

Senoia Finally Crowns Red Clay Series Winner

The last time we saw the Red Clay Series at Senoia Raceway back in late April, the series saw its largest car count that they had ever seen. Unfortunately, mother nature would put a damper on crowning a winner that night, so Senoia Raceway decided to pause the event and keep the lineups where they were at currently. The makeup date for that race wound up being last night and 27 Red Clay Sportsman decided to return looking to claim the \$2000 prize. Senoia also had four other divisions decide their victor following the postponement.

In the Modifieds, there were battles all throughout the feature with nearly every driver having the opportunity to fight for the lead. John Holcomb led the majority of the race after starting on the outside pole. He had to hold off a hard charging Brett Gray for the first half of the feature, but Gray later spun putting him to the rear and out of the fight. In the closing laps, the Modifieds had numerous spins that kept readjusting the field and allowing quite a few drivers to get to the front. The driver to capitalize the most was Cory Hilliman, who started mid-pack and used the cautions to slowly get up to the lead. On a restart, Hilliman managed to get to the outside of Holcomb to steal the lead and just beat him to the checkered flag. This gives Hilliman his first victory this year at Senoia. Holcomb would finish second followed by Gray, who came from the rear to finish third.

For the Hotshots, a two-car battle for the lead ensued early and ended with one of those drivers pulling away late and cruising in for the victory. Allen Jones and Cory Wilson raced side-by-side in the first few laps swapping for the lead. Following a caution, Wilson started to lose pace and eventually pulled into the pits. This allowed Jones to pull away from the rest of the field and coast to the checkered flag. Rounding out the top three were Mike Webb and Eli Levine.

Matt Dooley got to give his mom an early Mother's Day gift with a trip to victory lane in the Crate Late Model division. After jumping to the first row, following the unfortunate mishap with Allen Styck not being able to get his car started, Dooley got the perfect start he needed and pulled away early. A late caution tightened the field back together and this time Dooley had Jody Knowles at his bumper. Matt managed to keep the lead; he just had no room for error or Knowles had the chance to capitalize and steal the lead away. Dooley did pull away in the closing laps to get the victory after leading every lap. Knowles ended up being disqualified, this allowed Chase Baker to take second followed by Ty Ellis in third.

The Limited's put on quite the show to close the race on Saturday night with at one point having a three-way battle for the lead. Oliver Gentry led early on with a charging Joey Armistead Jr. steadily in his rear view. After driving hard on the top side, Gentry slipped up just enough allowing Armistead to get the lead late. Bubba Pollard worked his way from the rear and at one point battled with Gentry and Armistead for the top spot. Armistead did gain ground in the closing laps and pulled away from his competitors to capture the victory and claim his second straight win after returning to Senoia. Gentry, who had the most dominant car majority of the race, fell back to third finishing just behind Pollard. He and Armistead gave the fans quite a show battling for the lead.

In the Red Clay Series main event, this 30-lap feature had nearly everything a true race fan wants to see. This race had its lead changes and its wrecks, while even giving the surprise finish nobody saw happening. Sawyer Tinker and Blant Duke were the two drivers most saw winning the race early with them pulling away from everybody else and fighting for the lead. Tinker led most of the race with Duke constantly on his bumper. About halfway in, Duke made a

move for the lead only to get connected with Tinker, which forced Duke out of the race. A few laps later, Tinker also had mechanical issues taking him out of contention for the victory. With the two most dominant cars gone, the race was open to anyone for the taking. At one point, we had multiple drivers racing for the lead from Braxton Barber, Sam Ellison, and many more. Barber wound up also having issues ending his night, and the driver that crept his way slowly to the front was Mavrick Davidson. After damaging his car early, Davidson used every mishap to his advantage to get to the front. In the final laps, young 17-year-old Davidson drove away from the rest of the field and captured his biggest victory ever, after just last year being in the Chargers. An unforeseen finish after a wild and crazy feature race.

It took an extra two weeks, but Senoia Raceway finally got to capture its first Red Clay Series winner of the season. Next Saturday night May 20th, the Super Late Models return to action with the Hunt the Front Series making its first ever appearance with the Roscoe Smith Classic paying \$10,000-to-win.