

Thirty racers chase points at CTMP



Susan Dobson

Phil Abrami chases William DiGiovanni at CTMP.

With 30 cars on hand, this year's event at Ontario's Canadian Tire Motorsport Park in August was the best attended in many years, likely due to the event having National status, maximizing the resulting points available to those going for series championships. A number of drivers were new to the track, and adjectives used to describe it included awesome, intimidating, and scary.

More than one driver considered it the most difficult track they had ever experienced.

The weekend consisted of three days of racing: one race on Friday, two on Saturday (including the feature race), and a fourth race on Sunday. The Friday race was worth 100% points, so a number of the drivers new to the track considered it a test session. The four highest qualifiers—Allan Lewis (C-Modified E46

M3), Peter Carroll (C-M E36 M3), Tony Ferraro (FC Ferrari Challenge car), and John Dimoff (C-M E36 M3)—finished the race in the order they started. Behind them, Steve Gailits (C-M E21 320i) was black-flagged with a stop-and-go penalty for pulling out of formation while approaching the green flag. He fell back from his fifth-place qualifying position but recovered to finish fourteenth. Isi Papadopoulos (C-M E36 325i) had engine problems that ultimately put an end to his weekend. But Jerry Kaufman in his E36 M3 won I-Prepared, E30 M3 racer John Paton won M3T, and Dan March (E36 M3) won I-Sport.

While the front of the field was strung out, most of the racing was between cars farther back in the field, including a battle between the two I-Prepared E36 M3s of Dennis Pippy and Scott

Reiman. Wayne Dobson (I-S E36 M3) and Matthew Noonan (I-P E36 M3) finished less than a second apart. Marshall Papadopoulos (D-M E30 318is) was in the middle of that tussle before falling back by the end of the race. Ron Checca (M3T E30 M3), Greg Wharton (I-P E36 M3), and William DiGiovanni (M3T E30 M3) finished close together, and not far behind them were Kevin Gelardi (I-S E36 M3), Francois Metivier (I-S E36 M3) and Phil Abrami (M3T E30 M3).

Saturday started with iffy weather: cloudy with occasional mist. Fortunately, each on-track session was dry, and during qualifying, Allan Lewis was able to better his time from last year and set another new lap record of 1:23.7. Peter Carroll qualified second with a 1:26.2. When the green flag flew, the front of the field quickly fell into single file in their

Dimoff sweeps as Club Racing returns to Mont Tremblant



John Dimoff runs inside of Isidore Papadopoulus at Tremblant.

A contingent of fourteen Tire Rack BMW CCA Club racers gathered in August at the quick and picturesque Le Circuit Mont Tremblant in the Laurentian Mountain region of Quebec. The event was designated the Canada region premier race, so four points-paying sprints were run.

John Dimoff won all four races in his C-Modified E36 M3. He had a comfortable margin over C-Mod competitors Stephen Gailits (E21 320i) in Race One and Isidore Papadopoulus (E36 325is) in Race Two, but Papadopoulus finished just three seconds back in the first sprint on Sunday, and a scant one second back in the second race.

Scott Reiman (E36 M3) won three times in I-Prepared, while Matt Noonan in another E36 M3 won once. John Paton (E30 M3) swept M3T, while Steve Mertz (H-Sport E36 M3) and Francois Metivier (I-Sport E36 M3) each took four solo class wins, and Jean Audet took three GT3 class wins in a Porsche GT3.

David Brown was the competition steward, Steve Capello was the tech steward, and Roland Nieves was the timing-and-scoring steward.—*Brian Morgan*

Tire Rack BMW CCA Club Race at Le Circuit Mont Tremblant 8-18-2015 Quebec Chapter Feature sprint 22 laps*

Overall Position	Position in Class	Class	Driver	Model	Best time
1	1	CM	John Dimoff	E36 M3	01:47.0
2	2	CM	Isidore Papadopoulus	E36 325is	01:47.4
3	3	CM	Stephen Gailits	E21 320i	01:49.1
4	1	IP	Matthew Noonan	E36 M3	01:52.8
5	2	IP	Scott Reiman	E36 M3	01:53.1
6	1	M3T	John G Paton	E30 M3	01:55.0
7	1	HS	Steve Mertz	E36 M3	01:57.4
8	2	M3T	Marc Thomaes	E30 M3	01:57.3
9	3	M3T	Scott Casagrande	E30 M3	01:57.0
10	4	M3T	Stephen Earley	E30 M3	01:59.4
11	1	IS	Francois Metivier	E36 M3	01:58.9
DNF	--	DM	Paul Janusauskas	E30 M3	01:58.3

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



The pack runs on the pace lap at CTMP.

starting order, and stayed that way for the rest of the race.

Once again, the real racing took place back in the field: Greg Wharton, Marshall Papadopoulus, William DiGiovanni, Phil Abrami, Kevin Gelardi, Ron Checca, and Francois Metivier. Scott Reiman, Shaun McKenzie (C-M E36 M3), and Ryan White (H-S E46 M3) also saw close racing. Dennis Pippy was in and out a couple of times with electrical issues, and finished well back in the field.

Qualifying for the feature race was based on drivers' fast times from the previous race, which put Lewis on the pole once again, with Carroll beside him. As in the previous races, Lewis took off with Carroll in tow, and they finished the race in that order. John Dimoff started third, with Colin Mook (E36 328i) beside him on the second row. Dimoff's tires took some laps to come in, which allowed Mook to keep close for a while. Eventually the tires warmed up and Dimoff was able to pull away.

Late in the first lap, a spin by White collected Pippy, putting them both out of

the race. For the most part, the first half of the pack finished the way they started, and the close racing came between cars in the back half of the field. Many were closely matched; Marshall Papadopoulus, Francois Metivier, Greg Wharton, Ron Checca, Phil Abrami, William DiGiovanni and Kevin Gelardi were nose-to-tail through much of the race, with a number of changes in position. Kaufman, March, and Paton each scored repeat class wins.

The race on Sunday was longer than the others at 40 minutes. Lewis tried different shock settings that were not effective, allowing Carroll to stay close for much of the race, but he faded at the end when he realized that he was not going to be able to make and hold a pass. Mook was able to keep up with Dimoff until running out of fuel near the end of the race. Pippy, having repaired damage from the incident the day before, started the race from the back of the field and made it up to eleventh. Checca—who won M3T—Kevin Gelardi, and Francois Metivier continued the streak of close racing into the last race. Kaufman and March completed their I-P and I-S class sweeps.

The stewards for the weekend were David Brown (competition), Steve Capello (tech), and Roland Nieves (timing and scoring).—*Allan Lewis*

Tire Rack BMW CCA Club Race at Canadian Tire Motorsports Park 8-8-2015 Trillium Chapter Feature sprint 12 laps*

Overall Position	Position in Class	Class	Driver	Model	Best time
1	1	CM	Allan Lewis	E46 M3	01:25.1
2	2	CM	Peter Carroll	E36 M3	01:26.9
3	3	CM	John Dimoff	E36 M3	01:27.6
4	4	CM	Colin Mook	E36 328i	01:29.0
5	5	CM	Stephen Gailits	E21 320i	01:31.9
6	6	CM	Andrei Ionescu	E46 M3	01:31.4
7	7	CM	Shaun McKenzie	E46 M3	01:32.5
8	1	IP	Jerry Kaufman	E36 M3	01:32.9
9	2	IP	Scott Reiman	E36 M3	01:33.6
10	3	IP	Matthew Noonan	E36 M3	01:34.9
11	1	IS	Dan March	E36 M3	01:35.5
12	1	M3T	John G Paton	E30 M3	01:37.9
13	2	IS	Wayne Dobson	E36 M3	01:38.1
14	4	IP	Greg Wharton	E36 M3	01:38.3
15	2	M3T	Ron Checca	E30 M3	01:38.2
16	3	IS	Kevin Gelardi	E36 M3	01:39.4
17	3	M3T	William DiGiovanni	E30 M3	01:39.5
18	4	M3T	Phil Abrami	E30 M3	01:39.4
19	4	IS	Francois Metivier	E36 M3	01:39.0
20	1	DM	Marshall Papadopoulus	E30 318is	01:39.5
21	5	M3T	Charles Benoit	E30 M3	01:39.8
22	1	JP	Bob Gore	E46 M3	01:41.9
DNF	--	IP	Dennis Pippy	E36 M3	01:55.6
DQ	--	HS	Ryan White	E46 M3	

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