, pro stocks, and street stocks in the field. LaPolt, in his modified, and Steven Deinhardt, in his dirt late model, were the front row for the start of the 40 lap main event. Deinhardt never lost sight of LaPolt, and closed in a few times while LaPolt was working through lapped traffic. In the end of the caution free event, LaPolt led green to checkered, with Deinhardt, Mike Morse, in another dirt late model, Joel Murns, and Charlie Houghtaling, in street stocks, filling out the top five. Deinhardt was the recipient of the Dirt on Asphalt Challenge bonus.

It has been a long and grueling year for Josh Wilbur and crew, hunting for the first win of the season in the Nascar Pro Stock division, being plagued with mechanical woes. Everything finally lined up for Wilbur on Saturday, winning the event wire to wire. Wilbur stepped out to a comfortable lead from the green flag, while a fierce battle between Brandon Decker and John Velde Sr, was going on behind him. While Wilbur was taking the checkers at the end of the 20 lap event, contact between Decker and Velde Sr, sent Decker through the grass across the line for second, while Velde Sr, John Velde Jr, and Sal Macchio rounded out the top five.

The Pedersen's Checker Won INEX Legends event saw a first time winner, with invader Mike Benton taking home the honors. Benton conquered the field starting outside pole, getting the advantage on lap 2 from pole sitter Lexi Przybylinski, in her best showing of the season. Benton would lead Jeff Farrugia, Przybylinski, Jack Polan, and Donald Doran across the line.

Also winning on Saturday Night of the two day racing weekend were, Dan Curry in the Modified 4 cylinders, Dan Houghtaling in the 4 cylinder Advance, Tucker Katz in 4 cylinder Novice, Mason Schaub in the INEX Bandoleros, and Madison White taking home her first ever win in the Beginner Bandoleros.

In the first official Small Car Sunday of the year, as Mother Nature finally cooperated, found Izabella Babcock taking home the checkers in the 5-9 Junior ChampKart division, Olivia Hedges in the 10+ Junior ChampKarts, Lily Impellizzeri in the INEX Bandoleros, Brian Bauernfeind in the MiniVan Enduro, and Richie Smith in the Open Comp Enduro.