

## Texas round 3

Posted by Al Fernandez - 03 May 2011 09:01

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It was a windy weekend, but that kept the temperatures in check for this early summer event. Texas World Speedway is mostly inside a bowl made up by the old Nascar oval, and it can get blazing hot in the paddock. The Texas 944 field included six cars: Kevin Webb, BJ Meyer, Phil Fromme, Al Fernandez, Todd Covini...and joining us for his first race ever Ryan Peterson.

Saturday was all about finishing cars as Todd had brought it his to the track with most of the engine sitting in the passenger seat area and Ryan's needed a bunch of details finished to pass the annual. Ryan did complete the car and ran through the mid day comp school where he quickly earned his "four off and continued" and "spun off and continued" merit badges.

The first race was a three way battle up front between BJ, Kevin, and Phil after Al took himself out by doing some landscaping outside of turn 9. Kevin squeezed out a win followed by Phil and BJ. For the second race the results were exactly the same, though this time Phil was throwing everything but the kitchen sink at Kevin to try to get by. Phil actually had the fastest lap time of both races!

Saturday the group relaxed thanks to some good food put on by NASA and the TT group, as well as copious quantities of Shiner! Afterwards more work continued to finish Covini's car and find the source of a misfire in Al's that took him out of the 2nd race. It ended up being a missing rotor set screw, so check for loose rotors on your cars!

BJ got his mojo back Sunday morning and took the pole for Sunday's only race: a 45 minute session in the mid afternoon heat! Unfortunately he spun out of the lead, letting the freight train of Al, Kevin, and Phil pass. Several laps later Al's motor suddenly lost power and then exploded in spectacular fashion. Phil also retired early with a hot motor. Kevin held on to the lead to complete his hat trick in front of BJ and Todd was overjoyed to stand on 3rd with his freshly rebuilt engine.

The Hallett Summer Shootout is the next event and is already just a month and a half away. It's a haul up there for most of us Texans, but the track and the Saturday night party make this the event of the year outside of the Championships.

See you there!

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