

Teen Phenom on Top in Spec Miata at Texas World Speedway

Texas World Speedway held its first sanctioned races in 1969, hosted by Indy and NASCAR series. The track is a D-shape oval with 22-degree banking in turns and 8-degree banking along the front grandstands. Road racers can enjoy a 1.8-, 1.9-, or a 2.9-mile high-speed road course configuration.

On Saturday, Danny Soufi earned pole with a 1:59.410. At the start, Soufi and 26 other Miatas all made it through tight Turn 1 safe and sound. There were numerous lead swaps between Trevor McCallion, Gale Corley and Danny Soufi. McCallion took the lead after Soufi hung two tires slightly off the track. McCallion and Corley took turns leading, with Justin Crickenberger waiting for a mistake. The race ended with McCallion in the lead, followed by Corley and Crickenberger, who were separated by 1.236 seconds at the finish.

In race two, the grid is set by the finish of race one.

Trevor McCallion led the field into Turn 1. The field was close for several laps until McCallion and Corley were going for the same piece of real estate and both left the track surface, thus allowing the rest of the field by. That put Danny Soufi in the lead. Soufi finished first, followed by Bill Agha and Deriann Taylor in third. The top three were separated by 1.494 seconds. The fast lap of the race was Deriann Taylor with a 2:00.446.

On Sunday, temperatures had risen 20 degrees warmer than Saturday, and Trevor McCallion turned up the heat to take pole with a 1:59.906 to top the 25-car field.

The field took the green flag and McCallion and Soufi began swapping the lead back and forth, while third place through seventh fell slightly back as they were also swapping positions allowing the top two to break away. Texas World Speedway is a drafting track. Stephen Jeu was in third all by himself,

but Corley in fourth had an issue with a hub and pointed by Deriann Taylor and Tyler Quance. Taylor had a rear bumper, acting as a parachute behind her, from contact in lap two.

Soufi and McCallion swapped the lead more than 20 times, dominating the race and finishing ahead of the rest of the field by 18 seconds. Jeu was mired in lapped traffic, allowing Taylor to catch him on the last lap.

Soufi beat McCallion to the checkers by .392 seconds to take the win. Taylor finished third, inching out Jeu by .023 seconds. The hard charger went to 2016 Vaughn Duarte moving up 12 positions to finish in P12. Teen Mazda Challenge drivers Soufi took the win, with Taylor close behind in third and Ben Rail having a great race to finish fifth. — Melanie Taylor

RESULTS

http://timingscoring.drivenasa.com/NASA_Texas_Region/2017-%20Official%20Results/April%20TWS/

Teen Mazda Challenge driver Danny Soufi won two of three races at Texas World Speedway in April, beating Trevor McCallion, who also won one.

