



Arrow Racing Karts/BTK Motorsports – 2008 Rotax Grand Nationals Report

The 2008 Rotax Max Challenge USA Grand Nationals held at the USA International Raceway in Shawano, Wisconsin took place September 9 – 13. The USAIR facility is definitely one of a kind with its frequent elevation changes and numerous turns which instigated a challenging race week. The wet weather conditions which came into town at the conclusion of the week triggered an eventful affair for the Arrow Race Team. From Utah to Mexico and as far away as Australia, the squadron and their entourage came into town to battle it out for the 2008 R-Max Challenge championship. Under the Arrow tent included Micro Max racer – Pato O'Ward (Monterrey), Junior driver – Zack Busch (Illinois), Senior racers – Kyle Demeter (Illinois), Austin Isaac (Utah) and Quinton Dawn (Texas), Master racers – Keith Karr (Alabama) & Mack McCormack (Alabama) and DD2 racer – Stuart Marsell (Florida).

On his Arrow AX9 Cadet, Patricio "Pato" O'Ward – # 6 dictated all of the Micro Max race events throughout the week. Pato won all three heat races as well as both the pre-final by 31-seconds and the final by 21-seconds. Unquestionably, Pato demonstrated his talent and skills in the second heat. From the paddock, Pato was late lining up on the grid. As a result, on the start of the line-up, he was sent to the back of the pack and still managed to cut through the field to finish on top. Pato also picked up the fastest track time in both the pre-final and the final. Pato undoubtedly proved to be a force to be reckoned with in the Micro Max division.

In DD2, reigning Rotax DD2 National champion, Stuart Marsell qualified on pole and paraded the track in front of the herd in all three of the heat races as well as the pre-final. Yet, in the final – lining up for the green flag, Stuart's motor failed causing him



to DNS. However, even though he did not get to race in the main, he will still take the journey to Italy for the World title in November through his Florida Winter Tour championship.

In the Junior field, Arrow driver Zack Busch climbed through the field from 22nd to 12th in the pre-final. Then, Zack moved on to round out the top ten in the final. This was a fantastic effort for Zack considering that he had only driven a Rotax twice before the event.

In Masters, experienced Arrow racer, Mack McCormack definitely demonstrated his abilities for the crowd at Shawano. Without any experience at the USAIR track as well as limited practice time, McCormack started in the 16th position and moved up ten spots to finish in the sixth position in the pre-final. Then, in the final, McCormack put on an impressive battle for the fourth position while fellow Arrow racer, Maverick Bartlett finished in sixth.

Arrow Racing Karts and BTK Motorsports would like to thank Charlie Brown at RaceFanRadio.com as well as Rob Howden and David Cole from ekartingnews.com for exclusive coverage of the 2008 Rotax Nationals. Charlie, Rob and David made it possible for the out of town family and friends to listen live and catch up to date reports of the events throughout the week. Furthermore, Arrow/BTK would like to thank everyone at USA International Raceway for hosting a fabulous occasion. The courtesy and hospitality that the staff displayed did not go unnoticed and was very much appreciated.



BTK Motorsports would like to especially thank Adam Klunyk, Technical Support straight from the Arrow factory in Australia, for his assistance throughout the week. Adam traveled over 28 hours and without missing a beat, he shared his expertise with each and every Arrow kart racer in Shawano. The knowledge he contributed was invaluable to the team's success.

Arrow Racing Karts and BTK Motorsports are happy with the results of the 2008 Rotax Max Grand Nationals. Arrow/BTK would like to thank all of the dedicated racers who worked very hard at the Nationals and for the voyage it took to get there. Also, Arrow/BTK would like to recognize all of the pit-crew who helped out under the tent and made for a smooth week of racing.

For more information on BTK Motorsports and/or Arrow Racing Karts, please visit www.btkmotorsports.com, or call 877-937-2232.

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