

Haldeman Takes Two of Three at Motorsport Ranch Cresson

When qualifying was over at Motorsport Ranch Cresson in March, Chris Haldeman had earned pole with a 1:24.669, with Vaughn Duarte, Justin Crickenberger, Trevor McCallion and Gregory Porter following close behind.

MSRC presents a short quick run into a left hand Turn 1, then a fast straightaway into Rattlesnake, which slithers like a snake and can bite you if you aren't ready. Haldeman led the entire race and never looked back, winning by almost 4 seconds. Vaughn Duarte finished second and had the fastest lap of the race at 1:25.327. Hard charger Danny Soufi moved up three positions to finish third.

Race two was almost a carbon copy of race one, although with fewer dirt clouds. Haldeman checked out again by almost 4 seconds, and ran the fastest lap at 1:25.007. Vaughn

Duarte took second again with Danny Soufi third.

With Haldeman out on Sunday, 23 cars rolled out for qualifying. Vaughn Duarte took pole with Crickenberger in second, Bo Bocell third, followed by McCallion and Soufi.

For the race, Vaughn Duarte maintained the lead through the first three laps until his right front lower ball joint broke. Crickenberger took the lead after that, and then with only 10 minutes left in the race, the top four had a good lead on the rest of the field. Crickenberger entered Rattlesnake alongside McCallion with Deriann Taylor and Danny Soufi on their bumpers. McCallion and Crickenberger got sideways entering the corner, causing Taylor to slow up, so Soufi, dive-bombed around all three.

That put Soufi in P1, and he held on for the win, with Crickenberger in second

and Taylor in third.

Soufi is in his first full year in SM. At 13 years old, he will be a force to be dealt with this year, having won a race in only his third full race weekend. Many SM drivers have raced for years, and haven't won. It is not easy with the level of competition in Texas.

Soufi told race director Will Faules, he wasn't sure he had won until Faules told him.

Fast lap went to Trevor McCallion with 1:24.532. Hard charger Gale Corley moved up 13 spots!

Soufi took all three races in the Teen Mazda Challenge series over the 2015 and 2016 regional TMC champion Taylor. Soufi ended the weekend with three podium finishes, while Taylor had one podium finish. — Melanie Taylor

RESULTS

http://timingscoring.drivenasa.com/NASA_Texas_Region/2017-%20Official%20Results/March%20MSRC/

No. 03 Chris Haldeman leads the field on his way to two Spec Miata wins in three races at Motorsports Ranch Cresson in Texas in March.



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