



California Independent Funny Car Association

Press Release

For Release: Immediately

Funny Car Summer Results

Redding, CA – July 19, 2008 – CIFCA made its first appearance at historic Redding Dragstrip in Redding, CA. Redding Dragstrip is the oldest dragstrip in operation of the NHRA sanctioned Tracks. The recent wildfires in the area made the air quality a little harsh however the track crew did an excellent job in preparing the surface for the Alcohol Funny Cars. Originally intended as an 8 car qualified show, CIFCA utilized an all run format for this event as 12 cars showed up, to ensure the fans got to see the best show possible.

With ambient temperatures well over 100 degrees, qualifying for CIFCA opened up with some teams struggling to find traction due to set ups, while others were able to go right down Broadway. Jeff Tildahl in Dennis Murphy's Ground Zero Omni ran a 7.51 off the trailer to take the provisional pole. Jamie Leppanen in the Arizona Thunder Firebird ran a 7.57 for the provisional # 2 spot.

The second round of qualifying proved to be very interesting. Mike Irwin in his Strange Behavior Corvette got the fans attention with a very impressive burnout to win the Green Fuel Solar Burnout Challenge. Tony Rishton in the Rishton Addiction Beretta had a close encounter with the guard rail as the car got loose & he over corrected sending him into the other lane right behind Leppanen. Leppanen improved to a 7.53 while in the next pair, Chill Scardino in the Chill Factor Dodge & Will Martin in the EMCOR Service/ Thermo Power Industries had the best side by side run of the session. Scardino ran a 7.52 to Martin's top end slowing 7.60 as the chutes came out early. Martin's run would be good enough though to net him the RBS Superchargers Revolving Qualifier Award.

After 2 rounds of qualifying, the qualifying order was:

Car #	Car Name	Driver	Run 1	Run 2	BEST	Q #
7842	Ground Zero	Jeff Tildahl	7.501	7.503	7.501	1
788	Chill Factor	Chill Scardino	7.599	7.521	7.521	2
7985	Arizona Thunder	Jamie Leppanen	7.571	7.534	7.534	3
7791	EMCOR Service	Will Martin	7.615	7.609	7.609	4
766a	Faria Factor	Brad Faria	7.717	n/t	7.717	5
705	Battle Born	Cory Green	8.460	7.866	7.866	6
737b	Thunder Horse	Darrin Hamby	7.396/7.904	11.262	7.904	7
733	Heaven Bound	Hal Rishton	7.926	n/t	7.926	8
748	Strange Behavior	Mike Irwin	7.346/7.954	8.174	7.954	9
717h	Bryans Racing	Shaun Bryan	8.071	7.996	7.996	10
7820	Rishton Addiction	Tony Rishton	8.015	n/t	8.015	11

The first round of eliminations saw cooler conditions. Brad Faria in his Faria Factor Ford would face Shaun Bryan in the Bryan's Racing Oldsmobile. Both drivers left almost together with Faria taking the win with a 7.68 to Bryan's off pace 7.91. In what turned out to be a run of great controversy, point's leader Darrin Hamby faced Chill Scardino. Hamby got the jump on Scardino and got close to the center line. Track officials deemed that Hamby crossed the centerline. After the track officials reviewed the run Hamby did not cross the center line and his 7.78 ET stood to take the win over Scardino's too quick 7.47. The next



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pair featured Will Martin & Mike Irwin. Both cars did their burnouts and backed up, then were shut off by track officials after one of the cars had stopped short of the turnout. This pair was pushed to the end of pack. Next pair saw Jamie Leppanen & Jeff Tildahl race each other to put on a show for the fans rather than single. Leppanen's opponent Ben Castro hurt the motor in the second round of qualifying while Tildahl got the competition bye for qualifying #1. Leppanen drilled the tree with a great 0.016 light couple with a 7.54 to take the win. Leppanen's run would get him both the Good Vibrations Best Package Award as well as the Enderle Quick Reaction Award. Tildahl ran a too quick 7.48 in his first round effort and would give up lane choice moving into the second round. Next pair would face Cory Green in the Battle Born Camaro vs. Tony Rishton. Most cars with lane choice were picking the right lane as the left lane was a little tricky. Green got the holeshot while Rishton smoked the tires. Rishton pedaled it and almost hit the wall. Rishton's run was DQ'ed as he crossed the outside out of bounds line. Green ran an 8.03 for the win. The final pair of the first round was the re-run of Martin vs. Irwin. Martin's team having lane choice did a last minute lane swap after seeing the cars in front of them spin the tires. The move paid off as Irwin smoked the tires at the hit giving Martin the win with an early shut off 7.77.

Second Round started out with a pedal fest. Darrin Hamby faced Brad Faria. Both cars struck the tires at the hit, with Faria out pedaling Hamby to take the win with a 9.72 to Hamby's 10.35. This left the door wide open for Martin or Leppanen to leave Redding with the points lead. Next pair pitted #1 Qualifier & 2005 CIFCA Champion Jeff Tildahl against Will Martin. Tildahl got the slight jump at the tree, however went into severe tire shake allowing Martin to take the win with another early shut off 7.92. Jamie Leppanen faced Cory Green in the final pair of the second round. Green took a shot at the tree and red lighted, giving Leppanen the win who ran a great 7.56.

The semi finals brought back a second round quick loser to ensure that there were 4 cars. Cory Green in the Battle Born car came back to face Faria. Faria having lane choice took the favorable right lane. Green went in and staged while Faria came in last. Faria got a huge starting line advantage and took the win with a 7.74 as Green had a transmission fail in the lights causing a small fire. Both Green & the Car were ok. The next pair had huge point's implications. Whoever won the round would leave Redding with the points lead. Leppanen had lane choice and took the right lane. At the hit, Leppanen went 0.033 to Martin's 0.056 reaction time. Both cars were glued together all the way down the track and at the stripe, Martin ran low e.t of eliminations with a 7.508 to defeat Leppanen's 7.564. The margin of victory was less than 7 feet.

The final pitted two first time finalists: Martin vs. Faria. This would ensure a first time winner in CIFCA. Martin had lane choice and picked the unfavorable left lane. Both cars went into stage. Faria brought the RPM's up on his car and went in first. Martin went in second. As soon as both cars were staged, Faria left before the tree was activated. Martin waited till he saw green and left and ran a 7.59 to take his first CIFCA victory. The victory gave the EMCOR Services/Thermo Power Industries team the points lead heading into Barona.

CIFCA would like to thank the staff of Redding Dragstrip for all the hard work and effort that was put into this race and look forward to returning to this venue in 2009.



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Special Award Winners

Good Vibrations Best Package Award winner: Jamie Leppanen, Arizona Thunder. (this award is presented to the team who has the best combined ET with reaction time that is closest to the 7.50 index with as close to a .000 r/t)

Enderle Quick Reaction Award: Jamie Leppanen, Arizona Thunder. (This award is given to the driver with the best reaction time for the event, red lights do not count).

Green fuel Solar Burnout King: Mike Irwin, Strange behavior. (This award is chosen by the fans. In the 2nd round of qualifying at each race the fans pick the car that does the best burnout.)

RBS Superchargers Revolving Qualifier Award- Will Martin, EMCOR Service/ Thermo Power Industries Firebird. (This award is given to the team that ends up qualifying in the pre determined position for each event. First race of the year the award goes to the #1 qualifier, 2nd race # 2 etc.)