



NSW Late Models 2011/12 Season Recap

TYREPOWER SYDNEY SPEEDWAY - FINAL POINTS LATE MODELS SEASON 2011/12

Tyrepower Sydney Speedway has released the final pointscore for Late Models for season 2011/12.

Darryl GRIMSON 1060
Bruce WHITE 988
Barry KELLEHER 903
Nathan DISNEY 859
Ross NICASTRI 851
Adam BROOK 840
Col ROBINSON 817
Ben NICASTRI 773
Ed BORG 736
Dave ROBERTSON 681
Ron PYNE 557
Jamie DICKER 518
Bruce MACKENZIE 516
Greg CASSIDY 350
Lyle DICKER 338
Paul STUBBER 280
Stewart JORDON 268
Leighton O'BRIEN 210
Jamie OLDFIELD 160
Craig VOSBERGEN 144
Mark COOPER 138
Scott MCPHERSON 138
Nathan SMEE 138
Jake HAWKINS 138
Devin MORAN 134
Matt STOW 134
Kevin STOW 131
Bill MARTIN 128
Darren FORREST 126
John HECTOR 120
Garry BRYANS 120
Warren OLDFIELD 116

ADAM BROOK WINS NSW LATE MODEL SERIES

A consistent run by Adam Brook in the #31 Aurora Competition Cars entry has been rewarded with victory in the 2011/12 NSW Late Model Series. Brook only recorded one Feature win during the season, and that was at Brobenah Raceway in Leeton early in the Series. Nathan Disney (#11) finished runner up in the Series, only 6 points adrift on adjusted points, with Ben Nicastri (#99) capping a great season for the younger generation racers by placing 3rd. The full 2011/12 NSW Late

Model Series Pointscore (less lowest Round) reads :

1. 31 Adam Brook 851
2. 11 Nathan Disney 845
3. 99 Ben Nicastrri 776
4. 3 Ross Nicastrri 739
5. 12 Darryl Grimson 705
6. 67 Ed Borg 560
7. 96 Bruce White 537
8. 65 Barry Kelleher 480
9. 88 Col Robinson 398
10. 6 Bruce Mackenzie 380
11. 4X David Robertson 308
12. 9 Ron Pyne 253
13. 4N Lyle Dicker 224
14. 7 Scott McPherson 207
15. 2 Greg Cassidy 178
16. 4N Jamie Dicker 164
17. 9 Paul Stubber 118
18. 14 Leighton O'Brien 38
19. 4N Nathan Dicker 30
20. 6 Paul Kranitis 0
21. 75 Stewart Jordan 0
22. 15 Mark Cooper 0
23. 17Q Kevin Stow 0
24. 54Q Matt Ingrey 0
25. 99U Devin Moran 0
26. 055V Darren Forrest 0
27. 6 Bill Martin 0
28. 95 John Hector 0
29. 66 0
30. 15 Nathan Smee 0
31. 14 David Mentiplay 0
32. 5 Tony Edser 0

JAMIE OLDFIELD WINS GRAND NATIONAL

West Australian racer Jamie Oldfield made amends for being the 'bridesmaid' at some big races in the 2011/12 season with a thrilling victory in the Grand National held at Tyrepower Sydney Speedway (NSW) Saturday April 14. Oldfield started from position six in the 30 lap \$5000 to win A Main and was involved in a close battle with Ross Nicastrri in the early laps before slipping past Darryl Grimson and Craig Vosbergen in quick succession to settle into second behind race leader, and pole sitter, Nathan Smee. Try as he may Oldfield was unable to close on Smee, who was showing great maturity as he reeled the laps off while maintaining a tidy line. A caution two laps from home was to prove Smee's undoing. With Oldfield alongside in the side by side restart, Smee was able to get the jump, but was immediately under pressure from the WA visitor. Coming on to the main straight to take the white flag Smee had a half-lose, and that was all it took for Oldfield to slip past and take victory. Grimson battled strongly all race, and finished a gallant second despite an engine issue in the last few laps, while Craig Vosbergen was third. Defending Champion David Robertson, who started on the front row, was 4th, with Col Robinson 5th. Young Queensland racer Jake Hawkins placed 6th, with Smee recovering to finish 7th, the last competitor on the lead lap. Heat wins went to Jamie Oldfield (2), Grimson, and Nathan Disney.

MIXED RESULTS FOR NSW RACERS IN MILDURA

Several NSW Late Model racers competed in the Cross Roads Holiday Park Mildura Easter \$10,000

at The Edge Hotel Motel Timmis Speedway Mildura (VIC) over Easter. The most successful was Darryl Grimson (N12) who finished 3rd in the big 50 lap A Main held Sunday night (April 8). Lyle Dicker (N4) was 8th, and Nathan Smee (N15) 9th. Barry Kelleher (N65) retired from the race, as did Nathan Disney (N11) who lead at one stage, while Ross Nicastrì (N3), who started on the front row, went out after two laps with a flat right rear tyre.

NATHAN DISNEY WINS IN SYDNEY

It has taken all season but Nathan Disney has finally cracked it for his first A Main victory of the season, and it couldn't of happened in a better manner, as he 'out-duelled' Darryl Grimson at Tyrepower Sydney Speedway (NSW) Saturday March 31 in a classic two car battle. The pair flashed across the line separated by just half a second, after Grimson had lead most of the 15 lap journey. Third went to Ross Nicastrì in the #3. The event was the Final Round of the NSW Late Model Series.

ROSS NICASTRI WINS AT CHARLTON

Ross Nicastrì (#3) continued his good form at Charlton Raceway Toowoomba (QLD) this season with an all the way victory in the A Main of Round 7 of the Dryden Signs Thunder Series held Saturday March 10. Nicastrì won a Round of the Series at the same track in December. The A Main victory followed two second placings in the Heats. While success came the way of Ross it was a frustrating night for Ben Nicastrì in the #99 as the engine would not run correctly meaning he was sidelined for the event.

RAIN WINS IN QUEENSLAND

Several NSW Late Model racers headed north to contest the Lucas Oil Products Queensland Late Model Championship at SuperCheap Archerfield Speedway (QLD) Saturday March 3. Ross (#3) and Ben Nicastrì (#99), Dave Robertson (#X4), and Nathan Disney (#11) were in action but the meeting was abandoned after the Heats when rain set in. Ross Nicastrì DNF'd his first Heat, while son Ben scored a 5th and DNF in a disappointing result for the Nicastrì Motorsport team. The team will endeavour to make amends on March 10 when they contest a Round of the Dryden Signs Thunder Series at Charlton Raceway (QLD). Robertson performed well in his Heats, with a 2nd and 1st before the wet weather arrived. He also set quick time for the night with a 14.484. Disney, still chasing his first Feature win of the summer, finished 5th in his first Heat and dominated his second.

DARRYL GRIMSON WINS ANOTHER SYDNEY A MAIN

Darryl Grimson (#12) has won this 3rd Late Model A Main of the Tyrepower Sydney Speedway season on Saturday February 18. Grimson accounted for Col Robinson early in the race but was then challenged by Ross Nicastrì (#3) with the pair completing the last six laps mostly side by side on full throttle. Bruce White (#96) enjoyed another strong run to finish 3rd. Barry Kelleher (#65) was 4th, with NSW Late Model Series pointscore leader Adam Brook (#31) 5th. Ben Nicastrì (#99), Ed Borg (#67) and Greg Cassidy (#2) were the remaining finishers. Earlier in the evening Nathan Disney (#11) won Heat 1 after a strong showing by Ron Pyne (#9) and White (coming through from the rear to secure 2nd). Heat 2 saw several early incidents with Ross Nicastrì breaking a ball spline, Greg Cassidy (#2) going out with a tyre, and John Hector (#95) crunching the tyre wall big time out of turn 2 after something broke on the car. Brook also went out when a body bracket jammed under the front wheel. Robinson won the race, while White secured the victory in Heat 3. The 'hard luck' story of the A Main was Nathan Disney, who, while charging hard, collected a spun car, and required the attention of the medical staff. Disney was extricated from the car with a sore neck and shoulder that was later diagnosed as muscle damage.

NICASTRI FAMILY ON PODIUM IN VICTORIAN TITLE

It was a good night for the Nicastrì family at Rolling Thunder Raceway Bacchus Marsh Saturday February 4 with a podium finish for the father and son team in the inaugural Victorian Late Model Championship supported by Finline Building Projects. Five NSW Late Models racers attended the title but it was the youngest member, Ben Nicastrì, that shone, finishing 2nd to former Australian Late Model Champion Brad Blake. Ben kept the pressure on the four times National titleholder for the

entire distance of the Feature but couldn't find a way past. Ross Nicastrì was also in the mix and secured a great 3rd. Scott McPherson (N7) was 5th, with Lyle Dicker (N4) and Darryl Grimson (N12) both failing to finish.

STEVE FRANCIS WINS AUSTRALIAN LATE MODEL TITLE

Steve Francis has written himself into the record books as the first US racer to win the Australian Late Model Championship after a thrilling A Main victory at Tyrepower Sydney Speedway Saturday January 28.

The record books will also show that Francis led every lap, but statistics can be deceiving, as he was under pressure from the drop of the green flag, a situation that existed for the entire race distance.

Francis, driving the USA#7 Time Target backed Rocket owned by Scott McPherson, started out of position two, and got the jump on pole-sitter Devin Moran into turn one.

From there the 'Kentucky Colonel' had to maintain a steady line, and his composure, in the face of numerous challenges.

Moran (USA#99), Michael Holmes (#W91), and Jamie Oldfield (#W51), started to apply the pressure to the leader, with all four cars separated by less than 20 metres as the yellows flashed 10 laps in when Paul Stubber (#N9) became the first casualty in the 24 car field with a damaged front left wheel.

The mid field battles were just as intense, with defending title holder Brad Blake (#W0) having to race high and wide for many laps as he tried to clear several cars running at the same pace. Speedcar sensation Nathan Smee, who won a Heat on night 1 in the immaculate American Tyre & Racing Services #N15, quickly moved up to be sitting in 5th. Smee was working the pole line to perfection and sat just off the tail of the leaders as the race passed mid distance.

Up front the battle continued to rage between the top four, with the order approaching half distance reading Francis, Moran, Holmes, and Jamie Oldfield.

A quick yellow, following a spin by Dean Hawkins (#Q43), regrouped the field, but the top four continued to wage war, with Moran, Holmes, and Oldfield chopping and changing lines in an effort to rattle Francis.

Jamie Oldfield was on the move though, eventually nailing down second, and applying relentless pressure to Francis.

With 11 laps remaining Col Robinson (#N88) spun and the next few laps were peppered with yellows as a result of spins, car damage, and retirements.

When racing resumed Oldfield tagged onto the rear of the Francis car but try as he might he was unable to find a way past. Over the final few circuits Holmes accounted for Moran, while David Robertson (#4x) closed on Smee who had cemented a 5th position finish.

As the chequered flag was unfurled Francis swept past with Jamie Oldfield still glued to his bumper, ahead of Holmes and Moran. At flag fall less than 50 metres separated the top four while 16 of the original starters finished on the lead lap.

As a spectacle the Frank's Auto Parts Australian Late Model Championship A Main had everything, with good, clean racing on a track that was very well prepared by the team at Tyrepower Sydney Speedway.

The official finishing order read :

1. USA7 Steve Francis
2. W51 Jamie Oldfield

3. W91 Michael Holmes
4. USA99 Devin Moran
5. N15 Nathan Smee
6. 4X David Robertson
7. W15 Warren Oldfield
8. W0 Brad Blake
9. W9 Ben Ludlow
10. N99 Ben Nicastrì
11. V55 Darren Forrest
12. N12 Darryl Grimson
13. N75 Stewart Jordan
14. S10 Mat Crimmins
15. W11 Jason Oldfield
16. N65 Barry Kelleher
17. N6 Nick Girdlestone
18. Q9 Aaron Van Zeeland

DNF Q43 Dean Hawkins
DNF W52 Jay Cardy
DNF W63 Koran Atkinson
DNF N88 Col Robinson
DNF Q54 Matt Ingrey
DNF N9 Paul Stubber

Earlier in the evening Francis, Moran, Jamie Oldfield, and Jason Oldfield won Heats, with Moran and Smee taking a Dash each. Smee's win in the Dash was decided by millimetres as Ben Ludlow (#W9), Warren Oldfield (#W51), and the N15 flashed across the line side by side.

The B Main saw Col Robinson take the win, with Stubber, Ingrey, Cardy, Kelleher, and Aaron van Zeeland also earning transfer spots into the A.

Heat winners on night one (Friday January 27) were Francis (2), Moran, Smee, Jamie Oldfield, Robertson, Atkinson, and Crimmins. The two Night 1 Mini Features were won by Moran and Francis.

NSW Late Models thanks the following supporters of the 11th Annual Australian Late Model Championship :

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DEVIN MORAN WINS NSW LATE MODEL TITLE

Young US sensation Devin Moran has taken one of the biggest wins of his Late Model career thus far, by claiming the NSW title at Lucas Oil Lismore Speedway (NSW) Saturday 14th January 2012.

A Main Results

1. USA99 Devin Moran
2. W0 Brad Blake
3. N12 Darryl Grimson
4. Q5 Blair Granger
5. Q17 Kev Stow
6. Q54 Matt Ingrey
7. Q24 Russell Bonsey
8. N67 Ed Borg
9. Q77 Steve van Zeeland

RON PYNE TAKES FIRST LATE MODEL A MAIN

After West Australian Paul Stubber had steered the #9 Ron Pyne machine at the previous two Tyrepower Sydney Speedway outings the car owner found himself back in the drivers seat for Round 8 of the NSW Series (held at the same track) on Saturday January 7, and also found himself on the top step of the podium in the A Main! The result signals an ominous warning to rivals ahead of the Frank's Auto Parts Australian Late Model Championship at Tyrepower Sydney Speedway January 27/28. It was Pyne's first Late Model A Main victory after recently joining the division. Darry Grimson (#12) battled hard with Pyne, but had to settle for 2nd on this occasion, while Hunter Valley hot shot Nathan Disney (#11) secured a strong 3rd.

DARRYL GRIMSON WINS EXCITING LATE MODEL FEATURE

Darryl Grimson (#12) has won his second consecutive Late Model A Main at Tyrepower Sydney Speedway (NSW) by claiming victory in Round 7 of the NSW Series on Monday evening December 26. The 15 lap A Main was full of action, with pole sitter Nathan Disney getting the jump early to lead lap 1. Ed Borg in the #67 then moved to the front and lead laps 2 and 3 before Disney charged back to take command of laps 4 through 6. A spin by Disney saw him relegated to the rear, and with front end damage he struggled for the remainder of the race. Ross Nicastrri (#3) then took over the race lead but retired on lap 11 allowing Bruce White (#96) to assume the front running. White, after starting at the back of the field, had steadily moved forward to be running 3rd at half race distance. Darryl Grimson dropped back early but recovered to be running second as the race entered its final stages. Grimson kept White in sight, and was able to execute a last lap pass that resulted in him greeting the flag first, by just .1 of a second. Ben Nicastrri enjoyed a strong run in the A Main, working his way forward to be in the top half of the field deep into the race. Nathan Disney made a late race charge, moving into 3rd, but young Nicastrri had desires on that position and secured it with two laps remaining. Disney finished 4th, with pointscore leader Adam Brook (#31) 5th. The remaining finishers were Col Robinson (#88) and Ed Borg. Heat wins went to Robinson, Ross Nicastrri, and Grimson.

NICASTRI FAMILY DOMINATE CHARLTON

Ross and Ben Nicastrri travelled to Charlton Raceway (QLD) Saturday December 17 and it is a night neither are likely to forget in a hurry! Three Late Model races were held with the Nicastrri name pinned to the top of the result sheet in each. Ross started from position eight in Heat 1, and in a masterful display of driving, sliced through the field to take the win. In Heat 2 Ben started from position two and rarely put a wheel wrong as he raced to victory. Ross started off pole in the 20 lap A Main and out muscled Blair Granger into turn one to lead every lap.

GRIMSON WINS AT TYREPOWER SYDNEY SPEEDWAY

Darryl Grimson raced to an all-the-way victory in Round 6 of the NSW Late Model Series held at Tyrepower Sydney Speedway (NSW) Saturday December 10. Grimson (#12) was making only his second start of the season, and lead Nathan Disney (#11) across the line by a three second margin. Disney, who started out of position 13, sliced through the field early to move into the runner-up position on lap four, but was unable to peg back the leader. Bruce White (#96) was solid all night, and after winning Heat 1 was able to lock down a 3rd place finish in the Feature. 15 cars started the race,

with eight retiring before half distance was reached. West Australian Paul Stubber, in the #9 Ron Pyne car, finished 4th in the Feature, followed by Stewart Jordan (#75), in his first start of the season, Bruce Mackenzie (#6) and Adam Brook (#31) who broke a power steering pump bracket. Despite the car problems Brook has extended his points lead in the NSW Series after his closest rivals retired from the race. Other Heat winners on the night were Stubber, Ross Nicastrì, and Mackenzie.

SCOTT MCPHERSON WINS SOUTH AUSTRALIAN TITLE

NSW Late Model racers Scott McPherson and David Robertson travelled to Borderline Speedway Mount Gambier (SA) Saturday December 3 to contest the South Australian Late Model Championship. Both starred in the Heats, with McPherson winning two and finishing 5th in the other. Robertson also performed well in the Heats, with two victories and a 2nd. The Heat results ensured Robertson started from pole in the 20 lap Feature, but he was forced to retire in the race. McPherson started from position three, and capped a great night by taking victory. The Crimmins Racing team cars of Mat Crimmins (S10) and Robbie Faux (S64) finished 2nd and 3rd. The South Australian title has only been held three times, and has been dominated by NSW racers. McPherson won the inaugural title in 2008/09, while Darryl Grimson was the victor in 2009/10.

ADAM BROOK WINS AT LEETON

Adam Brook scored a fortunate Feature race victory in Round 4 of the NSW Late Model Series held at Brobenah Raceway Leeton (NSW) Saturday November 19. Brook started from position two and dropped down the field a little in the early laps, before recovering to move back into second on lap 8 of the 20 lap race. Nathan Disney, after being super consistent all night, with three second placings in the Heats, was off position three in the Feature but moved to the front on lap one. Disney kept the dominance going, but was caught out in traffic, allowing Brook to slip past on the last lap. Bruce Mackenzie finished 3rd in the #6.

NSW RACERS ENJOY SUCCESS IN QUEENSLAND

NSW Late Model racers Scott McPherson and David Robertson competed at SuperCheap Auto Archerfield Speedway (Brisbane QLD) Saturday November 12. The event was the inaugural 'Zoe Girdlestone Memorial' and attracted a field of 14 starters. McPherson had a good night, winning his Heat and finishing 5th in the other, before claiming 3rd in the Feature. Robertson was also in great form, finishing 4th in the Feature after a 2nd and 1st in the Heats. Both racers will be in action in Round 4 of the NSW Late Model Series to be held at Brobenah Raceway Leeton NSW Saturday November 19. The 'Zoe Girdlestone Memorial' was won by Dean Hawkins from Blair Granger.

LATE MODEL RESULTS : TYREPOWER SYDNEY SPEEDWAY (NSW) : 5TH NOVEMBER 2011 **ROUND 3 NSW LATE MODEL SERIES**

Heat 1 : 1. N31 Adam Brook, 2. N9 Ron Pyne, 3. N65 Barry Kelleher

Heat 2 : 1. N3 Ross Nicastrì, 2. N12 Darryl Grimson, 3. N7 Scott McPherson

A Main : 1. N3 Ross Nicastrì, 2. N9 Ron Pyne, 3. 4X Dave Robertson

ROSS NICASTRI WINS IN GOULBURN

Round 2 of the NSW Late Model Series was held at Goulburn Speedway Saturday October 29. The A Main saw Nathan Disney and Adam Brook off the front row. Ross Nicastrì was the big mover though. Out of position four he roared around the outside of Brook in turn one and dived under Disney in turn two, after Disney developed a small push. The remainder of the race then became a high speed game of chase with Disney keeping pace with Nicastrì, but unable to make a pass. Third place was the battle of the young guns, with Adam Brook just holding sway over Ben Nicastrì. A race long duel raged with Nicastrì throwing everything at Brook who was driving a tidy line, and keeping his car nice and straight. At the flag it was Ross Nicastrì from Disney, with Brook third, and Ben Nicastrì fourth. Scott McPherson, Ross Nicastrì, and Nathan Disney each won a Heat. Local club member Paul Kranitis drove the Bruce Mackenzie #6 for the night while Ed Borg enjoyed his first start of the season in the #67. The only casualty on the night was McPherson who had a hole punched through the radiator of the #7 in Heat 2, putting him out for the remainder of the program. NSW Late Models

would like to thank the Goulburn Club for making the division so welcome, and being so easy to work with on the night. NSW Late Model racers really enjoyed competing on the recently widened track.
Race report by Charlie Roberts.

SKIDZ FOR KIDZ LATE MODELS IMPRESS

The first hit out for the season for NSW Late Models was the 'Skidz-for-kidz' cold coin entry night at Tyrepower Sydney Speedway (NSW) Saturday October 15. A huge crowd was on hand, with the nine Late Models turning on some impressive action. Three 6 lap Dashes were held, with the third being declared mid distance :

Dash 1

1. N99 Ben Nicastrì
2. N7 Scott McPherson
3. N11 Nathan Disney

Dash 2

1. N11 Nathan Disney
2. N2 Greg Cassidy
3. N7 Scott McPherson

Dash 3

1. N4 Nathan Dicker
 2. N3 Ross Nicastrì
 3. N6 Bruce Mackenzie
- Click [here](#) for full results

LATE MODELS AUSTRALIA LAUNCHED

After a lot of behind the scenes work Late Models Australia (LMA) has officially been launched ahead of the 2011/12 season.

Following a formation meeting at the 2010/11 Nationals held at Mildura, Late Models Australia has officially become an Incorporated Association, with the members of the new body being Late Model Racing Australia (LMRA), the South Australian Late Model Association (SALMA), Late Model Racing Queensland (LMRQ), and NSW Late Models (NSWLM). Each member body has two delegates who represent that organisation.

The inaugural Late Models Australia Office Bearers and Committee are :

President : Mat Crimmins (SALMA)

Vice President : Allan Blake (LMRA)

Secretary : Stuart Pope (SALMA)

Treasurer : Ross Nicastrì (NSWLM)

Committee : Jason Oldfield (LMRA), Blair Granger (LMRQ), Nick Girdlestone (LMRQ), Bruce Mackenzie (NSWLM)

Following the official formation of Late Models Australia the incumbent President Mat Crimmins said :“Its great to have Late Models Australia up and running. The division can now provide a united front while laying some important ground work for the future”.

“The most urgent item on our agenda at the moment is to ensure the success of the National title in Sydney next January. Late Models Australia will continue to work closely with NSW Late Models and the management of Tyrepower Sydney Speedway in an effort to make the title the most successful yet”.

“The plan with Late Models Australia is to hold a face-to-face meeting of Member organisations at the Australian title, with phone hook ups implemented as deemed necessary”.

“I feel really privileged to be the President of Late Models Australia for its inaugural term. We have a wealth of experience in the serving Executive and Committee, which only augers well for the division moving forward”.