

NW Late Model Challenge Series remains stable in 2006

Stock car racing in the northwest always seems to have its fair share of controversy & debate; and 2006 started off no different with the recent announcement of the demise of the Elite Series, the introduction of crate motor program into the region, and the uncertainty of the proposed new track in Kitsap County. Amidst these pressing issues, the Late Model Challenge Series remains stable entering its seventh season and will continue to offer drivers & teams the opportunity to show their skills at racetracks throughout the Northwest region. For 2006, the series has secured a total of 10 races at six venues ranging from ¼-mile 'bullrings' to the 5/8-mile 'Superspeedway of the West'. Many of the northwest's top Super Stock drivers are again expected to participate as the series travels to premier asphalt racetracks in Washington, Idaho, and Montana. From simple beginnings in 2000 as a single-track program the Late Model Challenge Series (LMCS) has continued to expand and gain momentum each year, having over 100 teams participate in both of the last two seasons and drawing a full fielding of cars at each scheduled points event.

The 2006 season kicks off May 6th at Wenatchee Valley's Super Oval in East Wenatchee, WA. This will be the series' first of three appearances to WVSO's beautiful ¼-mile oval with return dates scheduled in June and August. The series has two highly-anticipated events at the historic ½-mile of Yakima Speedway; the first scheduled in May and the second on Labor Day weekend. Stateline Speedway in Post Falls, ID is hosting the series twice this season with a June race date and also as part of the ¼-mile venue's annual Idaho 200 event in early August. Over the Fourth of July weekend the series will again have a Montana 'double-header' with a Saturday appearance at the ¼-mile oval of Montana Raceway Park in Kalispell and on Sunday the drivers will return to take on the tricky 3/8-mile tri-oval at Mission Valley Speedway in Polson, MT. After competing at tracks ranging in size from 1/4 , 3/8 , and 1/2 mile; the series' driver will then finish the 2006 season at Evergreen Speedway in Monroe, WA on the fabled 5/8-mile oval as part of the track's annual 'Big-Track' championship.

The Late Model Challenge Series has been created for intermediate and advanced Super Stock drivers & teams, providing aspiring drivers the opportunity to hone their skills and advance to higher levels of auto racing. The program fills the gap between a local track's Super Stock program and the larger-scale touring programs such as NASCAR's Elite Series. LMCS teams are able to use standard motors, chassis, and equipment without replacement as required by other touring programs. These events are open to each track's local Late Model race teams who wish to compete against our drivers. The series' primary goal has been to provide race teams with an affordable opportunity to show their skills at racetracks throughout the Northwest region. The payout scale, contingency & cash bonus awards, tow money sponsorship(s), and spec tires help offset the costs associated with a touring series. The program has acquired quality officials and established rules & regulations for professionalism, affordability, and parity of competition; all designed to provide an exciting, competitive racing program for the drivers, race teams, sponsors, track owners and spectators alike.

For 2006, the series is proud to announce that it will begin utilizing a transponder-based scoring and timing system provided by long-standing LMCS supporter Bruce Latta of Bay Cities Motorsports. The AMB TranX260 system will significantly help improve scoring, timing, and line-ups; while providing racers with race data such as individual lap times, lap charts, and race results. Additionally, the series will be running on the newly introduced 'yellow-lettered' Goodyear Racing 10" slicks. These tires are produced in the USA, and have had very favorable response from testing done last season. The series will continue to enforce ABC body standards, a 'standardized' rule package, and promotes an optional Brodix 'spec' head.

In six seasons, the series has crowned five different champions: 2000 - Ron Wolf, of Auburn, WA; 2001 – Mike Sauls of Tacoma, WA; 2002 – Ron Oline, of Tacoma WA; and 2003 – Jason Hedrick of

Spanaway, WA; 2004 - Ron Wolf; and 2005 – Mike Zamora of Kennewick, WA. Prior rookie-of-the-year drivers include Loren Sutphin, Jason Hedrick, Josh Braudway, Jay Sauls, Loran Payne, and Mike Zamora. Over 240 northwest teams have participated in an LMCS event since its inception in 2000. This driver list includes many well recognized seasoned veterans and past track and division champions.

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2006 LMCS Championship Tour Schedule

	May 6	WENATCHEE VALLEY'S SUPER OVAL – E. Wenatchee, WA
	May 20	YAKIMA SPEEDWAY – Yakima, WA
	June 3	STATELINE STADIUM & SPEEDWAY - Post Falls, ID
WA	June 17	WENATCHEE VALLEY'S SUPER OVAL – E. Wenatchee,
	July 1	MONTANA RACEWAY PARK – Kalispell, MT
	July 2	MISSION VALLEY SPEEDWAY – Polson, MT
	August 5	STATELINE STADIUM & SPEEDWAY - Post Falls, ID
	August 19	WENATCHEE VALLEY'S SUPER OVAL – E. Wenatchee, WA
	September 2	YAKIMA SPEEDWAY – Yakima, WA
	September 16	EVERGREEN SPEEDWAY – Monroe, WA