



NEWS RELEASE

Formula 5000 Opens 2017 Racing Season At Indianapolis Speedway with SVRA Event Race Results

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Rochester, MI – (6/19/2017) – The Formula 5000 Drivers Association is pleased to announce the results of the first round of its 2017 racing season at the SVRA Open Wheel World Challenge at Indianapolis Motor Speedway on June 11, 2017.

Finishing first in F5000 Class A (pre-1972 cars) and second overall ahead of newer cars, was Mark Harmer in his 1969 high-wing ex-David Hobbs Surtees TS-5. Second in Class A was Seb Coppola in his 1970 Lola T192. Coppola had a splendid start gaining three positions at the drop of the flag and going into turn one. After dicing with George Frey for second place, he prevailed to finish the race in second place. Johnnie Crean took third place in his 1969 Gurney Eagle. Crean was driving the Eagle that his father John Crean and James Garner sponsored in the early 1970s under the AIR Team and Davey Jordan drove.

Finishing first in F5000 Class B (1972-1976 cars) and first overall in the group was Rick Parsons in his 1976 Lola T332c (ex-Brian Redman 1976 championship car). Parsons struggled with mechanical problems throughout the weekend but was able to successfully complete the Sunday feature race. Second place in Class B went to Philip Lewis in his 1972 Matich A50. Lewis, an Australian living in Denmark, has found a home racing in the U.S. since 2015 and enjoying most of our greatest race tracks, Finishing third in Class B was Jim Stengel in his 1973 McRae GM1. Stengel was very competitive throughout the weekend posting consistent lap times in the 1.31 area..

The F5000 group now heads to Road America in July for its second round of the 2017 race season.

The U.S. Formula 5000 Drivers Association is a membership organization established to promote the restoration, presentation, registration and racing of historic Formula 5000 race cars. (www.F5000Registry.com).

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