

Chad Blonde Takes SOD King Engine Bearings King of Michigan Race at Hartford



In a night of firsts, Engine Pro Sprints On Dirt presented by ARP made their maiden appearance on the newly reconfigured Hartford Motor Speedway 3/8 mile oval, and the show, before a huge crowd, was a real hit. Chad Blonde, winner of the last SOD feature on the old track configuration last September, charged to his first win of the season in the first of four King Engine Bearings King of Michigan 2017 races.

After battling rain for most of May, Hartford Speedway owner Tim Dibble and his track crew now had a sunny, hot, and windy race day to contend with. Through their hard work, they were able to get the new clay surface under control.

The night started out with Chad Blonde, Joe Swanson, and Boston Mead winning the Lane Automotive/MSD Ignition Fast Master awards as fast qualifiers in their respective heat race qualifying sessions. Unfortunately for 17-year-old Mead, his night was over due to engine problems.

Gregg Dalman showed early speed, leading flag to flag in the

Engler Machine & Tool heat race from the pole position. Mark Aldrich took the the COMP Cams heat race after the original start was called back. On the second start, point leader Dain Naida made heavy contact with the turn 3 wall ending his night early. Thirteen-year-old Andrew Scheid lead the entire RockAuto.com heat race on his way to his first SOD race win.

After a complete restart for the King Engine Bearings King of Michigan 25-lap feature, Blonde wasted little time charging into the lead from 3rd and driving away from the field. The red flag flew on lap 7 when Brett Man flipped hard in turn 3. Back under green, Blonde drove off to a convincing 10-second win over Chris Gurley and Jay Steinebach. Joe Swanson took 4th and top SOD sprint car rookie contender Andrew Scheid came home 5th.

Qualifying – Lane Automotive/MSD Ignition Fast Masters \$50 each

Group	Time	#	Driver
Engler Machine & Tool Heat	14.775	5B	Chad Blonde
COMP Cams Heat	15.050	7J	Joe Swanson
RockAuto.com Heat	15.480	27B	Boston Mead

Heat Races – Winners \$100 each

Engler Machine & Tool Heat #1			
	#	Driver	Contingency
1	49T	Gregg Dalman	
2	0	Steve Irwin	Kistler Racing Products
3	5B	Chad Blonde	Racing Optics
4	41	Thomas Schinderle	

5	11	Trey Smith	
6	18	DJ Lamance	
7	58	Tony Bures	
8	27X	Jared Lamberson	
9	17	Dustin Carl	

COMP Cams Heat #2			
	#	Driver	Contingency
1	1a	Mark Aldrich	
2	7J	Joe Swanson	Allstar Performance
3	19	Brett Mann	Racing Optics
4	46	Robert Huisken	
5	20A	Andy Chehowski	
6	47	Robert Bullock	
7	8	Justin Ward	
8	17x	Dain Naida	

RockAuto.com Heat #3			
	#	Driver	Contingency
1	77	Andrew Scheid	
2	12	Chris Gurley	Kistler Racing Products
3	10S	Jay Steinebach	Racing Optics
4	10J	Chris Jones	

5	19J	Linden Jones	
6	91L	Alexis Adgate	
7	27	Brad Lamberson	

Feature

	#	Driver	Awards	Contingencies
1	5B	Chad Blonde		Rod End Supply
2	12	Chris Gurley		Rod End Supply
3	10S	Jay Steinebach		Rod End Supply
4	7J	Joe Swanson		Schoenfeld Headers
5	77	Andrew Scheid		ATL Racing Fuel Cells
6	0	Steve Irwin		
7	41	Thomas Schinderle		Allstar Performance
8	19J	Linden Jones		
9	11	Trey Smith		King Racing Products
10	1a	Mark Aldrich		
11	49T	Gregg Dalman		Keizer Aluminum Wheels
12	46	Robert Huisken		
13	10J	Chris Jones		
14	20A	Andy Chehowski		
15	27X	Jared Lamberson		
16	58	Tony Bures		

17	8	Justin Ward		
18	47	Robert Bullock		
19	19	Brett Mann		
20	17	Dustin Carl		
21	91L	Alexis Adgate		

KSE Racing Products Hard Charger – Linden Jones

BR Motorsports Contingency (feature top 10 draw) – Andrew Scheid

DMI (Diversified Machine) Contingency (feature 12-16 draw) – Andy Chehowski

Perfit Corporation Lucky Dog – Jay Steinebach

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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