



Coca-Cola of Kokomo Elite Series

Round Ten

Long Beach Street Circuit

Trackside Report

April 5, 2020

34 drivers will be on the grid for this evening's Elite Long Beach Grand Prix. The race is scheduled for 51 laps. Philip Kraus is the points leader after nine rounds completed in the 2020 Coca-Cola of Kokomo Elite Series season.

Qualifying

Zachary Campbell takes the pole for this evening's race at Barber Motorsports Park, just ahead of Adam Blocker, Eric O'Connor, and Flinn Lazier in the first two rows. Matt Kingsbury did not qualify for this evening's race after facing mechanical issues before qualifications – a pedal malfunction, in particular.

Adam Blocker, Coen Evans, Flinn Lazier, Chris Stofer, and Charles Anti are all drivers who will be forced to drop to the rear after penalties from earlier rounds.

Race

LAP 1: GREEN: Zac Campbell leads the field to green. The field makes it through the first couple of corners without much issue, but the fountain turn makes for a multi-car accident that results in a full-course caution.

Chris Cahoe, Clark Archer, and Gabriel Perez among the drivers who were involved in the accident.

LAP 4: GREEN: On the race restart, Campbell, Bennett and O'Connor lead the field back into green flag conditions. Joshua Chin is up to fourth place early on.

LAP 6: Clark Archer has sustained heavy front end damage after locking up the brakes and spinning towards the inside wall. Archer clipped Stofer in the aftermath, though stofer can continue on. Bradley Walters has retired from the race after two laps completed.

LAP 7: Firestone reports the ambient temperature is 67 degrees Fahrenheit and the track temperature is 98 degrees Fahrenheit.

LAP 8: Campbell leads Bennett by 4.3 seconds, O'Connor by 4.7 seconds, and Chin by 5.8 seconds.

LAP 10: Adam Blocker to pit lane for the first time, the first driver to grab service in today's race. Chris Stofer spins coming out of the final hairpin corner and makes substantial front end damage. He retires to the pit lane and his race is over.

LAP 11: Bryan Carey goes for a spin on the exit of Turn 5 but continues on without involving another car, but does clip the wall when trying to re-orient the car. John Poole and Gabriel Perez have retired from the race.

LAP 12: Matt Pawelski has retired from the race, finishing 29th after starting ninth.

LAP 14: Bryan Carey has retired from the race after making heavy left side contact with the wall, finishing 28th. There are 27 drivers left on track after starting the race with 34.

LAP 16: Philip Kraus has passed Riley Thompson for fifth place. Joshua Chin has a large accident entering Turn 1 and exits the race, finishing 27th.

LAP 19: Chris Cahoe has spun, and Caleb Weekley approaches the stalled Cahoe and spins as well. Incidents occurred just ahead of the fountain section.

LAP 20: Campbell is ahead of second place O'Connor by approximately 10 seconds, followed by Bennett (12 seconds), Kraus (16 seconds) and Thompson (20 seconds).

LAP 22: Charles Anti has had an accident near Turn 1 and sustained heavy front end damage. He has retired from the race, as has Weekley. Marshall Stanley has a lock up in Turn 1 and uses the emergency runoff area to avoid wall contact.

LAP 23: Campbell, O'Connor, Bennett and Kraus all pitting for their first stop. Ray Kingsbury has a slight spin but doesn't make car or wall contact.

LAP 25: A dazzling pass by Jamie Wilson to overtake Riley Thompson for fifth place into Turn 1.

LAP 26: Andrew Kinsella has moved from 17th to eighth thus far in the race. Simon Briant spins exiting the fountain complex and stops broadside on the track. He has to reset to the pits for a long tow.

LAP 28: Campbell leads O'Connor by 12 seconds, Bennett by 16.5 seconds, and Kraus by 17.6 seconds.

LAP 31: Adam Blocker is one of the first drivers to hit pit lane for the second and final time of the race.

LAP 32: Christian Steele, Riley Thompson, and Andrew Kinsella involved in an issue after Thomson makes tire barrier contact. Thompson then bounced into Steele, and then Kinsella was clipped by Thompson. Approaching the accident, Flinn Lazier gets an amount of damage.

LAP 33: Liam Quinn spins and is hit by Adam Crane broadside, followed by contact with Ray Kingsbury.

LAP 34: Adam Blocker hits the tire barrier on corner exit, and eventually, Simon Briant exits the corner and has nowhere to go before making contact.

LAP 35: Kraus overtakes Bennett for third place, now 23 seconds behind the leader Campbell.

LAP 36: 15 cars are left on-track after starting the race with 34 drivers on the grid.

LAP 37: The top ten as they run: Campbell, O'Connor, Kraus, Bennett, Wilson, Kinsella, Lazier, Brophy, Lichtenberg, and Stanley.

LAP 41: Campbell leads O'Connor by 21 seconds, Kraus by 26 seconds, and Bennett by 29 seconds. Joe Branch goes for a spin right in front of Campbell, but avoids any wall or car contact.

LAP 42: Flinn Lazier endures a long pit stop and drops out of the top ten after waiting on a rear wing change, which was previously damaged in the fountain section.

LAP 44: Only seven cars remain on the lead lap at this time, with Jason Brophy being the final driver on the lead lap currently.

LAP 45: Lazier and Lichtenberg battle into Turn 1 for ninth place, and Lichtenberg slides a bit upon corner entry to give the position to Lazier on the inside.

LAP 47: Campbell continues to lead O'Connor, Kraus, Bennett, and Wilson in the top five.

LAP 48: Lichtenberg overshoots his braking point into Turn 1 and has to use the emergency exit to avoid heavy wall contact.

LAP 51: Battle for second place is heating up as Kraus applies pressure on O'Connor. Kraus has a moment that gives quite a bit of room for O'Connor to hang on.

LAP 52: CHECKERED: Zachary Campbell wins the Elite Long Beach Grand Prix, leading all 51 laps ahead of Eric O'Connor and Philip Kraus on the podium. Henry Bennett and Jamie Wilson round out the top five.

Only six cars finished on the lead lap, and Campbell had the fastest lap of the race with a 1m6.984s lap – the only driver to run a lap faster than 67 seconds.

This is the second win of the 2020 season for Campbell. This is the sixth time Campbell has won a Coca-Cola of Kokomo Indy Elite Series round – going two-for-two in starts this season after winning last week at Barber Motorsports Park.

Philip Kraus retains the points lead and paces the field by 73 points over Henry Bennett. Jason Brophy, Andrew Kinsella, and Joe Branch round out the current top five in point after ten completed rounds.

OFFICIAL COCA-COLA of KOKOMO ELITE SERIES POINT STANDINGS (Top 10)

1. Philip Kraus, 410
2. Henry Bennett, 337
3. Jason Brophy, 275
4. Andrew Kinsella, 240
5. Joe Branch, 238
6. Andreas Eik, 217
7. Riley Thompson, 210
8. Frank Levick IV, 208
9. Chad Simpson, 207
10. Adam Blocker, 202

The next Coca-Cola of Kokomo Elite Series race will be held on Sunday, April 19 at Circuit of the Americas for the Coca-Cola Classic at COTA. The event will be shown live by SYMTV.