



FORMULA MAZDA

RACE 15 | Saturday, Oct. 11, 2014, 1:30 p.m.

Formula Mazda is always a hard-fought class, and the longevity of the class means there's a depth to the bench that you don't always find in other classes. Add in the fact that Formula Mazda is a completely specified class with sealed engines and you have an extremely tough nut to crack to win a championship. Mike Anderson has been working on that nut in his No. 42 HASA/Whiteflyer Star Formula Mazda for a long time.

"In four previous Runoffs attempts, I had three second-place finishes and a DNF, so this is a dream come true to win this race," Anderson said.

Although he qualified on the Tire Rack pole, Anderson was far from a certain winner. Three-time Champion Darryl Wills in the No. 1 Hillenburg

Motorsports/Hoosier/Hawk Star Formula Mazda was sitting on the outside of the front row ready to defend his 2013 title; the second row was led by Alan McCallum in the Alan McCallum Racing Star Formula Mazda. McCallum

"We were side by side, splitting around people, getting off track – it was an amazing race"
MIKE ANDERSON

claimed the championship in 2012.

After the crash in Turn 2 that opened several Runoffs races this year, Wills jumped out to an early lead, with Anderson running second, and fourth-place qualifier Bruce Lawrence

third. Wills was leading a close race with Anderson and McCallum, but on lap 10 officials began warning Wills that he was dangerously close to the sound limit. On lap 13, they posted the black flag for the leader. Wills moved off line, slowed, and came into the pits.

"I had seen that they were giving him the black flag for sound," said Anderson. "It's disappointing because I wanted to beat him fair and square."

The race was now between Anderson and McCallum, and McCallum grabbed the lead in lap 19 with a bold move in Mazda Raceway's quick Turn 6.

"Coming off the last corner I saw the white flag and I thought, 'This is it. This is the whole race,'" Anderson said

Anderson then made his own bold



Rupert Berrington

move into Turn 2, the Andretti Hairpin, smoking his tires and emerging in the lead again.

"Mike got a little bit sideways after Turn 5 and I was able to get around him," McCallum said. "Then we got the white flag and Mike [Anderson] either got a draft on me, or he got off the corner better. He managed to get up on the inside and I just tried to take it as deep as I could, but I couldn't hold on to the position. The fact is Mike drove a better race than I did."

On the podium, Anderson had high praise for his competitors. "I knew I had my work cut out for me with Darryl and Alan behind me and all those guys around me at the start. Alan did an excellent job of capitalizing on every opportunity he had to get by me. We were side by side, splitting around people, getting off track - it was an amazing race."

Jeff Zurschmeide

ROTARY SPEED

(BELOW) Alan McCallum (19) had his turn up front, but ultimately would collect the silver medal.



Ken Brown

RESULTS

Qualifying Pos. Driver/Region Time
Session 1/Time Session 2/Time Session 3; 1. Mike Anderson/SAND 1.31.694 / 1.29.668 / **1.29.298**; 2. Darryl Wills/HOUS 1.30.448 / 1.30.901 / **1.29.403**; 3. Alan McCallum/HOUS 1.31.006 / **1.29.482** / 1.29.494; 4. Bruce Lawrence/NCR 1.30.104 / 1.30.599 / **1.29.801**; 5. Stuart Rettie/HOUS 1.33.984 / 1.32.278 / **1.31.677**; 6. William Weaver/SFR 1.36.402 / No time / 1.32.033; 7. Larry Mason/CSCC 1.34.111 / 1.32.882 / **1.32.042**; 8. Mel Kemper/NWST 1.34.280 / 1.36.049 / **1.32.264**; 9. Woody Yerxa/SFR 1.33.029 / **1.32.415** / 1.32.917; 10. doug Nelson/AZ 1.33.551 / **1.33.117** / 1.33.643; 11. Kevin Rogers/SFR No time / 1.33.477 / **1.33.341**; 12. Ritchie Hollingsworth/SFR 1.41.077 / **1.34.994** / No time; 13. Dan Erickson/AZ 1.37.526 / 1.46.244 / **1.35.366**; 14. Brad Drew/CSCC No time / No time / **1.35.433**; 15. James Malone/AZ **1.39.159** / 1.40.417 / 1.40.047;

Hollingsworth - Loss of qualifying 3 times per Chief Steward - GCR 9.1.1.E.5.D page 342

Weaver - Loss of qualifying 2 times per Chief Steward - GCR 9.1.1.E.5.D

Race 20 laps, 45 Miles: Pos. Driver (Laps); 1. Mike Anderson (20); 2. Alan McCallum (20); 3. Stuart Rettie (20); 4. William Weaver (20); 5. Mel Kemper (19); 6. Kevin Rogers (19); 7. Brad Drew (19); 8. Ritchie Hollingsworth (19); 9. Woody Yerxa (19); 10. James Malone (19); 11. Dan Erickson (16); 12. Darryl Wills (13); 13. Bruce Lawrence (13); 14. Larry Mason (0); 15. doug Nelson (0);

Overall Time of Race: 32:19.435; **Average Race Speed:** 83.084 mph; **Margin of Victory:** 00.293 seconds; **Fastest Race Lap:** Anderson 1:29.201 (90.322 mph); **Lap Leaders:** Wills laps 1-13; Anderson laps 14-18, 20; McCallum laps 19; **Sunoco Hard Charger:** Drew; **GoPro Hero Move of the Race:** Anderson

CHAMPION >
Mike Anderson
 San Diego Region
 Hasa/Whiteflyer FM

THE STUFF OF DREAMS
 (ABOVE and RIGHT)
 After finishing runner-up on three occasions, Mike Anderson finally fulfilled the dream of winning the Runoffs.



Rek Conville