

I am making this post to see how many racers from NE Ohio are still racing slot cars in 2016-17. Also Gil Pataky responded to a post on the R4 forum about racing with me back in the '60s.

I thought that I would start a thread about racing back in Ohio during the timeframe that I raced. I was not a great slot car racer, but I had a lot of fun racing in Canton (my hometown), Akron, and then the Cleveland area. I found one article in the seven or eight Car Model magazines that I still have. It shows a picture mainly of the Elyria crowd. I was fortunate to get ninth place on a very difficult six-lane track in the basement of the Slot Shop, owned and operated by Donna and Paul Hubble (my favorite couple from the '60s).

# LIMPACH IN ELYRIA

by Ken MacDowell and Donna Hubble

ELYRIA, OHIO, August 3, 1968 — The Fifth Cleveland Car Model Race, held at the Slot Shop, 147 Winckles St., was a lively event. Donna and Paul Hubble, owners of the Slot Shop, did a beautiful job of running the race.

Of 38 entries, the youngest being six-year-old Mike MacDowell, the top qualifier was Gary Brewer. He turned 17 laps 22 sections in two minutes, setting a new track record. Concours was won by Gary Abbe (Cleveland Raceways), with Casey Gilfether (Slot Shop) taking second and John Loesch, Sr. (Slot Shop) third.

All races were three heats on this six lane track. Four Consys, a Semi and Main were set up. The fourth Consy had John Loesch Jr. out in the lead with 33 laps for the first heat, Gil Pataky and Gary Yosaki tied with 30 laps. During the second heat, Loesch's brushes wore out, which tied Pataky and Yosaki for the lead. In the last heat, Pataky came out a little too often, allowing Yosaki to win, with Pataky 2nd.

The 3rd Consy belonged to Gary Cooper. He led all the way, with Dick Neale 2nd and Casey Gilfether 3rd.

The 2nd Consy saw John Frasher and Perry Celaschi tied after the 1st heat, then Cooper, Bill Dunbar, Dick Neale and Ken MacDowell dead last. In the second heat, Cooper took the lead, with John Frasher 2nd and Celaschi 3rd. In the last heat, Cooper really poured it on, turning 36 laps for a total of 105 to win. Frasher was 2nd with 103 and Dunbar, who ran a 26d inline, was 3rd with 102.

Cooper and Frasher moved up to the 1st Consy. In the first lap, Cooper lost his gear, which ended it for him. Geoff Mountain won the first heat, Frasher 2nd, Mouse Wendell 3rd. At the end of the 2nd



Top finishers: bottom row (l to r) — Jan Limpach (1st), John Wisneski (2nd), Gary Brewer (3rd), John Loesch, Sr. (5th); middle row (l to r) — Gil Pataky

(6th), Dave Wendell (7th), Geoff Mountain (8th), Dan Dougherty (9th); top row (l to r) — Jim McElhiney (11th), John Frasher (12th), Gary Cooper (14th).

heat, Wendell tied with Mountain for the lead. In the last heat, Mouse turned 37 laps to win with 109 to Mountain's 105. These two moved up to the Semi, which turned into a real battle.

The first heat of the Semi was a tie between Jan Limpach and John Wisneski, both turning 45 laps, closely followed by Wendell, Mountain, Dan Dougherty, and Larry Vincek. The 2nd heat, Limpach and Wisneski again were tied for the lead, Wendell still in third, which is the way it stayed to the end of the Semi; Limpach 1st, Wisneski 2nd, Wendell 3rd.

With Limpach and Wisneski up to the Main, all the spectators crowded around the track. Here, again, it was a real battle between these two, as Wisneski took the first heat with 76 laps, followed by Limpach and Gary Brewer, both with 75 laps, and Bill Moore next with 73 laps. The 2nd heat was a real screamer, with the three of them pushing each other through every wiggle, ending with Wisneski having a 151 lap total, Limpach 150, Brewer 149, Bill Moore 143. With 5 minutes to go, the last heat was a replay of the first two. When one of the three leaders pulled ahead a few feet, he was promptly subdued by one or both of the others. Not one of the three seemed to be gaining. Side by side, through bank, squiggle, bump and straight, with first one, then the other,

in the lead. Brewer finally got a break and pushed ahead for a few minutes and it looked like he was destined to win. He made up the two laps he was down and was really honking. Then Limpach, as if he was waiting to make his move, literally surged ahead to win. The results were Limpach 1st with 227 laps, Wisneski 2nd with 225 laps 47 sections, and Brewer 3rd with 225 laps 40 sections, just 7 sections behind. Bill Moore was 4th, John Loesch 5th, Gil Pataky 6th, Dave Wendell 7th, Geoff Mountain 8th, Dan Dougherty 9th, Larry Vincek 10th, Jim McElhiney 11th, John Frasher 12th, Ron Schuur 13th, and Gary Cooper 14th.



Gary Brewer, top qualifier

## EASTERN SCHEDULES

### MID ATLANTIC CAR MODEL SERIES

SIXTH RACE  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5  
(final race of series)

Grand Prix Model Raceways  
1119 N. Broad St.  
Woodbury, N.J.  
G.P. (no sidewinders)  
Stan Engleman 220' track  
Battery Powered

### WASHINGTON DC CAR MODEL SERIES

SECOND RACE  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Mr. John Hobbyland  
4035 North Point Blvd.  
Dundalk, Maryland 21222  
GT closed sport  
115' American track  
Battery Powered

THIRD RACE  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19

Checkard Flag Raceway  
7043 Blacklick Rd.  
Brookfield Shopping Plaza,  
Springfield, Va.  
Open sports  
300' Mr. Raceways track  
Battery Powered  
For open dates, contact  
Phil Inglis or John  
Walsh, 212 Woodward St.,  
Savage, Md. 20863.



Concours winning cars of Gary Abbe (1st), Casey Gilfether (2nd) and John Loesch, Sr. (3rd).



Paul and Donna Hubble checking in cars