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Formula Mazda MMP Nationals event summary

Racing series NASA
Date 2010-09-21

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Alan McCallum is Crowned National Formula Mazda Champion at the NASA National Championships

Cameron Parsons locks the West Coast FM Championship at Miller Motorsports Park Triple Header Weekend

This past weekend was the 2010 NASA National Championships which allowed competitors from all over the country to battle for the most coveted National Championship title in their respective class.

In the Formula Mazda class (FM) Alan McCallum was crowned National Champion after a three race battle over three days. "The racers start off the weekend qualifying and racing in two heat races," stated Series Official Ben Hettema. "The points accumulated from the heat races determined their starting position for the championship event."

More than 350 cars from all across the United States in a large variety of classes, ranging from Mazda Miatas to fire-breathing [Corvettes](#), stock cars, and blindingly fast formula cars converged on Miller Motorsports Park to determine who would be the best of the best. The championship was settled on the ultra-fast and challenging 3.048-mile Outer Course. "The Formula Car Challenge presented by Goodyear features the [fastest cars](#) in the NASA paddock," added Hettema. "Our fields are not nearly as big as the Spec [Miata](#) fields but they can be just as exciting with the speeds that the drivers are competing at."


The podium for race one in the FM class was Neil Alberico 1st, Alan McCallum 2nd, and Cameron Parsons 3rd. The podium for race two was Neil Alberico 1st, Alan McCallum 2nd, and Dennis Gay third.

Race three was the championship race and the grid was set by the points from the two heat races. Alberico started at the front followed closely by McCallum. Alberico, who is the 2010 Bondurant Championship Racing Series Champion, got a great start but ran into some trouble mid race that gave McCallum the opportunity to take the lead. McCallum took the top spot in the National Championship followed by Alberico, and then Parsons.

2010 was the first year that the Formula [Car](#) Challenge presented by Goodyear was invited to participate. "The series is really growing," added Hettema. "This season we have four very strong regions with great events and growing participation. Our highest attended event saw 35 competitors entered which happened to be the largest open wheel grid in North America for 2010."

The three races this weekend were also scored as official Formula [Car](#) Challenge

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presented by Goodyear West Coast Region events. Cameron Parsons who finished on the podium at the Nationals locked the Formula Car Challenge presented by Goodyear FM West Coast Regional Championship.

The Formula Mazda is really making a comeback in popularity due to the fact that the series is growing, and that Moses Smith Racing has taken over the production of parts for the RX7 powered racing car. A large contingent of race winning Formula Mazda drivers from past years were on hand working with this year's championship contenders. The visiting FM alumni included Joey Hand, Ian Lacy, Moses Smith, Telo Stewart and Mikel Miller.

Mazdaspeed allocated close to \$30,000 in prize money for this event, and has also invited the FM National Champion to the MAZDASPEED MX5 Shootout where they will be evaluated in a wide variety of categories including lap speed consistency, technical feedback, and business and PR skills. The winner of the shootout will be awarded a free season in the 2011 SCCA Playboy Mazda MX-5 Cup.

"In the racing world, speed is critical, but the intention of this program is to see who has the other business talents and communication skills necessary to succeed in motorsports long-term. Our three previous winners all proved themselves beyond a shadow of a doubt on the pro level. Our intention is to help support the next up-and-coming talent," noted Steve Sanders, MAZDASPEED Motorsports Competition Manager. "We are so grateful to MAZDASPEED and Mazda USA for seeing the value in the Formula Car Challenge presented by Goodyear National Championships," added Ben Hettema.

Up next for the Formula Car Challenge presented by Goodyear competitors is the Winter Series which opens at Infineon Raceway on November 6th. The Winter Series is 7 races over 3 weekends and is open to PFM, FM, and FS2.0 drivers.

-source: formula car challenge

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