

SOD to Baer Field for 2019 Jim Lipkey Memorial



ERIE, MI (December 18, 2018) – Baer Field Motorsports Park promoter Dave Muzzillo announced that Sprints On Dirt will headline the Jim Lipkey Memorial race as dirt track racing returns for one event on the 1/4 mile track in 2019 on Saturday, September 28.

Late Baer Field owner William James “Jim” Lipkey, 69, Kokomo, died October 14, 2018, after losing his battle with mesothelioma cancer. Jim joined the Army’s war effort in Vietnam and honed his sign painting artistry as the base sign painter, pin striping and air brushing flight crews’ helmets as well as recording “kill counts” on their helicopters and planes!

On returning from the war, he opened Lipkey’s Sign Service and for the next 40 years became known statewide as the man who could hand paint the best signs on buildings, race cars, trucks and everything else his customers asked for. He even pinstriped his father’s and brother’s caskets!

The Lipkey family, Bill and sons Victor and Jim, promoted

auto racing at Kokomo, Lafayette and Fort Wayne – both indoors at the Fort

Wayne Coliseum and later at Baer Field Race Track, now known as Baer Field

Motorsports Park. When Jim's father Bill

Lipkey died in 1999, Jim took over as owner of the Baer Field property

The first race on the Baer Field Motorsports Park new $\frac{1}{4}$ mile track was originally scheduled for Saturday, May 20, 2017. Unfortunately, very heavy rains turned the track into something more like "Baer Lake," but the track crew wouldn't give up

and surprisingly was able to get the track in shape for the Sunday rain date. Shawn Valenti, in his Log Cabin Tavern / Triple X Chassis entry, held off Joe Swanson to take home the win. Swanson settled for second and Landon Simon was third.

Full details about the Jim Lipkey Memorial Race will be released later.

Visit Baer Field Motorsports Park at www.baerfieldmotorpark.com and on Facebook. Sprints On Dirt can be found at www.sprintsondirt.com and Facebook also.

Engine Pro Sprints On Dirt

presented by ARP PRI 2018 Roundup



December 10, 2018 (ERIE, MI) – With PRI 2018 now a wrap, it was a great show, visiting many old friends and thanking our 2018 Engine Pro Sprints On Dirt presented by ARP marketing partners.

SOD title sponsors Engine Pro and ARP were visited, then it was on to our friends Hoosier Racing Tire, Hoosier Tire Midwest, COMP Performance Group, King Engine Bearings, MAHLE Motorsports, MSD Performance, Rod End Supply, ATL Racing Fuel Cells, Simpson Performance Products, King Racing Products, Allstar Performance, Motor State Distributing, Keizer Aluminum Wheels, Walker Performance Filtration, Shirt Works Racewear, DMI Racing Components, Ti22 Performance, Engler Machine & Tool, Maxim Racing, KSE Racing Products, Racing Optics, Schoenfeld Headers, Hepfner Racing Products, and Radical Race Gear.

Again, we thank all of our 2018 marketing partners and we will continue to work hard for our partners next year through a variety of continued programs and innovative new ideas, giving them the kind of vigorous marketing partnerships they have come to expect from SOD.

Safety was a major topic at PRI and the incorporation of additional cage support was first. Sprints On Dirt strongly recommends additional cage bracing in 2019 and it will be

mandatory in 2020. For anyone interested in having the bars installed, contact SOD partner Benic Enterprises at 765-573-5199.

The 2019 SOD schedule is a work in progress and, as everyone knows, SOD announces ONLY confirmed dates. Current 2019 dates are:

- 4/27 – Crystal Motor Speedway
- 5/04 – Crystal Motor Speedway (4/27 rain date)
- 5/11 – Butler Speedway
- 5/17 – Hartford Speedway
- 6/15 – Butler Speedway
- 6/28 – Hartford Speedway
- 7/06 – Butler Speedway
- 7/13 – Crystal Motor Speedway
- 7/26 – Hartford Speedway
- 7/27 – Plymouth Speedway
- 8/03 – Butler Speedway
- 8/30 – Hartford Speedway
- 8/31 – Crystal Speedway
- 9/21 – Plymouth Speedway

As we continue to work on 2019, additional speedways and race dates will be announced as they are confirmed.

The 2019 SOD rule book will be posted on the SOD website later this week. There are very few changes for 2019, the most notable is that the single-cone start/restart procedure tried at the end of 2018 will be permanent.

To learn more about Engine Pro, go to www.enginepro.com. For more information about ARP, go to www.arp-bolts.com. Follow SOD at www.sprintsondirt.com and the Sprints On Dirt Facebook page at www.facebook.com/sprintsondirt/.

2019 Sprints On Dirt dates set at Hartford Speedway



Erie, MI (December 3, 2018) – Engine Pro Sprints On Dirt presented by ARP returns to the always exciting Hartford Speedway for four Friday races in 2019. The first SOD race at Hartford is on May 17, followed by June 28, July 26, and August 30.

The SOD races at Hartford Speedway have been a big hit for years. Speedway owner/promoter Tim Dibble's reconfiguration of the track before the 2017 season has proven to be popular with competitors and fans, proving to be a perfect match for SOD's "beyond limits" format.

After suffering two rain outs to start the 2018 Hartford King Engine Bearings King of Michigan series first race was finally run on July 6 with Ryan Ruhl (Coldwater, MI) taking the win over 2018 SOD Champ Chad Blonde (Litchfield, MI) and Gregg Dalman (Bellevue, MI). Blonde won on July 13 over 2017 SOD Champ Steve Irwin (Fenton, MI) and Shawn Valenti (Fostoria, OH). Blonde also picked up the win over Chase Ridenour (Perry, MI) and Gregg Dalman on July 27. Following a third rain out on August 10, the King Engine Bearings KoM Championship was run on August 31. Blonde continued his mastery of the speedway, winning over Ryan Ruhl by 0.177 seconds with Quentin Blonde

(Litchfield, MI) finishing third.

For the second consecutive year, Chad Blonde drove Sean Robinson's Krieger-powered Maxim to the Engine Pro Sprints On Dirt presented by ARP King Engine Bearings King of Michigan championship over Shawn Valenti, Jay Steinebach (Hudsonville, MI), Dustin Shriver (Niles, MI), and Ricky Ferkel (Mt. Pleasant, MI).

Check out Hartford Speedway on Facebook at <https://goo.gl/hktj3S> and its website at www.hartfordspeedway.net.

To learn more about Engine Pro, go to www.enginepro.com. For more information about ARP, go to www.arp-bolts.com. Follow SOD at www.sprintsondirt.com and the Sprints On Dirt Facebook page at www.facebook.com/sprintsondirt/.