



Coca-Cola of Kokomo Elite Series

Round Three

Indianapolis Motor Speedway Road Course

Trackside Report

January 5, 2020

32 drivers are on the entry list for tonight's Open-Wheels.com Grand Prix, meaning all drivers will have the opportunity to start the race. The race is scheduled for 39 laps.

Qualifying

Jason Brophy has a 14-point lead on Henry Bennett entering tonight's race at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway road course.

Philip Kraus takes the pole ahead of Adam Blocker and Henry Bennett with a best lap time of 1m10.706s – a full three tenths better than the second-place car of Blocker.

Rob Powers, Jason Brophy and Dakota DiCienzo do not set times but will start the race.

Race

LAP 1: GREEN: Philip Kraus leads the field into Turn 1. Flinn Lazier spins but is the only driver to have trouble in the first couple of corners.

LAP 2: Quick off-track for Espitee as he takes a trip through the grass but pulls it back onto the tarmac before the oval portion of the course.

LAP 4: Bryan Carey has retired from the race and will finish 32nd. Logan Simmons has a spin that points him the wrong way on Hulman Blvd. but avoids contact with the wall.

LAP 5: Kraus leads Blocker by 3.6 seconds, Bennett by 5.1 seconds, and Crane by 5.8 seconds.

LAP 6: David Adams spins from 19th in the Turn 10 complex but avoids making wall contact.

LAP 8: SYM TV crew observes a moment of silence for the loss of Kobe and Gianna Bryant, who passed in a helicopter crash in Southern California earlier today. The same will be done on Lap 24.

LAP 9: Kraus leads Blocker by 4.9 seconds, then Bennett (7.8 seconds), Crane (8.3 seconds) and Briant (10 seconds).

LAP 11: Frank Levick II spins out in Turn 1, racing Andrew Kinsella into the corner for 11th place.

LAP 13: John Downing is the first driver to hit pit lane, while Dakota DiCienzo has retired from the race – he will finish 31st.

LAP 14: Andrew Wood with a wiggle and a slight off-track but he gathers up the No. 32 machine. Simon Briant heads to pit lane.

LAP 15: Kraus, Levick, Branch head to pit lane for their first stop of the evening. Dan Ensich has a spin into the grass but continues on after nearly colliding with John Downing.

LAP 16: Flanagan, Eik and Cahoe all hit the pit lane. Blocker leads Bennett and Crane.

LAP 17: It is a 4.5-second lead for Blocker ahead of Bennett, followed by Crane, Quinn, and Kinsella.

LAP 18: Liam Quinn hits the pit lane and slides through his pit box slightly. Rob Powers and Lazier also onto the pit lane.

LAP 19: Blocker, Bennett, Crane, Showen, Stofer, Lichtenberg, Brophy all hit the pit lane. Blocker actually passes Showen on the pit entry lane in a daring maneuver.

LAP 21: Kraus assumes the race lead and Kingsbury and Wood pit to complete the opening pit cycle.

LAP 23: Kraus leads Blocker by 11.7 seconds, and Bennett by 16.3 seconds. Crane, Quinn, Espitee, Eik, Cahoe, Briant and Archer round out the top-10.

LAP 25: It is a 13.1-second lead for Kraus over Blocker, and Quinn has overtaken Bennett for second place. Rob Powers has retired from the race and will finish 30th.

LAP 27: Kraus makes his final pit stop at the end of Lap 27, handing the lead to Adam Blocker. Quinn and Bennett run second and third, respectively.

LAP 28: Kraus re-emerges in P7 just ahead of Andrew Kinsella.

LAP 29: Chris Cahoe has a spin in the Turn 9 complex and takes a trip into the grass.

LAP 30: Blocker leads Quinn by 6.2 seconds, then Bennett, Crane and Kraus. Quinn then pits from the second position.

LAP 31: Cahoe and Lichtenberg pit for their final service of the evening.

LAP 34: Blocker leads Bennett and Crane by over 9 seconds each. Kraus has moved up to fourth, and Logan Simmons has exited the race after an additional spin.

LAP 35: Chad Simpson has an off-track near Turn 11 but sustains no major damage, and later pits.

LAP 38: Flanagan takes a trip through the grass and then has to lock up the brakes before crossing into the racing line.

LAP 39: As Blocker coasts to win, Bennett and Crane battle for P2.

CHECKERED FLAG: Adam Blocker wins the Open-Wheels.com Grand Prix at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. Henry Bennett finishes P2, and Philip Kraus takes the final place on the podium after Crane runs out of fuel before the end of the lap.

This is the second win of the 2020 Coca-Cola of Kokomo Elite Series season for Adam Blocker, the winner of the 2019 fall championship.

**COCA-COLA OF KOKOMO ELITE SERIES
POINTS STANDINGS AFTER ROUND THREE**

1. Henry Bennett, 132
2. Philip Kraus, 125
3. Adam Blocker, 119
4. Jason Brophy, 117
5. Chris Stofer, 102
6. Joe Branch, 88
7. Chris Cahoe, 87
8. Andrew Kinsella, 80
Riley Thompson, 80
10. Tim Doyle, 76

The next race in the 2020 Coca-Cola of Kokomo Elite Series season will be the SYM TV Elite 225 at the Twin Ring Motegi oval, on Sunday, February 9, 2020.