

Solo season heating up

We've had Solo events 2, 3 and 4 since the last issue of Northwest Sports Car News.

Event 2 was held in Packwood on May 20, with a practice day on May 19. The 20th started out with moist pavement, which quickly dried. Even the first-heat drivers had mostly dry runs. Packwood was ringed with clouds all day, but somehow we evaded the rain. Most drivers reported being drenched by the time they were 10 minutes out of town.

Event 3 was on Sunday of Memorial Day, part of the traditional Memorial Day "Three Pack" at Bremerton Motorsports Park: Porsche Club on Saturday, SCCA on Sunday, Bremerton Sports Car Club on Monday. Sunday's weather was a little on the cool side, but dry, with high clouds filtering the sunshine. After such a wet spring, no one was complaining! The course was quick and challenging.

June 23 and 24 featured our first 2007 Regional Pro Solo on Saturday at Packwood. Number 3 in the Pro Solo series was held July 14 at Packwood, and the final will be the SCCA National Pro Solo on Aug. 25 and 26.

If you've never been to a Pro Solo, here's how it works. Pro Solo features a drag start and two parallel, mirror-image courses. Two competitors launch simultaneously on each course. When they finish, they swap sides and do it again — then repeat the sequence one more time for a total of four runs. It's a fast-paced, adrenaline-soaked format with nonstop action.

The four-run sequence is repeated in the afternoon, so all drivers are guaranteed eight runs. Then the fastest drivers — based on indexed times — are selected for the Challenge and Ladies Challenge rounds. Also, other drivers can put their names in the hat to be drawn for a "Bonus Challenge."

Unique to the Challenge rounds is that a red light is an automatic disqualification, and starts are staggered according to qualifying times for the car's class. So, a slower car may get as much as 1 or 2 seconds headstart over a faster rival. The first car over the line wins the matchup. They switch sides and do it again. The winner (cumulative time on both sides) of a pair of drivers advances to the next round.

Winners of the June 23-24 challenge

Dancing with Cones

DICK WILLY
ASSISTANT RE, SOLO

rounds were:

Open Challenge: Dez Toups

Ladies Challenge: Annie Bauer

Bonus Challenge: Ivan Rouzanov

Red lights were frequent, and many top competitors disqualified as a result.

Solo event number 5 was held July 15 at Packwood, and event 6 will be on July 22 at Bremerton.

Class winners for events 2 and 3 are listed below. Event 4 results weren't available as of this writing, so check them out on the Western Washington Sports Car Council Web site's Results link at www.wwscc.org.

NWR Solo Championship

Series Event 2 trophies

Stock 1 (AS, SS, FS)

Jerry Lee, 2004 Corvette Z06
Bob Sagara, 2003 Corvette Z06

Stock 1 Ladies

Jess Lynch, 2006 Lotus Elise

Stock 2 (BS, CS, ES)

Mike Leuty, 1990 Porsche 944S2
John Leuty, 1990 Porsche 944S2

Stock 2 Ladies

Carol Leuty, 1990 Porsche 944S2

Stock 3 (DS, GS, HS)

Deiter Beldi, 2007 Mazda 3
Jerry Lamb, 2003 BMW 330ci
Aaron Pailthorp, 2005 Mini Cooper S

Stock 3 Ladies

Kristi Brown, 2007 Mini Cooper S

Non Stock 1 (ASP, BSP, EP)

Mark Snell, 2006 Lotus Exige
Paul Marshall, 2004 Subaru STi

Non Stock 2 (CSP, DSP, FSP)

Denny Laplante, 1993 BMW 325is
Adam Grabowski, 1999 BMW 328is

Non Stock 2 Ladies

Becky Zacharda, 2006 Mini Cooper S

Non Stock 3 (all Prepared, Modified, Karts)

Sheldon Lemoine, 1990 KBS Mk V F500

Ernest Fanthorp, 1990 KBS Mk V F500

Non Stock 4 (STS, STS2, STX, STU)

Geoff Clark, 2003 Mitsubishi Evo
Karl Coleman, 2002 Subaru WRX
Ace Ventura, 2005 Mitsubishi EVO
Mark McCooley, 2001 Mercury Cougar

Non Stock 4 Ladies

Amy Olson, 2002 Subaru WRX
Tasha Mikko, 2000 Subaru Impreza 2.5 RS

Street Mod

Don Nimi, 1991 Nissan 240 SX
Greg Downing, 1989 Mazda 323 GTX
Tony Lemon, 1996 Honda Civic

Street Mod 2

Brett Wilson, 1999 Mazda Miata
Enrique Garcia, 1999 Mazda Miata

Street Tire

1. Jason Spore, 1990 Oldsmobile Calais Quad 442
2. Keith Mandel, 2007 Subaru WRX STi

Street Tire Ladies

Erica Cowan, 1991 Toyota MR2

Open PAX

Kevin Dietz, 2006 Pontiac Solstice
Fastmike Lillejord, 2006 Pontiac Solstice
Glen Hernandez, 2006 Lotus Elise
Kyle Freiheit, 2006 Pontiac Solstice
Joe Goeke, 2005 Mazda RX8
L.J. Moffet, 2001 Chevrolet Corvette

Open PAX Ladies

1. Anna Goeke, 2005 Mazda RX8
2. Annie Bauer, 2006 Pontiac Solstice

NSPAX

Jim Daniels, 1994 Mazda Miata

NSPAX Ladies

Tami Daniels, 1994 Mazda Miata