

## Race of Champions Statement Regarding Late Model Event at Holland Speedway

The Race of Champions issues the following statement regarding the **Late Model Series race at Holland (N.Y.) Speedway** on Saturday, August 23, 2025;

We recognize that short track racing is a passionate sport. However, multiple boundaries were crossed by competitors in a division that has already faced significant challenges re-establishing itself in the region.

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### Penalties Issued

- **Jake Wylie (responsible; Scott Wylie)** – Parked and **Indefinitely Suspended**
- **Scott Wylie – Indefinitely Suspended**, in addition to any other penalty
- **Todd Delisle** – Held responsible for crew members involved in an altercation; **probation through December 31, 2025**

These actions are detrimental to the sport and increase the potential for unnecessary and unsafe situations. They have been addressed in accordance with the **Race of Champions Rule Book**.

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### Event Operations & Officiating Decisions

- Race of Champions management acknowledges a **tire inventory error** Saturday. While it delayed service, the situation was resolved and all cars were ultimately serviced.
- During the race, Race Director **Travis Ward** made a judgment call regarding on-track contact. As in all sports, such calls may cause frustration, but race procedure decisions are **final and non-appealable**.
- The reactions that followed — including anger, negative conduct, and unprofessional behavior — were unacceptable. At that stage, only **eight of 14 starters** remained on track.
- The **#74 Late Model** was parked after failing to maintain a lane and causing a wreck with the leader. In any division, a lapped car creating such an incident is not acceptable.

Officiating calls are debated in every sport. What is not acceptable are repeated negative social media posts, explicit language, physical altercations, or disruptive actions.

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### Division Challenges

The Late Model division in this region continues to face ongoing challenges with **participation, respect, and professionalism**.

- Since 2023, Race of Champions and track management set a **10-car minimum** for the division. Despite falling below that threshold several times in 2024 and 2025, Race of Champions continued to support the division and honor published purse structures.

- Repeated requests for **rule changes, favors, and personal agendas** have only complicated efforts to sustain the division.
- Following Saturday's event, some competitors publicly "quit" the division. Such actions are unprofessional and damaging.

At Saturday's driver's meeting, officials asked competitors "**not to put us in a position to react to their actions.**" Unfortunately, that warning was ignored.

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### **Season Conclusion**

Given the ongoing challenges and the fallout from Saturday's event, **Race of Champions management will not crown a Late Model champion for the 2025 season.**

The division will still compete at **Lake Erie Speedway** as part of Race of Champions Weekend, with the purse remaining consistent with prior seasons. Attendance and participation are left to the competitors.

This decision was not taken lightly. We understand it penalizes those who have conducted themselves with professionalism. However, we see no path forward in changing the attitudes and lack of respect shown by others toward the sport of short track racing. Going forward, competitors will carry greater responsibility for the fate of the division.

Any driver or team unwilling to race with professionalism and within the rules will be **disqualified and receive no awards.**

We have worked respectfully and flexibly for this division on many occasions. That respect must now be returned in kind.