

# KALAMAZOO SPEEDWAY

est. 1950

## TRACK TALK

May 27, 2024

### IN THIS EDITION

- 🏁 May 31 – Weekly Racing
- 🏁 June 7 – Reveal the Hammer!
- 🏁 June 1 – Open Drifting
- 🏁 May 25 – Open Drifting Recap



### FRIDAY, MAY 31: THE FOUR WEEKLY CLASSES RACE.

Friday, May 31	
Pits Open	3:30 PM
Adult Pit Pass (13+)	\$35
Youth Pit Pass	\$15
Ticket Windows Open	3:30 PM
Adult Grandstand	\$15
Youth Grandstand (6-12)	FREE
Kids 5 & under	FREE
Racing Starts	7:30 PM

THE FOUR weekly classes race on May 31! We welcome the AFC Metal Supply Late Models, Honor Credit Union Limited Late Models and the Techworks Trailers Street Stock. The Late Models will be racing for a \$1,500 to win purse, the Limited Late Models for \$1,000 and the Street Stock for a \$1,000 to win purse. And that's not all, our Front Wheel Drive classes also race: the O'Reilly Auto Parts Outlaws and the Spartan Insulation DOTs.

Thank you for visiting our 2024 class sponsors!



Don't forget! Autograph Night is  
Friday, June 21

## FRIDAY, JUNE 7: REVEAL THE HAMMER MARTY JONES '75.

The Outlaw Super Late Models return as part of the Reveal the Hammer Outlaw Late Model Tour. At Kalamazoo Speedway, we'll be running the Marty Jones '75 to celebrate the decades of contributions made by former track owner Marty Jones. The race will pay a cool \$7,500 to win. The Late Models and the Front Wheel Drives join this night of power.



June 7, 2024	
Pits Open	3:30 PM
Adult Pit Pass (13+)	\$35
Youth Pit Pass	\$15
Ticket Windows Open	3:30 PM
Adult Grandstand	\$20
Youth Grandstand (6-12)	\$10
Kids 5 & under	FREE
Racing Starts	7:30 PM



## SATURDAY, JUNE 1: OPEN DRIFTING (leased event).



THE AutoMODIFIED Drift Group makes it two in a row when it sponsors its 6<sup>th</sup> Open Drifting event of the season. Experienced and new drifters are always welcome. Check out the gallery in the recap to see what we mean.

Ticket windows (pits and grandstands) open at noon; drifting runs from 2:00 - 9:00 PM. Adult grandstand tickets are \$5; 12 and under are free. General pit passes are \$20; ride-a-longs are available! Drifting is a rain or shine event.

## MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND: RECAP.

The weather forecast, not an exact science, let us down twice over the Memorial Day weekend. Two of the three events scheduled were cancelled due to a stormy forecast. The Saturday AutoMODIFIED Drift Group event had terrific weather and drifted away the afternoon and evening. With no weekly racing or enduro recaps to share, we thought we'd share a gallery of drifting. Beginning and experienced drivers are welcome (and show up). Drift cars run the whole spectrum as well. There are a few drift rules: Convertibles must have a roll bar; a fire extinguisher must be mounted in each vehicle within easy reach, a harness and seat belt must be worn and everyone in the car wears a helmet. Each car goes through tech to make sure all elements are present. Helmets may be rented for spectators who purchase a pit pass and score a ride-a-long. AutoMODIFIED has a ride car that can take 3 passengers at a time and many of the independent drivers will also take on a single passenger. What a thrill!

**TRACK TALK**

**TRACK TALK**

**TRACK TALK**



The upper pits are used while the infield is reserved for drifting. Two course set-ups per night are used and drivers can drift the oval once they complete the course. Drivers typically use up more than one set of tires and can get back in line to run the course over and over. Large tires (usually about 32) are placed to protect infield buildings, light poles, etc. Occasionally cars hit them and a few cars have needed a tow. This past weekend, a car was seriously damaged (riders were not hurt) when the car left the course and wiped out the pedestrian gate and concrete barrier. (photo below). To keep spectators entertained during the time the course is reset, there has been a burnout contest and this week it was drifting into an area marked by cones that mimicked parallel parking. Cody Brian from Erie, Michigan made it look easy (it wasn't, but it was entertaining!) Gabe Ruple and AutoMODIFIED owner, Tucker Newsome are pictured with the winner. Up to four cars at a time can drift at the same time. A two-car tandem is pictured.

Everyone will be able to see the drift cars compete in a Night of Destruction worthy exhibition at the June 29 Red, White and Boom event.



**TRACK TALK**

**TRACK TALK**

**TRACK TALK**





photos by A. Fisher, except accident photo taken by T. Newsome

**TRACK TALK**

**TRACK TALK**

**TRACK TALK**