



NEWS RELEASE

Formula 5000 Celebrates 50th Anniversary At Rolex Motorsports Reunion Craig Bennett and Seb Coppola Clinch 2018 F5000 Championship

Officers & Directors

Seb Coppola
President

Dudley Cunningham
Treasurer

Mark Harmer
Bruce Leeson
Tim Osborne
Rick Parsons
Jim Stengel
Directors

Honorary Members

Tony Adamowicz
Barry Blackmore
Michael Brayton
Bobby Brown
Warwick Brown
Jim Dittmore
Ron Dykes
Bruce Eglinton
Jerry Entin
George Follmer
Jim Gustavson
Eric Haga
David Hobbs
Gus Hutchison
Davey Jordan
Arlen Koops
Graham McRae
Scooter Patrick
Sam Posey
Brian Redman
Kurt Reinold
Lou Sell
Eppie Wietzes
George Wintersteen
Dave Wolin

Rochester, MI – (8/27/18) – The Formula 5000 Drivers Association is pleased to announce the results of its race event to close the 2018 season at Laguna Seca in conjunction with the Rolex Monterey Motorsports Reunion on August 26, 2018.

With a large field of approximately 40 cars spanning from 1968 to 1976, the Formula 5000 group celebrated its 50th Anniversary and Gold Jubilee year. Participants gathered from across the United States, New Zealand, Australia and Great Britain. All the major makes of F5000 cars from the 1960s and 1970s were represented, including Chevron, Crossle', Eagle, Elfin, Lola, Lotus, McKee, McLaren McRae, March, Match, Shadow, Surtees and Talon. The racing was close and clean. Racing fans, drivers and promoters enjoyed the racing, sounds and majestic look of the F5000 cars on and off the track.

Finishing **first** in F5000 Class A (pre-1972 cars) was **Bruce Leeson** in a 1969 McLaren M10B. Leeson had finished third in class in the qualifying race the day before, suffering from a weak clutch. However, on Sunday he put the pedal to the metal and moved through the field to gain two positions. **Second** in Class A was **Johnnie Crean** in a 1969 Gurney Eagle Mk5 who drove a spirited race until crashing the car after the checkered flag. **Paul Kuhl** finished **third** in class in a 1968 Lola T140. After rebuilding the car during the prior 10 months and sorting the car out in the Pre-Reunion event, Kuhl showed his racing skill during the Reunion.

Finishing **first** in F5000 Class B (1972-1976 cars) and **first overall** in the group was **Craig Bennett** in the ex-Jackie Oliver 1976 Shadow DN6. Bennett led the race from the start and outpaced the group with laps of 1 minute, 25 seconds which was about 1 second faster than the nearest competitor. Finishing **second** was New Zealander **Andrew Higgins** in the black Interscope 1974 Lola T332. Higgins had started 3rd behind another New Zealander Michael Collins in a 1972 McRae GM1. Collins retired early in the Sunday race due to mechanical problems leaving second place open for Higgins. Higgins was driving the car for owner Stuart Lush from Auckland, NZ. **Third** in Class B was **Kyle Tilley** who was driving the ex-Brian Redman 1973 Lola T330. Tilley performed superbly stepping into drive the car for the first time at Laguna Seca for owner Duke Steinemann. Finishing positions for other participants are attached.

The Rolex Monterey Motorsports Reunion also was the final round of the 2018 F5000 Revival Race Championship Series. Seb Coppola was crowned Champion in Class A for the second consecutive year and has

now won his third Championship since 2008. Coppola, who came to Laguna Seca in 4th place in the Championship, benefitted from the shortened participation of Mark Harmer. Harmer was sidelined by injuries suffered in an off-track accident. With first place wins at the Monterey events, Bruce Leeson got within 4 points of the Championship finishing second.

Craig Bennett won the Championship in Class B. Bennett arrived at Laguna Seca in 3rd place in the Championship standings behind Rick Parsons and Jim Stengel. With 3 first place and a 4th place finish in the Reunion and Pre-Reunion qualifying and feature races, Bennett accumulated sufficient points for an insurmountable lead in the Championship standings.

According to Seb Coppola, President of the F5000 Drivers Association, "2018 was a special milestone year for Formula 5000. I want to thank all participants in our 2018 race events and especially our friends from New Zealand, Australia and Great Britain who came from long distances and at great expense to be part of our 50th Anniversary celebration."

The U.S. Formula 5000 Drivers Association is a membership organization established to promote the restoration, presentation, registration and racing of historic Formula 5000 race cars. (www.F5000Registry.com).

Media: Seb Coppola 248-601-2800 SebCoppola@F5000Registry.com

2018 Formula 5000 Revival Racing Series				
Championship Points Standing				
After Round 4 of the 2018 Championship Series				
Driver	Car	Class	Final Points	Class Ranking
Craig Bennett	1976 Shadow DN6	B	154	1
Seb Coppola	1970 Lola T192	A	118	1
Bruce Leeson	1969 McLaren M10B	A	114	2
Johnnie Crean	1969 Gurney Eagle	A	108	3
Paul Kuhl	1968 Lola T140	A	92	4
Mark Harmer	1969 Surtees TS5	A	78	5
Paul Dudiak	1969 McKee Mk12C	A	76	6
George Frey	1969 McLaren M10A	A	66	7
Kyle Tilley	1973 Lola T330	B	58	2
George Bruggenthies	1970 Surtees TS8	A	56	8
Tom Simpson	1972 McKee MK18	A	54	9
Rick Parsons	1976 Lola T332C	B	50	3
Jim Stengel	1973 McRae GM1	B	44	4
Bruce Sevier	1968 Lola T140	A	42	10
Kirt Bennett	1974 Lola T332	B	36	5
Martin Fogel	1969 McLaren M10A	A	36	11
Tim Osborne	1968 Crossle	A	36	12
Barry Blackmore	1973 Lola T332	B	32	6
Kurt Engelmann	1971 Lola T192	A	32	13
Craig Shrontz	1968 Crossle 15F	A	28	14
Marc Rauchfuss	1974 Lola T332	B	20	7
Philip Lewis	1972 Matich	B	20	8
Lee Huls	1972 Lola T330	B	16	9
John Obaliero	1973 Lola T332	B	12	10
Bruce Marquand	1973 Chevron B24/28	B	8	11