

# King Engine Bearings crowns Chad Blonde 2017 King of Michigan



With three wins and a second, Chad Blonde (Litchfield, MI) drove Sean Robinson's Krieger-powered Maxim to the Engine Pro Sprints On Dirt presented by ARP King Engine Bearings King of Michigan championship at Hartford Speedway Friday night.

The King of Michigan, a SOD tradition as a single race before King Engine Bearings came onboard as the title sponsor, became a mini-series including all four 2017 SOD races at Hartford Speedway. The first KoM race rained out on May 19<sup>th</sup>. Blonde then won on June 9<sup>th</sup> and the rainout make up race on July 14<sup>th</sup>. Blonde was in victory lane for the third race also, a 5 minute and 25 second non-stop feature on August 11<sup>th</sup>. At the series closer on September 1<sup>st</sup>, Ryan Ruhl, a previous, single-race KoM winner, took the win in an exciting race over Blonde and Steve Irwin, 2001 and 2017 SOD champion.

As the King Engine Bearings King of Michigan champion, Blonde collected \$1,000. Irwin, Gregg Dalman (2015 SOD champion), Thomas Schinderle (2017 SOD Series Rookie of the Year), and Ruhl also earned a share of the KoM point fund.



*King Chad discovers that it isn't about the money or the trophy, but about the crown.  
(Jim DenHamer photo)*

Hartford Speedway owner/promoter Tim Dibble's monumental decision last winter to reconfigure the track to a 3/8 mile oval proved to be an overwhelming success and a big hit with fan-pleasing racing.

King Engine Bearings was founded in 1960 with one simple objective: to supply the highest quality bearings available in the marketplace. By specializing in engine bearings, the King Engine Bearings team of bearing specialists has built an extensive product offering that includes a wide range of engine bearings for automobiles, light duty and heavy duty trucks, marine, aviation, standby power and many other types of internal combustion engines. Every King bearing utilizes the highest quality materials and the most advanced designs to ensure complete customer satisfaction.

For more information about SOD's King of Michigan sponsor partner, go to [www.kingbearings.com](http://www.kingbearings.com). Check out Hartford Speedway at [www.hartfordspeedway.net](http://www.hartfordspeedway.net) for more information. Meet Engine Pro at [www.enginepro.com](http://www.enginepro.com). For more information

about ARP, go to [www.arp-bolts.com](http://www.arp-bolts.com). Follow SOD at [www.sprintsondirt.com](http://www.sprintsondirt.com) and on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/sprintsondirt](http://www.facebook.com/sprintsondirt).

*Engine Pro Sprints On Dirt presented by ARP is brought to you in 2017 by many important sponsor partners including: Engine Pro (Title Sponsor), ARP (Title Sponsor), Hoosier Racing Tire (Official SOD Tire), MAHLE/Clevite (Beyond Limits Challenge Sponsor), Driven Racing Oil (Battlegrounds Bash Sponsor), King Engine Bearings (King of Michigan Sponsor), Lane Automotive/MSD Ignition (Fast Masters Sponsor), Engler Machine & Tool (Heat Race Sponsor), COMP Cams (Heat Race Sponsor), RockAuto.com (Heat Race Sponsor), The Perfit Corporation (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.*