

Bright sun brings bright racing to Mt Lawn

The sun finally came out from hiding Sunday afternoon and fans enjoyed some great racing at the 2019 season opener for Mt Lawn Speedway.

In Indiana/Ohio Shootout Thunder Car action Jameson Owens of Indianapolis came away with the first feature win of 2019. Sixteen Thunder Cars were on hand for the opening series event pitting Mt Lawn, Shadybowl and Anderson Thunder Cars against one another. Preliminary events took out four cars leaving 12 to start the feature. Urbana Ohio driver Andy Pine took the lead at the drop of the green flag and led the first five laps. On lap six Dustin Sapp of Indianapolis took over followed closely by Tony Stewart of Straughn. Sapp and Stewart raced side by side from lap eight to lap twenty with Stewart on the outside. After racing Sapp hard for 12 laps Stewart's tires got hot and forced him to drop back. Owens got around Stewart on lap 21 and was able to take the lead from Sapp on lap 23 with Sapp right on his bumper. Owens led until Sapp slipped under Owens on lap 44. Sapp's lead was short lived as he was black flagged on lap 45 for leaking transmission fluid. With Sapp in the pits Owens went on to take the win in the 50 affair with Jerod Henderson of Kennard taking second. Alan Lambert of Kennard finished third followed by David McConnell of Shirley, Stewart, Elijah Haynes of New Castle, Bill Clark of Rushville, Frankie Oakes of Cambridge City, Earl Adams of Pendleton, Sapp, Pine and Jason Pitts of Anderson. McConnell set fast time at 18.40 with Sapp winning the Payne Auto Parts dash for cash, Sapp winning the first heat and Haynes taking the second heat.

Terry Neal of New Castle continued his domination of the Pro Compact division by taking his sixth feature in a row after finishing a perfect 5 in a row in 2018. Alex Abbott of Knightstown finished second followed by Jimmy McElfresh of Columbus, Ohio, Brett Smith of Richmond, Justin Mefford of Dunreith, Derrick Morris of New Castle, Mark

Jennings of Richmond and Brian Slavey of New Castle. Terry Neal set fast time with Abbott winning the Payne Auto Parts dash for cash and Neal winning the heat.

Twenty five cars started the Factory Stock Front Wheel Drive feature with Jimmy Taylor of Muncie leading the first lap. Jacob Johnson of New Castle took over on lap two and led the next ten laps until Jason Colter of Fishers who started 24th took the lead. Colter led until lap 17 when the yellow came out for the of car Brad Miller of New Castle came to rest on the first turn wall. On the restart the cars of Colter and Jimmy Hoffman of DeGraff Ohio got together in turn one sending Colter and Aaron Brown into the first turn wall. Colter was forced to the pits and Brown was able to restart at the rear of the field. Hoffman was black flagged for rough driving by flagman Aaron McCambridge. On the next restart Brian Slavey took the lead and led the rest of the way. Brett Smith finished second followed by Jack Sweigart of Fortville, Scott of DeGraff Ohio, David Powell of Anderson, Will Jennings of Richmond, Josh Fowler of New Castle, Michael Yurusin of Fortville and Kevin Bagette of Marion to round out the top ten. Donald VanValkenburg of Indianapolis won the Payne's dash for cash with Hoffman, Smith and Miller winning the heats. Maria Marsh of Muncie escaped injury when her car made hard contact with the first turn wall in her heat race.

The next scheduled race at Mt Lawn will be the Bob Fields Memorial 200 Street Stock race on May 19th followed by the Marcum Steel and welding Raintree 100 on May 26th. Check the Mt Lawn website, Facebook and Twitter for starting times.