



NATIONAL

ISSUE 22 ★ VOLUME 59
NOVEMBER 2, 2018 ★ www.NHRA.com

DRAGSTER[®]

FOUR SCORE!

- Reading
- St. Louis
- DALLAS!
- Charlotte
- Las Vegas
- Pomona



Torrence Remains Countdown-Perfect with Fourth Straight Win

Mello Yello, Lucas Oil, Summit Series, Championships on the Line in Pomona

NOTES FROM THE PRO MOD REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

BY JIM LUIKENS

Jeremy Ray continues to astound. He has qualified for every race this season and has two final rounds and one win as his best results so far. Because of his consistency, he is a lofty sixth in points in his debut season on the NHRA tour.

Justin Bond also continued to be impressive with another fine outing in Charlotte. After debuting with an excellent runner-up finish at the Dallas E3 Spark Plugs NHRA Pro Mod Drag Racing Series event, Bond qualified in the top half of the field in Charlotte and went to the second round. In one of the closest races of the day, he was narrowly defeated by eventual event winner Rick Hord, 5.728 to 5.744.

All of the runs in the second round were very close in one of the finest rounds of Pro Mod racing this season. **Michael Biehle** opened the round with a 5.745-second pass against Todd Tutterow's 5.768-second elapsed time. Tutterow had red-lighted at the start, which decided the pairing, but then gamely made one of his best runs of the season.

Sidnei Frigo then defeated Rickie Smith in the second pairing of the second round, 5.692 to 5.716, after both had nearly identical reaction times. Next, Ray defeated points leader Mike Janis in another incredibly close run, 5.690 to 5.709.



Rick Hord closed out the second round with the above mentioned defeat of Bond, 5.728 seconds to 5.744 seconds. Not only were all of these runs very close, but they were also at near-record elapsed times. Based on elapsed times only and not figuring in reaction times, the margins of victory were .023, .024, .019, and .016-second. The total margin of victory for all four races was .082-second.

Brazilian **Jader Krolow** made his second consecutive NHRA career appearance here. Driving

the Corvette that Frigo took to the 2017 Chevrolet Performance U.S. Nationals title, Krolow was a DNQ with a very respectable 5.825-second elapsed time after a fine 13th qualifying position in his debut outing at the last NHRA Pro Mod race in Dallas.

Taking a look at the statistics for the season shows that there have been five victories by a supercharged entry, four victories by a nitrous-assisted entry, and only two victories by a turbocharged entry in this season's first 11 Pro Mod races. Turbocharged cars have set all

11 top speeds of the meet so far this season, but they have only been able to convert that to a win twice.

Interestingly, the statistics for low e.t. of the meet are almost identical with six supercharged cars, four turbocharged cars, and one nitrous car leading the way through the season's first 11 races. Different power-adders do better in different weather conditions, but the parity is amazing when you look at the season as a whole.

Biehle had his best outing of the season with a semifinal finish. Biehle has qualified for all but three of the NHRA races this year and is currently in the top 15 in points. A total of 47 different drivers have participated in the 2018 NHRA Pro Mod season so far.

Stevie Jackson continued his tale of twos with his second first-round loss in a row. Over the last six races, Jackson DNQ'd twice, won twice, and exited in the first round twice. His first-round loss here eliminated him from possibly winning the season championship after a dramatic pair of wins brought him to the brink of being in contention in only his second year on the NHRA tour.

With Jackson out of the championship picture, it comes down to a two-man race between Janis and Smith. Janis holds the current points lead by a little more than one round with only four rounds of racing left this season.

PRO MOD

1. Rick Hord, Belle Isle, Fla. ('16 Corvette) **5.681, 258.67**
2. Jeremy Ray, Lugoff, S.C. ('63 Corvette) **5.683, 251.91**
3. Sidnei Frigo, Itatiba, Brazil ('69 Camaro) **5.701, 258.07**
4. Steven Whiteley, Grand Junction, Colo. ('18 Camaro) **5.708, 255.58**
5. Mike Castellana, Oyster Bay, N.Y. ('17 Camaro) **5.708, 252.61**
6. Rickie Smith, King, N.C. ('18 Camaro) **5.711, 251.77**
7. Mike Janis, Lancaster, N.Y. ('69 Camaro) **5.715, 249.03**
8. Justin Bond, Mission, B.C. ('68 firebird) **5.718, 258.52**
9. Chad Green, Midland, Texas ('17 Corvette) **5.728, 250.64**
10. Steve Jackson, Evans, Ga. ('17 Camaro) **5.738, 247.84**
11. Danny Rowe, Laguna Hills, Calif. ('18 Camaro) **5.750, 253.99**
12. Michael Biehle, North Vernon, Ind. ('67 Mustang) **5.757, 257.78**
13. Todd Tutterow, Yadkinville, N.C. ('68 Camaro) **5.757, 249.58**
14. Khalid alBalooshi, Dubai, United Arab Emirates ('18 Camaro) **5.759, 251.91**
15. Chip King, Roxboro, N.C. ('69 Daytona) **5.762, 251.20**
16. Bob Rahaim, Grosse Pointe, Mich. ('17 Camaro) **5.769, 249.49**

ALTERNATES: Brandon Snider - 5.772, 247.84; Doug Winters - 5.798, 242.98; Steve Matussek - 5.803, 251.72; Jader Krolow - 5.825, 255.05; Clint Satterfield - 5.859, 250.92; Pete Farber - 5.924, 244.56.

