

DIEGO MORALES WINS THE SUPER SERIES TITLE, WHILE DIEGO ALVARADO SCORES SPRINT SERIES HONORS.

october











ARRIVE AND DRIVE | KART RACING

ROUND 8 - OCL 10

On Saturday, drivers finally arrived to the finale of the 2020 Sprint Series Season. Albeit a unique one to say the least, the year's action did not disappoint and to cap things off, we'd not only wrap up the championship on some very slim margins but also see a familiar face finally break a curse...

Making a return appearance to the Sprint Series would be 2019 champ, Tyler Redman for his last opportunity as a 2R driver. Redman clocked off fast lap after fast lap and showed just exactly why he won last year. Meanwhile, the two duking it out behind him were Matthew McCoy and Evan Lawrence. Just when things seemed to quiet down, a lapper would get thrown into the mix, and by the checkered, it would be Redman winning the heat race just ahead of Lawrence 2nd and McCoy 3rd.

Due to an uncharacteristic mistake in his heat race, Ivan Martinez made an unusual appearance in the C-Main, starting not quite at the front. His experience quickly took him to the top spot, and safely away from the roughhousing amongst the entirety of the field. It would be a dominant and uncontested run for him and he'd grab the win and transfer to the B-Main with ease.

The B-Main started with series regular Adrian Comstock and newcomer Wrigley Corales dueling for control at the green flag. Corales maintained a good hold but Comstock lay close, never allowing much breathing room. Meanwhile, Gregorio Pelaez also kept the pressure on. Corales managed to never lose the lead, and Comstock, after dispatching other opportune drivers, finished 2nd just ahead of Pelaez in 3rd.

Drivers finally arrived at the A-Main— the points separating contenders for the 2020 podium were pretty narrow so things were unlikely to be friendly on course. Going into the finale, the facts were as follows: Alvarado sat 48 points ahead of Matt Steele. Donnie Clarke, Tommy Haake, John Rice, and Ivan Martinez were all in a 15 point window (though Martinez' C-Main result was sure to hurt his game this time around).

The last A-Main of the 2020 Sprint Series began with Diego Alvarado, John Rice, and Tyler Redman at the front. As the race unfolded, it would seem that the championship pressure was coming on strong and the top group would look nothing like the start. Alvarado



A Main Podium



B-Main Winner Wrigley Corales



C-Main Winner Ivan Martinez



Sprint Series Points

Na	me	Points	Points Drop			
1)	Diego Alvarado	1952	(0)			
2)	Matt Steele	1887	(242)			
3)	Donnie Clarke	1885	(227)			
4)	John Rice	1872	(186)			
5)	Tommy Haake	1855	(197)			
6)	Ivan Martinez	1812	(116)			











fell back, allowing Rice and Redman into the dominant positions. Evan Lawrence kept on the offensive, and several positions back, last round's winner Donnie Clarke was also on a mission. At the halfway mark, Redman made the move, stealing away the lead from Rice, with Lawrence keeping close enough by to slot in for 2nd to hook right onto Redman's blistering pace. Clarke meanwhile continued to dispatch driver after driver until finally positioned neatly in line with Redman and Lawrence. With one to go, Clarke made the move, stealing 2nd away from Lawrence. Ultimately, this gave Redman exactly the breathing room he needed to finally end his string of P2 finishes, going on to his first everand last– Sprint Series win.

















The season finale for the 2020 IronMan Series would see all eyes on the 5-way battle for the final two podium spots, as Sean Fite had already wrapped things up one round early in September. For round number eight the field of thirty would take to the Tecnico layout, a driver's favorite, but one where pit strategy could make a huge impact on the finish...

Sprint Series standout Evan Lawrence would lead the field away for the first time in his IronMan Series career, and unlike many of the pole sitters to precede him, he would hold on to the point for several laps. Some of that was because of the infighting behind him, as Michael Floerchinger and Tyler Redman went back and for the multiple times to kick things off, while the other element was the mass exodus from the track to the pits in the early stages. Only a handful of drivers elected to stay out in the open ten circuits, which is also partially what helped Lawrence's first challenger reach him a bit quicker: Chris Huerta.

With his charge to the front bolstered by many of the drivers in front of him taking to the pits, Huerta was able to get to second by lap 5, and then set his sights on reeling in the leader, Lawrence. It did not take long for the veteran driver to reach him, and on lap 10 it was Huerta taking over the lead, a position he would keep for the next 35 laps. Losing the lead was actually the best thing to happen to Evan however, as he would immediately find more pace, and start rolling right with the new leader for much of his duration out front. In fact, it wasn't until lap 35 that Evan would finally be caught and passed by Andres Prieto, who had worked up from the 14th starting spot, albeit with a bit more pushback from the other drivers along the way. Both he and Michael Hazlewood marched through the pack almost together the entire time, with the latter starting just one spot ahead of Prieto.

On the other end of the strategy spectrum however was the drivers that elected to pit early, instead of staying out, with 2 in particular making the most of the move: Andrew Wood and Bill Kreig. After pairing up with Sean Fite for the win last month, Kreig would start in the 20th spot, and would be one of the first to head down pit road. Woody on the other hand started 27th and did a bit of work on track before peeling off, electing to make his first stop on lap 13. Kreig was 16th and in a long line of karts when he came in, quickly dispatching the two drivers in front of him upon his exit, and then set sail in clear air, picking off drivers one by one as the fastest driver on the track. For his part, Wood made it up to 6th before coming down pit lane, and after a few clean laps would have to fight through some unwilling traffic before turning on the afterburners.

It wouldn't be until about the 3/4 mark that we would start seeing the pit lane return to its busy nature, with not only the leaders heading down for the first time, but the aforementioned Wood for his second. This decision to pit for a second time was a crucial one, as he and Bill Kreig had gotten linked up and were cutting the fastest laps on track; until Huerta came out of the pits right in front of them. Woody would duck down pit road and come out in relatively clean air, while Kreig would stay out with Huerta, and the duo would fight through traffic. When the duo did final come down pit road for the final time on lap 52 and 53 respectively, the damage done was clear: a 2+ seconds advantage to Wood. As the final stops were made in the last five minutes, Andrew would maintain his advantage, and claim round #8, while Huerta would settle for 2nd after a spirited battle with Kreig, who slotted into 3rd.

In the podium fight however, it wasn't quite enough for Huerta to leap frog into the top 3, coming up just 2 points short to Prieto, who brought home a solid 6th place finish, his 7th top 6 finish of the season. Scoring a 5th was runner-up in the championship Michael Hazlewood, 10 points clear of Prieto, while Sean Fite would actually have his worst finish of the year in 9th, but all smiles with the 2020 IronMan Series title in hand already.





Fir	nal Standings	Points	Drop
IR0	NMAN		•
1	Sean Fite	618	(66)
2	Michael Hazlewood	592	(48)
3	Andres Prieto	582	(66)
4	Chris Huerta	580	(48)
5	Ayrton DeMoss	559	(60)































ARRIVE AND DRIVE | **KART RACING**

Round 8 - oct 24

eading into the 2020 Super Series season finale, only a couple of hardware positions had officially been decided, with only the Masters and Sportsman championships locked up a month prior. The Overall, Grand Masters, and most of the podiums were still fluid, with the Tecnico track playing the perfect stage in the last round of the 8 round contest.

The final qualifying session of the year would see a familiar face atop the sold-out show of 90 entrants, as Paulo Franca clocked his third pole of the year -and second in a row- making it 5 times he has been in the top 2 in qualifying in 2020. Joining him in the top 3 and therefore scoring P1 starting spots in their respective heats were Ayrton DeMoss and Andrew Wood; the former in the top 3 for just the second time in his career, while Wood was fresh off the win in the IronMan finale just that morning. Once the racing began however, it would be a different driver showing the way, as Michael Hazlewood swept both his heat races for pole positon in the A-Main, while one-off runner Charles Eichlin, the aforementioned Paulo Franca, point leader Diego Morales, and a fresh face at the front, Ariel Rubio all scored heat race victories. Combining his heat win with a fourth saw Paulo Franca on the front row for the second race in a row as well, while consistency paid off for Andres Prieto and Andrew Wood who filled in the second row albeit without heat race wins to their names.

When the mains kicked off it would be Albert Yeh leading the field away for the start of the C-Main, and he would never look back. An up and coming talent that was not able to put in a full season, Albert's C-Main performance was flawless, not putting a wheel wrong for each of the 12 laps, scoring the win and the B-main transfer in the process. His 10+ second lead made his win a forgone conclusion, and many on the sidelines watched veteran Jose da Silva work through the pack from the last starting position. Forced to miss most of the day due to work commitments, the two-time Masters champ was masterful working through the field, making it up to the third spot before the checkers fell.

The final B-Main of the year would be polar opposite of the C-Main, as a train of 7 drivers all vied for the final transfer spot into the A-Main. At the start it would be eventual Grand Masters champ Tony Wika at the helm, but he would come under immediate fire from Jeremy Aldridge, who was pushing to perhaps make it onto the Sportsman championship podium as well. Aldridge would take over the top spot on lap one, and immediately would feel the pressure put right back on him by Wika, who was also in the hunt for the Sportsman hardware. Wika was not alone either, as Evan Lawrence, Chris Carter, Nick Marascio, Leo Ovtcharov and the guy everyone was chasing in that Sportsman hardware battle -Michael Chen-were all in a row. Things stayed pretty calm at the front until about 5 to go, and then the jockeying for position saw things shuffle



A Main Podium



B-Main Jeremy Aldridge



C-Main Albert Yeh



Final Standings Points Drop

1 Diego Morales [M] 2651 (291) 4 Samuel Hunt 2516 (243) 2 Andres Prieto 2635 (328) 5 Ayrton DeMoss 2445 (254)

3 Sean Fite 2534 (296)





2nd through 7th. Aldridge would eventually hold on to the top spot as the rest of the group dropped Michael Chen, and although Jeremy would make it up to 20th in the A-Main in his quest for the cup, he would come up just 1 point short of Chen in the end.

The final A-Main of the year would be yet another edge of your seat affair, with most of the hardware contenders at the sharp end, sprinkled with them several drivers having break out performances as well. After sweeping the heat races, Michael Hazlewood would lead the field into the esses, but it would be Paulo Franca besting the less experienced driver at the start, leading the opening circuit. The counter attack would come a couple laps later, and it was Hazlewood back to the front on lap 4, with Andres Prieto working his way by as well, and Franca immediately going defensive. For Prieto, the championship was the carrot, as he looked to unseat Diego Morales from the top step here in the final round, but Michael's advantage was already over a second because of the time lost in the Franca pass. It looked like it may be all Hazlewood, until Sean Fite was able to sneak past Franca before the defense started to really kill the rest of the pack, and when he linked up with Prieto things changed. Lap after lap the duo closed in on the lead, catching Michael with just 2 laps to go. Fite immediately made his move for the lead, and took the white flag out front; by the time they were coming around to finish the lap however, it was Hazlewood back out front, with Prieto on the prowl and Fite in third. Contact in the pass attempt would see Fite slip past both drivers to steal away the win, with Prieto giving the 2nd spot back to Hazlewood at the line. Further back, the other half of the overall championship battle saw Diego Morales cross the line 9th, good enough to win the Overall Championship by just 13 points...



Masters			Points	Drop		
	1	Diego Morales	2651	(291)		
	2	Max DeMoss	2330	(304)		
	3	Jose da Silva	2075	(58)		
	4	Matt Steele	2033	(181)		
	5	Sheng Wu	1864	(186)		





Grand Masters		Points	Drop	rop Sportsman		Points	Drop
1	Tony Wika	1796	(177)	1	Pietro Moro	2256	(278)
2	John Rice	1710	(0)	2	Matt Steele	2033	(181)
3	Vladimir Orlov	1242	(0)	3	Michael Chen	1833	(111)
4	Tom Zevin	1226	(140)	4	Jeremy Aldridge	1832	(120)
5	Jeff Latimer	1222	(115)	5	Chase Nickells	1799	(0)







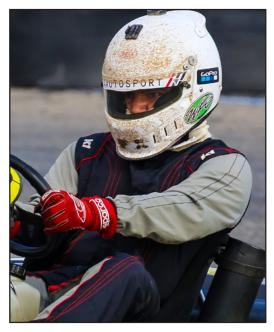
































































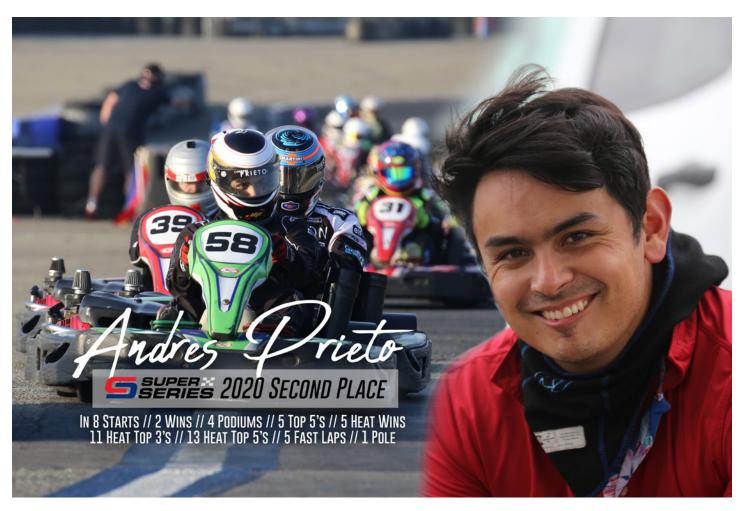






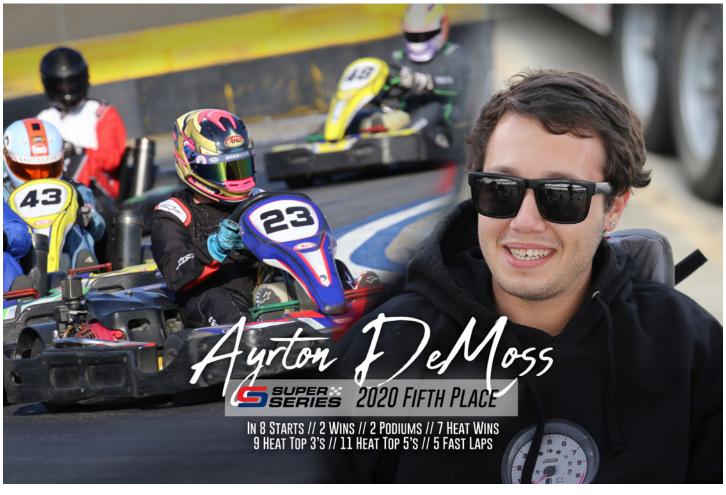






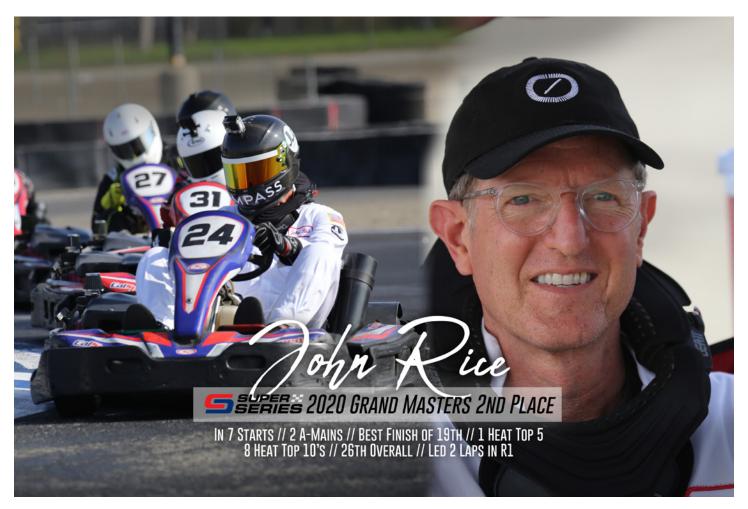




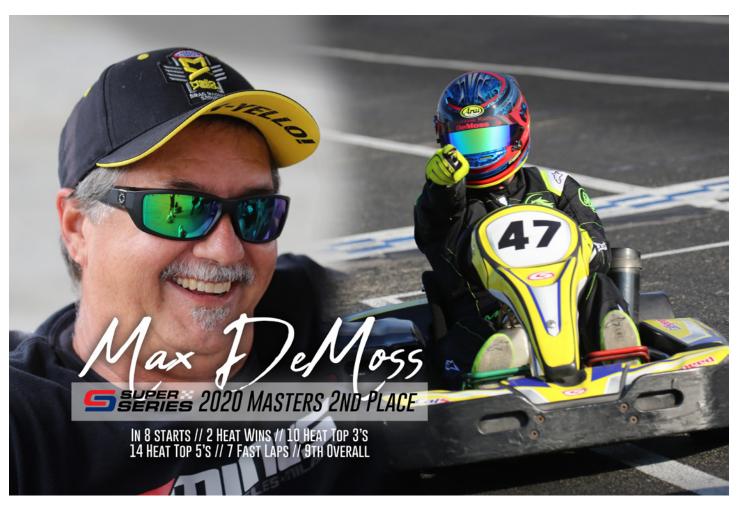














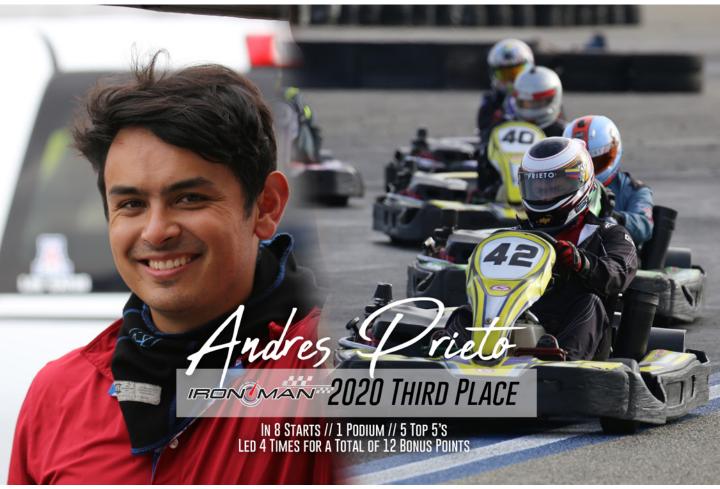








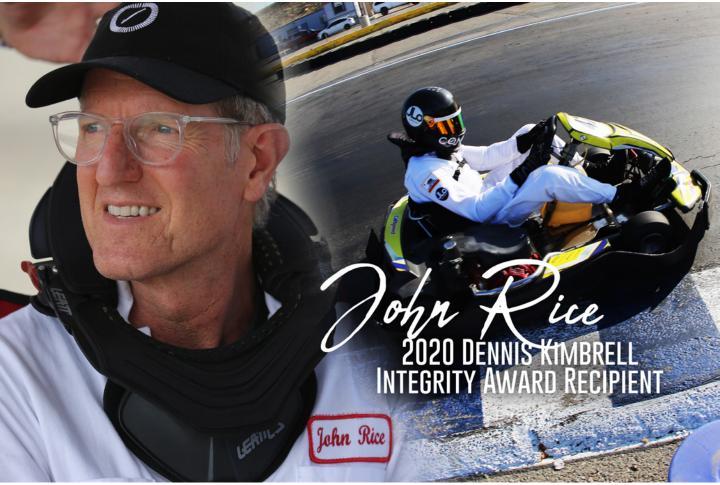
















SPRINT SERIES

R1 Jan 4 RESULTS

R2 Jan 25 <u>RESULTS</u>

R3 Mar 7 RESULTS

R4 July 11 RESULTS

Sprint Series Point Standings

R5 Aug 8 RESULTS

R6 Aug 29 RESULTS

R7 Sep 5 RESULTS

R8 Oct 10 RESULTS

SUPERSERIES

R1 Jan 18 RESULTS

R2 Feb 8 RESULTS

R3 June 20 RESULTS

R4 July 18 RESULTS

Super Series Point Standings

R5 Aug 9 RESULTS

R6 Aug 30 RESULTS

R7 Sep 26 RESULTS

R8 Oct 24 RESULTS

IRONOMAN

R1 Jan 18 RESULTS

R2 Feb 8 RESULTS

R3 June 20 RESULTS

R4 July 18 RESULTS

<u> IronMan Point Standings</u>

R5 Aug 9 RESULTS

R6 Aug 30 RESULTS

R7 Sep 26 RESULTS

R8 Oct 24 RESULTS