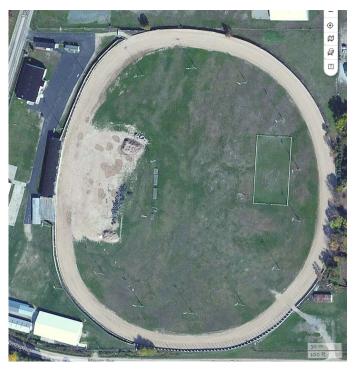
# SOD MAHLE/Clevite BLC Championship at Manistee County Fairgrounds Friday

This Friday, August 4th, for the first time since July 18, 1999, Engine Pro Sprints On Dirt presented by ARP will be racing at the Manistee County Fairgrounds in Onekama, Michigan. The fifth and final race of the MAHLE/Clevite Beyond Limits Challenge will determine the 2017 BLC champion.

The Manistee County Fairgrounds, SOD's northern most venue, will challenge racers with its large, d-shaped, almost circular track, unlike most configurations competitors have experience on.



The BLC offers drivers the opportunity to focus on a minichampionship with its own point fund within the full Sprints on Dirt series points chase. The point fund pays the top five finishers in the BLC. The MAHLE/Clevite Beyond Limits Challenge Champion will be awarded \$1,000 and is currently led by Steve Irwin (Fenton, MI) over Thomas Schinderle (Berkley, MI). Gregg Dalman (Bellevue, MI), Chris Jones (Allen, MI),

and Robert Bulloch (Pittsford, MI) round out the current top five.



The race will be part of the 2017 Onekama Days that include a wide range of activities on the first full weekend of August, including arts & crafts, 5k run and walk, tennis tournament, classic car show, church bazaars and luncheons, hospitality tent, kids' activities, dances, Friday night fireworks and a Sunday parade. Learn more about all Onekama Days activities at www.visitmanisteecounty.com/local-events/onekama-days.

For more information about MAHLE/Clevite, go to https://catalog.mahle-

aftermarket.com/eu/home/index.xhtml?l=EN. To learn more about Engine Pro, go to www.enginepro.com. For more information about ARP, go to www.arp-bolts.com. For more information about Sprints on Dirt, visit www.sprintsondirt.com and the Sprints On Dirt Facebook page.

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(Lucky Dog Sponsor), KSE Racing Products (Hard Charger Sponsor), XYZ Machining (Season Sportsman & Crew Chief Sponsor). In addition, SOD contingency sponsors include: Allstar Performance, ATL Racing Fuel Cells, BR Motorsports, Diversified Machine Inc. (DMI), K2W Precision/Keizer Aluminum Wheels, King Racing Products, Kistler Racing Products, Maxim Racing, Motor City Racing Promotions, Racing Optics, Rod End Supply, Schoenfeld Headers, Simpson Racing Products, Walker Performance Filtration.

# Joe Swanson Tops SOD Driven Racing Oil Battlegrounds Bash at Butler Motor Speedway



Swanson (Etna Green, Indiana) started from the pole, but a lap one red for a Shebly Bilton and Andy Chehowski crash on the back straightaway, and a quick caution for Tyler Bearden's spin halted action quickly. Once back under green, Swanson took the lead over Tim Evilsizer. Boston Mead took 2<sup>nd</sup> on lap 7, then Steinebach took the spot on the next lap. Steinebach was getting faster as Swanson battled traffic and on lap 16 he shot by the leader and opened up a small lead. On lap 18 the caution flew for Tyler Rankin's spin. Steinebach held the lead in spite of heavy pressure from Swanson through lap 22 when the caution came out for Doug Zimmerman's spin. Swanson charged into 1<sup>st</sup> on lap 23 and led the final 2 laps to win the epic battle.

COMP Cams heat race winner Boston Mead suffered a broken rocker arm at the end of his heat race and SOD point leader suffered the same fate while leading the Engler Machine & Tool heat. While it looked like both drivers were done for the night, they borrowed the parts needed to run the feature and their perseverance paid off. Mead started  $3^{\rm rd}$  and finished  $4^{\rm th}$ . Irwin started  $22^{\rm nd}$  and charged to a  $6^{\rm th}$  place finish, easily winning the KSE Hard Charger Award.

Doug Zimmerman led the 27-car field in qualifying with a 13.272 lap.

The SOD program was completed with typical SOD efficiency through the combined efforts of SOD competitors and Butler Motor Speedway officials.

**Qualifying** — Lane Automotive/MSD Ignition Fast Masters (fast qualifiers) \$50 each

Group	Time	#	Driver	
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Engler Machine & Tool Heat	13.337	16	Ryan Ruhl
COMP Cams Heat	13.272	19Z	Doug Zimmerman
RockAuto.com Heat	14.008	105	Jay Steinebach

**Heat Races** — Winners \$100 each

	Eng	ler Machine &	Tool Heat #1
	#	Driver	Contingency
1	16	Ryan Ruhl	
2	4T	Josh Turner	Kistler Racing Products
3	1a	Mark Aldrich	Racing Optics
4	7Z	Zach Hampton	
5	20A	Andy Chehowski	
6	27K	Ryan Kirkendall	
7	58	Tony Bures	
8	0	Steve Irwin	
9	5QB	Quentin Blonde	

	COMP Cams Heat #2					
	#	Driver	Contingency			
1	27B	Boston Mead				
2	5B	Chad Blonde	Allstar Performance			
3	7J	Joe Swanson	Racing Optics			
4	19Z	Doug Zimmerman				
5	49T	Gregg Dalman				

6	10J	Chris Jones	
7	39	Tylar Rankin	
8	6	Tyler Bearden	
9	91L	Lexi Adgate	

	RockAuto.com Heat #3					
	# Driver		Contingency			
1	41	Thomas Schinderle				
2	10s	Jay Steinebach	Kistler Racing Products			
3	9E	Tim Evilsizer	Racing Optics			
4	27	Shelby Bilton				
5	21T	Troy Chehowski				
6	8	Justin Ward				
7	47	Robert Bulloch				
8	3G	John Gurley				
DNS	52	Zac Broughman				

#### Feature

	#	Driver	Start	Contingencies
1	<b>7</b> J	Joe Swanson	1	Rod End Supply
2	10s	Jay Steinebach	4	Rod End Supply
3	16	Ryan Ruhl	5	Rod End Supply
4	27B	Boston Mead	3	Schoenfeld Headers
5	41	Thomas Schinderle	8	ATL Racing Fuel Cells

6	0	Steve Irwin	22	
7	4T	Josh Turner	6	Allstar Performance
8	5B	Chad Blonde	9	
9	1a	Mark Aldrich	7	King Racing Products
10	19Z	Doug Zimmerman	11	
11	49T	Gregg Dalman	14	Keizer Aluminum Wheels
12	7Z	Zach Hampton	10	
13	9E	Tim Evilsizer	2	
14	21T	Troy Chehowski	15	
15	10J	Chris Jones	17	
16	8	Justin Ward	18	
17	27K	Ryan Kirkendall	16	
18	58	Tony Bures	19	
19	47	Robert Bulloch	21	
20	39	Tylar Rankin	20	
21	6	Tyler Bearden	23	
22	27	Shelby Bilton	12	
23	20A	Andy Chehowski	13	

KSE Racing Products Hard Charger — Steve Irwin (+16)

BR Motorsports Contingency (feature top 10 draw) — Mark Aldrich

DMI (Diversified Machine) Contingency (feature 12-16 draw) - Chris Jones

Perfit Corporation Lucky Dog — Zach Hampton

Get to know Driven Racing Oil at http://www.drivenracingoil.com. For more information about Butler Motor Speedway, go to www.butlerspeedway.net.

For more information about Engine Pro go to www.enginepro.com. For more information about ARP, go to www.arp-bolts.com. The full 2017 Sprints on Dirt schedule, rules, current news, and other information are available at www.sprintsondirt.com.

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Driven

Racing

Oil

## Battlegrounds Bash Race #2 for SOD Saturday at Butler



This Saturday, July 22nd, Engine Pro Sprints On Dirt presented by ARP racers head to Butler Motor Speedway for the second race of the Driven Racing Oil Battlegrounds Bash.

Litchfield's Chad Blonde drove from 6<sup>th</sup> to win the first BB race, the Driven Racing Oil Battlegrounds Bash WW III presented by Jim Coffey & Son Plumbing & Heating, feature on June 17th over Ryan Ruhl and Thomas Schinderle.

Blonde has two Butler wins in 2017, winning a weekly feature as well as the BB race. Ruhl has two  $2^{nd}$  place finishes at Butler this season. Last Friday, Blonde won the King Engine Bearings King of Michigan race at Hartford Speedway and Ruhl finished  $2^{nd}$ .

All three races of the Driven Racing Oil Battlegrounds Bash three-race series are being contested at Butler Motor Speedway, the birthplace of dirt track sprint car racing in Michigan and where many SOD competitors started their careers. The BB will pay the points champion \$1,000; the top five will each earn part of the point fund. The third and final race will be on August  $12^{th}$ .

Driven Racing Oil Battlegrounds Bash points				
	Car #	Driver	Points	
1	5B	Chad Blonde	150	
2	71H/16	Ryan Ruhl	142	
3	41	Thomas Schinderle	135	
4	49T	Gregg Dalman	130	
5	105	Jay Steinebach	125	
6	4	Josh Turner	122	
7	0	Steve Irwin	119	
8	1A	Mark Aldrich	116	
9	10J	Chris Jones	113	
10	27K	Ryan Kirkendall	110	
11	20A	Andy Chehowski	108	
12	5QB	Quentin blonde	106	
13	71H	Ryan Grubaugh	104	
14	46	Robert Huisken	102	
15	7R	Nic Rogers	100	
16	21T	Troy Chehowski	98	

17	7J	Joe Swanson	96
18	27B	Boston Mead	94
19	17x	Dain Naida	92
20	19	Doug Zimmerman	90
21	47	Robert Bullock	89
22	18	DJ Lamance	88
23	77	Andrew Scheid	87
24	6	Tyler Beardon	80

Driven Racing Oil shares SOD's leadership spirit in the highly competitive field of racing lubricants. No oil is tested in competition like Driven Racing Oil, and no oil that you can buy has proven itself in Victory Lane like Driven Racing Oil. That's a track record of a leader that you can believe in.

Get t o know Driven Racing 0il at http://www.drivenracingoil.com. For more information about Butler Motor Speedway, go to www.butlerspeedway.net. Engine Pro, go to www.enginepro.com. For more information about ARP, go to www.arp-bolts.com. Follow SOD at Facebook www.sprintsondirt.com and o n at www.facebook.com/sprintsondirt.

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# Steve Irwin Up to SOD's MAHLE/Clevite Beyond Limits Challenge at Crystal



Car owner Adrianna

Irwin, BLC winner Steve Irwin, crew chief (2016 XYZ Machining Crew Chief of the Year) Nathan Whitney

Engine Pro Sprints on Dirt presented by ARP 2001 champion Steve Irwin drove his familiar Flying Zero, Krieger Engine powered Maxim to the win in the exciting MAHLE/Clevite Beyond Limits Challenge Race #3 at Crystal Motor Speedway last night.

Starting outside, front row, the Fenton, Michigan, SOD point leader took the lead at the start over pole starter Brad Lamberson. Irwin maintained a small lead for five laps before 2015 SOD champion Gregg Dalman charged around Lamberson and then Irwin for first. Dalman was clearly the class of the field and opened up a commanding lead. Meanwhile, Jay Steinebach's hard work paid off as he grabbed second from Irwin and began closing in on Dalman who had to contend with heavy traffic as the race wound down.

Steinebach was just four car length behind Dalman when he made

hard contact with the outside wall at the flag stand completing lap nineteen. Steinebach ended up against the wall facing turn four with a flat right front tire bringing out the caution flag and ending his impressive drive.

With five laps to go, Dalman had early leader Irwin behind him and things dramatically changed. It was clear that Dalman's handing had gone south as Irwin charged into the lead and drove away. Dalman continued to struggle as first Thomas Schinderle, then Shawn Valenti passed him also. Schinderle narrowed Irwin's lead and pulled alongside the leader once, but it was a wakeup call for the leader as he opened up a small lead and was in complete command at the end.

Irwin (Engler Machine & Tool heat) and Valenti (COMP Cams heat) drove to convincing heat wins. Early engine wows turned leading SOD sprint car rookie of the year into a spectator for the entire program.

Irwin now leads the MAHLE/Clevite BLC points over Schinderle, Dalman, Chris Jones, and Robert Bulloch. He also leads SOD championship points over Dalman, Schinderle, Jones, and Robert Huisken.

**Heat Races** — Winners \$100 each

	Engler Machine & Tool Heat #1				
	#	Driver	Contingency		
1	0	Steve Irwin			
2	10s	Jay Steinebach	Kistler Racing Products		
3	49T	Gregg Dalman	Racing Optics		
4	41	Thomas Schinderle			
5	8	Justin Ward			
6	10J	Chris Jones			

7	2K	Matt Kinzinger	
8	24	Eric Smith	
9	58	Tony Bures	
DNS	77	Andrew Scheid	

	COMP Cams Heat #2					
	# Driver		Contingency			
1	7	Shawn Valenti				
2	27	Brad Lamberson	Allstar Performance			
3	9E	Tim Evilsizer	Racing Optics			
4	3A	Mike Astrauskas				
5	89	Chris Pobanz				
6	47	Robert Bulloch				
7	91	Lexi Adgate				
8	6	Tyler Bearden				
9	31	Tanner Astrauskas				

#### Feature

	#	Driver	Start	Contingencies
1	0	Steve Irwin	2	Rod End Supply
2	41	Thomas Schinderle	8	Rod End Supply
3	7	Shawn Valenti	7	Rod End Supply
4	49T	Gregg Dalman	4	Schoenfeld Headers

5	27	Brad Lamberson	1	ATL Racing Fuel Cells
6	9E	Tim Evilsizer	3	
7	10J	Chris Jones	11	Allstar Performance
8	3A	Mike Astrauskas	5	
9	89	Chris Pobanz	10	King Racing Products
10	8	Justin Ward	9	
11	47	Robert Bulloch	12	Keizer Aluminum Wheels
12	91	Lexi Adgate	14	
13	58	Tony Bures	17	
14	6	Tyler Bearden	16	
15	31	Tanner Astrauskas	18	
16	10s	Jay Steinebach	6	
17	2K	Matt Kinzinger	13	
18	24	Eric Smith	15	
DNS	77	Andrew Scheid		

KSE Racing Products Hard Charger — Thomas Schinderle (+6)
BR Motorsports Contingency (feature top 10 draw) — Shawn
Valenti

DMI (Diversified Machine) Contingency (feature 12-16 draw) - Tyler Bearden

Perfit Corporation Lucky Dog - Chris Jones

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### Chad Blonde Wins Hartford King Engine Bearings KoM Battle



Shawn Valenti (3rd),

winner Chad Blonde, Ryan Ruhl (2nd)

Chad Blonde picked up his fourth Engine Pro Sprints On Dirt presented by ARP feature win of 2017 Friday night. It was his second King Engine Bearings King of Michigan series win at Hartford Motor Speedway and gives him a commanding lead in the KoM points.

Delta Ohio's Shawn Valenti took the lead over pole-sitter Linden Jones at the start of the feature from the outside front row before Mark Aldrich took over second. Then leading SOD sprint car rookie Andrew Scheid climbed the wall in turn three as the leaders completed lap one; with his car staying upright, Scheid slid along the top of the wall before dropping off the back of the wall and coming to a stop with what appeared to be nothing more than two bent front radius rods. Before another lap could be completed, Robert Huisken and D. J. Lamance tangled in turn three with Huisken flipping hard. Both drivers were okay, but their cars sustained heavy damage.

Back under green, Valenti held a small lead over Aldrich until

Ryan Ruhl took over second on lap 5, and a lap later, Blonde moved into third from his seventh starting spot. Blonde took second place on lap 7, then a caution for Austin Nemire's shredded left rear tire on lap ten gave the leaders a clear track. A crowd-pleasing battle followed, as Blonde pulled alongside Valenti twice, but Valenti found his groove and began opening up his lead. However, the leaders got into traffic again on lap fifteen. Valenti struggled with lapped cars and on lap 19, Blonde took the lead and drove away. Ryan Ruhl charged into second on lap twenty-one as Valenti continued to have trouble in heavy traffic. Blonde then cruised to a fifteen car-length over Ruhl and Valenti.

26 cars were on hand for the second of four King Engine Bearings King of Michigan races at Hartford Motor Speedway

**Qualifying** — Lane Automotive/MSD Ignition Fast Masters (fast qualifiers) \$50 each

Group	Time	#	Driver
Engler Machine & Tool Heat	15.139	0	Steve Irwin
COMP Cams Heat	14.652	7	Shawn Valenti
RockAuto.com Heat	14.864	5b	Chad Blonde

**Heat Races** — Winners \$100 each

	Engler Machine & Tool Heat #1				
	# Driver		Contingency		
1	1a	Mark Aldrich			
2	0	Steve Irwin	Kistler Racing Products		
3	19J	Linden Jones	Racing Optics		
4	20A	Andy Chehowski			
5	18	D. J. Lamance			

6	47	Robert Bulloch	
DNF	71H	Ryan Grubaugh	
DNF	27B	Boston Mead	
DNS	8	Justin Ward	

	COMP Cams Heat #2				
	# Driver		Contingency		
1	7	Shawn Valenti			
2	49t	Gregg Dalman	Allstar Performance		
3	71	Ryan Ruhl	Racing Optics		
4	2+	Brian Smith			
5	77z	Zane Devault			
6	46	Robert Huisken			
7	10J	Chris Jones			
DNS	11	Trey Smith			
DNS	12	Chris Gurley			

	RockAuto.com Heat #3				
	#	Driver	Contingency		
1	5b	Chad Blonde			
2	41	Thomas Schinderle	Kistler Racing Products		
3	77	Andrew Scheid	Racing Optics		
4	16	Austin Nemire			
5	6	Tyler Bearden			
6	70	Eli Lakin			

7	89	Chris Pobanz	
8	19	Brett Mann	

#### Feature

	#	Driver	Start	Contingencies
1	5b	Chad Blonde	7	Rod End Supply
2	71	Ryan Ruhl	8	Rod End Supply
3	7	Shawn Valenti	2	Rod End Supply
4	49t	Gregg Dalman	3	Schoenfeld Headers
5	0	Steve Irwin	5	ATL Racing Fuel Cells
6	41	Thomas Schinderle	9	
7	2+	Brian Smith	11	Allstar Performance
8	77z	Zane Devault	14	
9	1a	Mark Aldrich	4	King Racing Products
10	20A	Andy Chehowski	10	
11	27B	Boston Mead	19	Keizer Aluminum Wheels
12	19J	Linden Jones	1	
13	10J	Chris Jones	18	
14	6	Tyler Bearden	15	
15	47	Robert Bulloch	16	
16	12	Chris Gurley	20	
17	16	Austin Nemire	12	
18	18	D. J. Lamance	13	

19	46	Robert Huisken	17	
20	70	Eli Lakin	21	
21	77	Andrew Scheid	6	

KSE Racing Products Hard Charger - Boston Mead (+8)

BR Motorsports Contingency (feature top 10 draw) — Shawn Valenti

DMI (Diversified Machine) Contingency (feature 12-16 draw) - Chris Jones

Perfit Corporation Lucky Dog - Eli Lakin

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