



SOUTHERN ONTARIO MOTOR SPEEDWAY

20954 A D Shadd Rd
South Buxton, ON, N0P 1W0

Written by Kenny Bayliss, SOMS Marketing Director, Feb., 2022.

SOMS AND SPRINT CARS!!!

Southern Ontario Motor Speedway, once upon a time known as South Buxton Raceway has had and, is having a very unique and exciting association with sprint cars, winged and non-winged.



South Buxton Raceway, as it was known back then was the first speedway in Ontario to host the Southern Ontario Sprints, a new, Canadian winged sprint car racing series and that was on May 18 1996. The event was the inaugural race of the brand new Southern Ontario Sprints. The SOS as it has come to be known was formed by three Woodstock, Ontario area gentleman, Ken Reading, Rob Lyell and Jon Banas. Jon Banas, the acting President of the newly formed group later became the SOS season Champion for that year.

This first event for SBR and the SOS was won by Jerry Whitney from Michigan. Many more SOS races were run at SBR, always entertaining the fans on the "D" shaped oval. Sadly, the SOS has not been able to compete at SBR/SOMS the last two years because of Covid-19 restrictions. That's all changing for 2022 as the SOS is booked for two dates this year, Saturday May 14 and Saturday August 27. Make sure you get your tickets for those nights as we expect a sell out situation!

FEATURE:

South Buxton 5/18/96

1. 2w Jerry Whitney
2. 9 John Naida
3. 45 Jon Banas
4. 96 Jim Davies
5. 3 Ed Bellaire
6. 20v Vic DeVries
7. 5 Gary May
8. 5b Larry Atkinson
9. 1 Charles Quinette
10. 1a John Riegling
11. 43 Brad MacLeod DNS

In 2019, new owner, Henry Kroeker began changing things at the facility South of Chatham, ON, most noticeably the track was converted to a real, full oval, no longer "D" shaped. Things out of Henry's control like Covid-19 made things certainly a challenge sometimes to keep his speedplant functioning. Constantly, little by little progress was happening and eventually the time came for more new concepts to become realities. Some ideas could be moved from dreams to being implemented. One of those dreams was to operate the track more times per week and open it up to new types of competition that may or may not have raced at the track in other years. Near the mid-way point of 2021, a local non wing sprint car team began practicing at SOMS on Friday nights. At the same time two gents in the central part of ON were discussing forming a new non wing sprint car series. Soon, the three non-wing entities got together and formed a new series. A few tracks were approached but as of the writing of this article the only track willing to give the fledgling new series some dates, is SOMS. It seems history is getting made

again, in ON and for sprint car competition by the track that sits near the bottom of South Western Ontario.

SOUTHERN ONTARIO MOTOR SPEEDWAY, the first track in Ontario to have the Southern Ontario Sprints and now, the first track to book Canada's only non-winged, 410 cu. in. engine, open tired sprint car series on dirt, the Ontario Traditional Sprints.



SOMS AND SPRINT CARS, HISTORY BEING MADE AGAIN

2022 SOMS SPRINT CAR DATES

Ontario Traditional Sprints, Friday May 13
Southern Ontario Sprints, Saturday May 14
Ontario Traditional Sprints, July 16
Ontario Traditional Sprints, August 6
Ontario Traditional Sprints, August 26
Southern Ontario Sprints, August 27
Ontario Traditional Sprints, October 1
(Championship Night)

Come on out in 2022 and watch amazing sprint car racing at Ontario's new SOUTHERN ONTARIO MOTOR SPEEDWAY.
WE'RE SURE YOU'LL HAVE A GREAT TIME!