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SPARCO FALL FLING FINAL DAY RESULTS

After a long day of racing and a longer night of partying at the Sparco Appreciation Barbecue, Day Last finally came to the Sparco Fall Fling presented by Optima Batteries.

First up; and an actual first for the 'Fling; the wedding of Stephen and Kimmy Marinchek with the Minister of Parking, Sally Martini officiating right on the starting line.

Next up for today... The Fall Fling Reaction Time Challenge with 20 randomly chosen racers given one hit at the 'tree. Any .00X getting the driver a \$100 bill, while a perfect .000 earns \$1,000 and another chance to do it again. Do it twice and receive \$10,000. No takers on the perfect hit, but three drivers walked away with \$100; Leon Tynes Sr., Travis Laster, and Jerry Brewer.

Prior to eliminations, co-promoter Peter Biondo spoke to the crowd and announced some big 'Fling news, "After another very smooth event and listening to our racers opinions, we have come to realize that our East Coast 'Fling events are growing rapidly. In order for us to continue to give our racers an optimum experience, we have made the decision to limit the amount of entries for our East Coast 2018 Spring Fling at Galot, and 2018 Fall Fling at Bristol."

All the details have been finalized yet, but the cap number will be somewhere in the 350 to 390 car count range. As a loyalty gesture, anyone that has attended any one of the previous Flings will have first priority to pre-enter both events in 2018. Stay tuned to www.bracketraces.com or their Facebook page for details.

As for eliminations, round seven opened with nine survivors; Shane Maddox, Mike Moore, Bradley Chartier, Ivey Brannon, Carroll Click, Jake Woodring, Cameron Manuel, Severn Johnson and Joe Gary. Winners of that round included Moore, Woodring, Brannon, Gary and Maddox taking the bye into the quarters.

For the quarterfinals, Maddox used a better reaction time than Moore to move to the semis, while Gary used a .002 reaction time to defeat Woodring, and Brannon took the odd car bye run. The ladder is reset every round to reaction time, with the exception the best driver might have already had a bye. In this case, all three drivers already had bye runs so the ladder reverts to the best reaction time, which was the newly crowned as of this point, Todd's Extreme Paint MVP Award recipient Joe Gary. Gary will be moving to his second \$20,000 'Fling final after winning on Racepak Thursday, while Maddox and Brannon will do battle.

Ironically, each of the semifinalists all reside within 30-minutes of one another and it was Maddox Race Cars who built Gary's car along with rebuilding Brannon's dragster. Each made South Carolina extremely proud. As for the race, with Brannon doing an admirable job all day driving, it was Maddox who laid down a .028 package making Brannon's .032 reaction time mathematically ineligible for a win. So with Gary taking the odd car bye, the final day of the Fall Fling will come down to two door cars.

Friends are friends and customers are customers, but when the helmets go on, it's all fair in love and war. For the final, only .05 separated them in handicap with Maddox leaving first, but Gary's -.004 red-light ended the night and moved Maddox into his second Spring Fling final.

"I have to thank Kyle and Peter for putting on one of the best races all year," Maddox said. "I've been to every one of them and I'll never miss. Their staff and the Bristol Dragway staff are really the best there is."

"We are so thankful again and overwhelmed with the support of the racers making the trip here," said co-promoter Kyle Seipel. "In addition to our staff and the staff at Bristol Dragway, we can't thank everyone enough."

Next 'Fling event will be the K&N Spring Fling Million at The Strip at Las Vegas Motor Speedway, April 16-21. Then comes the K&N Spring Fling at Galot Motorsports Park in North Carolina, May 1-5. Stay tuned to www.bracketraces.com for more info and follow Spring Fling Bracket Races on Facebook.

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