



Chicago, July 16, 2009, NASA Midwest, Inc.

Mid Ohio Sports Car Course/July 10-12, 2009/NASA Great Lakes

Performance Touring Race Report

The weather at Mid Ohio turned out well. After a brief thunderstorm with heavy rain during lunch Saturday, the track dried out for the races. On Sunday, the sky was sunny all day without high temperatures to complete a great weekend.

PTA – One of the best races of the weekend was between the Lucas Oil, Pro Challenge car of Robert Stout and the Pfadt Engineering sponsored Chevy Corvette of Matt Carlyle. Both cars ran nose to tail throughout the race Saturday with Carlyle prevailing by 6 seconds. Carlyle's car started smoking with two laps to go but held on for the win. William Neal rounded out the class in his 10/10ths Motorsports Chevy Corvette. This was Neal's first race of the season and we look forward to seeing him the rest of the year. Sunday's race was similar while the cars lasted. Neal, Carlyle and Stout all dealt with car issues. Stout's Pro Challenge car lasted the longest for the win.

PTD – Patrick Smith, driving his Mazda Miata, finally made his 2009 debut. Ron Dodson came looking to exercise his Acura Integra's demons from April. Saturday's race saw Smith becoming more comfortable behind the wheel as the race progressed and ultimately prevailed. Dodson could not overcome an occasional power loss but did turn the quickest lap of the race. Sunday produced the same results with Smith turning in the fastest class lap of the weekend. About time you showed up Patrick.

PTE – Saturday's race saw the Pakistan Express Honda Civic, driven by Brian Makse, pull out in the lead followed steadily by Robert Keller's Mazda Miata. Kelsey Smith, driving his Acura Integra, was third, followed by Faisal Ahmad in the other Pakistan Express Honda Civic and Jack Baruth in his Dodge Neon. Makse's Honda could only manage two laps due to an electrical problem. Smith dropped back to PTE from PTD for the competition. He overcame Keller for the lead and finally the win. Sunday's race saw Makse back in action and out in front. His fast lap was more than one second faster than the next competitor in the class. Makse's speed led to the win followed by Smith and Keller respectively. Keller's persistence is paying off in the regional points race with a slim lead over the Pakistan Express team.

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