

# 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 Huiskens	
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

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

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