

SANDERSON EXTENDS POINTS LEAD WITH WIN

ROCKY MOUNTAIN RACEWAYS, 7.11.08: Two time track champion Jesse Sanderson gets a big win over last years champion in Pro Eliminator. Starting with forty nine competitors and surviving six hard fought rounds Sanderson lines up with Chris Hall. Jesse is leading the points 478 to Chris' close second at 423 points. Jesse made his way to the finals with a single in the Semis. Chris raced Scott Smith on the other side of the ladder. Scott dialed in at 12.13, Chris with a 10.54, so let the race between Camaro and Chevelle begin. Scott was away first with a clean and green .075 light. Chris cut a better .025 and caught Scott with enough track left to scrub 7 MPH off the run. Running closer to the dial 10.553 to Scotts' 12.160 allowed Chris to move on to the final round. Sanderson in his yellow '66 Barracuda, Chris in his blue '70 Camaro stared each other down. Burn outs completed both drivers carefully stage. Jesse is away first with a .037 reaction; Chris is close behind with a .042 light and at the stripe both cars run too quick. Jesse with an 11.033 on the 11.05 & Chris with a 10.50 on his 10.52. Jesse gets the win by running .003 closer and earns the "BEAT THE CHAMP GET AN EXTRA POINT" to extend his lead.

Super Pro also sported a good field of cars. In the Semis, Nancy Hooton racing a rear engine dragster for the first time since crossing over her license got the single. Super tough Super Pro racer Tim Vincent lined up against one of the best in Paul Snell. Paul dialed in at 7.13 to Tims' 7.93. It was all over at the hit with Tim having trans brake problems and leaving the line way early. In the final Nancy dialed 8.95 to Snells' 7.13 at the stripe Paul had a slightly better light and ran closer to the number to get the win. Pauls run started with a .013 light and a 7.154 ET. Nancy left with a respectable .026 coupled to an 8.981 ET. It was the first time this year either of these racers entered Super Pro and if their performances say anything I'm sure the rest of the field hopes it's their last.

Sportsman racers had to survive five rounds of fun to make it to the final. In the Semis Steve Weiss strapped a hole shot (.013 to .066) onto Brent Smith and forced Brent to breakout. Robert Nettles got a free ride to the finals when Calvin Pack went red. In the final both racers were outstanding at the starting line, Steve with a great .019 and Robert with a perfect .000. Steve dialed 12.74 and ran 12.755; Robert wasn't able to collect the fifty buck perfect light money from track manager Ron Craft. Robert slowed to 12.370 on his 12.30 dial.

MC/SNOW found two familiar faces in the finals. In the Semis Craig Jensen riding his XCR Polaris sled left the line too quick giving the win to Tim Skougard. Matt Spencer cut an awesome .004 to Jeff Zoggs' .038, but wasn't able to hold off the '79 Kawasaki of Zogg. In the final Skougard dialed in at 9.84 to Zoggs' 9.50, Tim coupled a .022 to Jeffs' unusually bad .409 and held on for the win. Zogg ran a much closer 9.535 to Skougards' 9.96 but was way too late to make it a race. Half way through the season the points shake out like this. Super Pro: Eddie Santarosa #1, Tim Vincent #2, Pro: Jesse Sanderson #1, Chris Hall #2, Sportsman: Dan Pratt #1, Calvin Pack #2, MC/Snow: Tim Skougard #1, Mike Cragun #2.

Steve Schoenfeld