

Dimoff leads the pack at Calabogie



Club racers take to the circuit at Calabogie.

In July, the Ottawa and Patroon Chapters sponsored the 2014 Tire Rack BMW CCA Club Race at Calabogie Motorsports Park, Canada's newest and most technical track. While John Dimoff dominated all four races in his C-Modified E36 M3, there was lots of action throughout the pack.

Over the years, Club racers' times on the 3.03-mile circuit have slipped from a 2:10–2:30 range to 2:14–2:36. It's odd; as we've learned the track, we've become slower! With over 21 turns, more than half of which offer a blind entry, one slight mistake or bobble, and the lap becomes two seconds slower. Case in point: Amir Farahmand ran a great race, leading in Saturday's afternoon sprint, but he made one slight error and fell to second place.

The weather was good and track conditions were great for the nineteen cars that started the Friday sprint. John Dimoff finished first, with Stephen Gailits second overall and second in C-Mod in his E21 320i. Event organizer and D-Mod winner Louis Payant finished fourth overall in his newly redone E30 M3. JP Tracey and Matthew Noonan were first and second in I-Prepared in their very fast E36 M3s, while Charlie Benoit led M3T ahead of Ron Checca and Phil Abrami. Francois Metivier (E36 M3) was thirteenth overall and first in I-sport, while Richard Checca won J-Sport ahead of Suzin Koehler and Bob Martin; all were in E30 M3s.

Bringing up the rear was the desperate

Steve Mertz in his H-Sport E36 M3—*c'est moi*. With a blown head gasket between the fifth and sixth cylinders, it looked like a coal-fired M3. Jean Audet, who was near the front in his Porsche GT3, lost a lot of water in Turn Two, which caused Wayne Dobson (I-Sport E36 M3) to leave the track and mow the grass all the way to the tire wall, which gave slightly.

Saturday dawned as another picture-perfect day, and our first six-lap race started just before noon. Dimoff and Gailits ran one-two, while Farahmand (C-M E36 M3) and John Danskin (C-M E36 M3) were third and fourth. Noonan got around Daria Khachi (C-M E30 325is) to finish fifth overall and first in I-P. Paul Janusauskas scored a solo D-Mod win with a seventh-overall finish in his E30 M3. Wayne Dobson was first in I-S, Phil Abrami was first in M3T—with Checca and Benoit running second and

third—and Richard Checca won again in J-S.

The Saturday-afternoon sprint was a copy of the first race, except that Amir Farahmand moved up to second, Khachi and Danskin each moved up a position, and Gailits blew a belt. It was another clean, fun, and safe race. Sunday started with brief showers that made the track wet in the morning. On the first lap of Sunday's race, Audet's yellow GT3 Porsche led on a damp track. As the track dried, Dimoff, Farahmand, Gailits, and others came through in a near copy of Saturday's finish.

David Brown was the competition steward, Steve Capello was the tech steward, and Larry Fletcher was the timing-and-scoring steward. Stephen Gailits was the go-to guy for engine problems; he buzzed around all weekend on a skateboard, solving problems.—*Steve Mertz*

Tire Rack BMW CCA Club Race at Calabogie Motorsports Park*
7-20-14 Ottawa and Patroon Chapters Feature sprint 15 laps

Overall Position	Position in Class	Class	Driver	Model	Best time
1	1	CM	John Dimoff	E36 M3	02:15.1
2	2	CM	Amir Farahmand	E46 M3	02:16.7
3	3	CM	Stephen Gailits	E21 320i	02:18.9
4	1	IP	Matthew Noonan	E36 M3	02:23.9
5	4	CM	Daria Khachi	E30 325is	02:24.1
6	1	DM	Paul Janusauskas	E30 M3	02:26.4
7	2	IP	JP Tracey	E36 M3	02:26.5
8	3	IP	Gregory Teese	E36 M3	02:26.4
9	1	M3T	Ron Checca	E30 M3	02:26.0
10	2	M3T	Charles Benoit	E30 M3	02:27.3
11	3	M3T	Phil Abrami	E30 M3	02:31.7
12	1	IS	Francois Metivier	E36 M3	02:30.6
13	1	JS	Bob Martin	E30 M3	02:38.9
14	2	IS	Wayne Dobson	E36 M3	02:27.9
DNF	--	CM	Andrei Ionescu	E46 M3	--

* Results for the feature sprint are presented here. Results for all races are posted at www.bmwccaclubracing.com.



Racers and officials pose for a group shot at Calabogie.