

7-25-24: Brownstown Speedway

The second half of a double header Thursday found me at Brownstown, having come from Ripley County Fairgrounds after counting the All-Star TQs there. I arrived around sunset, parking in a large free lot and walking into the free fair. It took a minute to find my way to the grandstands though I could hear the hornet B main going on (hornets really do have a distinctive sound). It was \$15 entry into the stands.

Once again the top row didn't seem like the place to be due to poles in the way under the covered stands, though they did seem to be the most popular area in which to sit. The track was built down such that the concourse level was the top row. Weirdly, the bottom row might even be the best sightline due to the poles and the track being down low with nothing interfering in the infield.

I eventually ended up in the stands all the way into turn one, since they were uncovered and curved around enough to provide a good view of the whole track, even without being on the top row. I wouldn't be able to see any car that went over the banking in three and four, but it seemed like no matter where you sat you wouldn't have a great view of that in at least one end of the track.



Speaking of banking, there was quite a bit of it, much more than I realized, with no wall on the outside. There wasn't a discernible cushion but they could have rolled it out during intermission.



They started mains at 9:30 which gave me enough time to wander around the fairgrounds. I'm not entirely sure how many cars showed up because they appeared to only start 20 cars per feature, and they had a full 20 in all four feature. I know the mini stocks at least had a B main since I heard it while walking in.

They brought out the touring indiana Pro Late Models and paced around the track for a long time, well over 5 minutes of just pacing for no clear reason. When they did finally start, the cars were all over the track for the first few laps, settling mostly into the bottom for much of the race. More started moving up as the race went on and several cars went over the banking in turn one, sometimes managing to keep going and a couple bringing out cautions.



It was dusty. I would have worn my goggles but I actually forgot to bring them, luckily it was at least bearable and I didn't miss much of significance due to the dust. There was a good fight for the lead that came down to a nose at the line.

The super stocks went caution free, mostly running the bottom. They had a mix of body styles, some looking like late models, some like street stocks, and some a combination of the two.

The mini sprints (actually mini sprints here, unlike in New England) put on a decently good race. They were mostly on the bottom too but some were making good time up top. They appeared to have midget chassis, or at least they weren't chain driven.

The hornets ended the night and put on a pretty good show. They were 3 wide for the lead for a whole lap and they could use the entire track, cars were everywhere. It ended in a photo finish.

The show was run pretty efficiently and I was able to snag a peach funnel cake on my way out. I like the banking of the track and it could put on a good show for the higher powered cars I think, but without the draw of USAC I doubt I'll really ever end up here again.