

# Lewis sweeps at Canada's Calabogie track

As in previous years, the story of the July weekend at Canada's Calabogie was lack of grip and the importance of fresh rubber. Everyone complained about their cars alternating between understeer, oversteer, and no steer—sometimes all in the same corner. Those who tried to run a race on a particularly old set of tires paid the price, and found themselves whole seconds off the pace. Tire compound and car setup made a huge difference, too; some cars were fast for a couple of laps and then slowed down by seconds per lap as their tires overheated and fell away, while others were more consistent throughout the race.

Qualifying took an interesting turn on Friday. Just as everyone went onto the track expecting a dry session, it started to rain. Allan Lewis, who had held back a little longer than the rest, while watching the weather, put rain tires on his C-Modified E46 M3 and joined the field a few minutes after qualifying started. Being the only one on rain tires, he put the car on the pole—faster by seventeen seconds than Jean Luc Bergeron's second-place D-Modified E30 M3. Immediately after qualifying, a series of powerful storms came through, terminating the remainder of the track activities for the day, including the race scheduled for later in the afternoon. Event organizers decided to modify Saturday's schedule so that the originally scheduled qualifying session was used as Sprint Race One, with the fast lap for the race being used to qualify racers for Sprint Race Two.

The qualifying results from the wet session on Friday were used to set the field in Race One, which meant that the starting order was a little confused, with a number of Sport and Prepared cars intermingled with the modified classes. Lewis started on the pole, and C-Mod E30 325iS racer Daria Kachi was alongside as a result of Bergeron deciding to start from the back of the field. Amir Farahmand (C-M E46 M3), starting fifth, had a good start and was able to move into second by Turn Five, followed closely by C-M E36 M3 racer John Dimoff in third.

Unfortunately, Farahmand had to exit the race on lap three as a result of fueling issues. Lewis pretty much ran away from the field during the early stages of



Allan Lewis and Amir Farahmand lead the pack on the pace lap at Calabogie.

the race, pulling out to a huge lead and setting the fast lap of the race on lap two (and thus qualifying for the Race Two pole). However, his tires started to fall away after that. Dimoff's tires were also fading, but he was still able to retain better cornering speed and was able to reel in Lewis and catch up to him four laps from the end of the race. Lewis then had to become very defensive, and was able to hold off the charging Dimoff and take the win by a mere quarter of a second. Farther back in the field there was a good interclass battle between Wayne Dobson (I-Sport E36 M3) and Ron Checca (J-Sport E36 325i), which ended with less than a half second between them.

The front row consisted of Lewis and Farahmand (who got the second-fastest lap in Race One, even though he had to exit early). Dimoff and Jean Audet (a guest driver running a Ferrari Challenge car) were on the second row. Once again, Lewis led from the start. In Turn One, Audet went for an inside pass on Dimoff, but understeered badly; Dimoff had to take evasive action into the grass. Audet then got past Farahmand in Turn Four. Farahmand and Audet continued the battle, with Farahmand able to take back second place on lap two. Dimoff and Audet had many laps of hard-fought racing until Dimoff was finally able to make the pass in lap nine. One more time, Lewis recorded his fastest lap in lap two, after which his tires started to go off. He had built up a large lead, only to see it get whittled away by the second-place car (this time Farahmand), and by the end of the race Farahmand was all over Lewis, but couldn't get the pass done. On the last lap, Lewis' tires were so far gone that he spun in Turn Fourteen, but in avoiding the spinning Lewis, Farahmand also spun. Both recovered, and Lewis was able

to stay in the lead.

Elsewhere in the field, Dobson, Checca, Charles Benoit (M3T E30 M3), Francois Metivier (I-Sport E36 M3), and Stephen Earley (M3T E30 M3) ran nose-to-tail for much of the race. In the early stages, Gore and Louis Payant (D-Modified E30 M3) fought hard until Gore was finally able to pull ahead. Payant then started to fade, allowing Kachi and C-M E36 M3 racer John Danskin to slowly catch up, with Kachi finally getting by Payant and Danskin trailing by less than a half second by the checkered flag. Bergeron and Suzin Koehler (J-Sport E3 M3) had fun swapping positions throughout the race.

The first two rows for Race Three were similar to Race Two, with Lewis on the pole, followed by Farahmand, Audet, and Dimoff. Once again Lewis ran away, chased by Farahmand and Dimoff, and once again Lewis had his tires go off during the race. This allowed Farahmand to catch up, resulting in a fierce battle in the final few laps; by making use of the lapped car of Benoit, Lewis managed to keep Farahmand behind him.

Through much of the race, Dimoff maintained his third position, until the latter stages where he was slowed by lapped traffic, allowing Gore—who had started the race with a new set of tires and was, as a result, five seconds a lap faster than the day before—to catch up and ultimately pass Dimoff. There were other close finishes: Danskin, Noonan, and Payant ended the race all within a second-and-a-half of each other, and Dobson and Phil Abrami (M3T E30 M3) were within a half second.

David Brown was the competition steward, Steve Capello was the tech steward, and Larry Fletcher was the timing-and-scoring steward.—Allan Lewis

**Tire Rack BMW CCA Club Race at  
Calabogie Motorsports Park**

7-20-13 Ottawa and Patroon Chapters 101% sprint 11 laps

Overall Position	Position in Class	Class	Driver	Model	Best time
1	1	CM	Allan Lewis	E46 M3	02:13.7
2	2	CM	John Dimoff	E36 M3	02:15.2
3	3	CM	Isidore Papadopoulos	E36 325is	02:17.1
4	1	F-EX	Jean Audet	Ferrari Challenge	02:16.4
5	4	CM	Bob Gore	E36 325is	02:20.0
6	1	DM	Louis Payant	E30 M3	02:20.4
7	5	CM	Daria Khachi	E30 325iS	02:23.3
8	1	IP	Matthew Noonan	E36 M3	02:24.4
9	6	CM	John Danskin	E36 M3	02:24.7
10	2	DM	JLuc Bergeron	E30 M3	02:25.3
11	1	IS	Wayne Dobson	E36 M3	02:28.9
12	1	JS	Ron Checca	E36 325i	02:28.6
13	2	IS	Francois Metivier	E36 M3	02:28.2
14	1	HS	Steve Mertz	E36 M3	02:30.8
15	1	M3T	Charles Benoit	E30 M3	02:29.2
16	2	M3T	Stephen Earley	E30 M3	02:31.8
17	2	JS	Suzin Koehler	E30 M3	02:34.8
18	3	JS	Bob Martin	E30 M3	02:39.8
19	7	CM	Amir Farahmand	E46 M3	02:14.7

7-20-13 Ottawa and Patroon Chapters 102% sprint 12 laps

Overall Position	Position in Class	Class	Driver	Model	Best time
1	1	CM	Allan Lewis	E46 M3	02:12.0
2	2	CM	Amir Farahmand	E46 M3	02:12.4
3	3	CM	John Dimoff	E36 M3	02:15.0
4	1	F-EX	Jean Audet	Ferrari Challenge	02:14.8
5	4	CM	Isidore Papadopoulos	E36 325is	02:18.6
6	5	CM	Bob Gore	E36 325is	02:20.4
7	6	CM	Daria Khachi	E30 325iS	02:22.4
8	1	DM	Louis Payant	E30 M3	02:21.1
9	7	CM	John Danskin	E36 M3	02:22.8
10	1	IS	Wayne Dobson	E36 M3	02:29.1
11	1	JS	Ron Checca	E36 325i	02:28.7
12	1	M3T	Charles Benoit	E30 M3	02:28.7
13	2	IS	Francois Metivier	E36 M3	02:28.6
14	2	M3T	Stephen Earley	E30 M3	02:28.6
15	1	HS	Steve Mertz	E36 M3	02:32.9
16	2	DM	JLuc Bergeron	E30 M3	02:31.7
17	2	JS	Suzin Koehler	E30 M3	02:33.0
18	3	M3T	Phil Abrami	E30 M3	02:35.6
DQ	--	JS	Bob Martin	E30 M3	02:36.4
DQ	--	IP	Matthew Noonan	E36 M3	02:22.4

7-21-13 Ottawa and Patroon Chapters 150% sprint 16 laps

Overall Position	Position in Class	Class	Driver	Model	Best time
1	1	CM	Allan Lewis	E46 M3	02:12.2
2	2	CM	Amir Farahmand	E46 M3	02:13.2
3	3	CM	Bob Gore	E36 325is	02:15.8
4	4	CM	John Dimoff	E36 M3	02:15.9
5	5	CM	Isidore Papadopoulos	E36 325is	02:16.6
6	1	F-EX	Jean Audet	Ferrari Challenge	02:20.0
7	6	CM	Daria Khachi	E30 325iS	02:22.8
8	7	CM	John Danskin	E36 M3	02:24.3
9	1	IP	Matthew Noonan	E36 M3	02:24.5
10	1	DM	Louis Payant	E30 M3	02:24.3
11	2	DM	Paul Janusauskas	E30 M3	02:26.9
12	1	JS	Ron Checca	E36 325i	02:27.5
13	1	M3T	Stephen Earley	E30 M3	02:29.3
14	1	HS	Steve Mertz	E36 M3	02:28.8
15	1	IS	Wayne Dobson	E36 M3	02:29.9
16	2	M3T	Phil Abrami	E30 M3	02:29.6
17	2	JS	Suzin Koehler	E30 M3	02:30.8
18	3	M3T	Charles Benoit	E30 M3	02:28.7
19	3	JS	Bob Martin	E30 M3	02:35.6

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