

# **PACIFIC F2000 RACING**

**PRESENTS FORMULA F2000 F1600**

For Immediate Release

## **Round 7 Sees Huffaker and de Silva Take Victories as Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca**

Monterey, Calif. (June 6, 2015) – Round 7 of the Pacific Formula F1600/F2000 Championship Series was held at the historic Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca, the scenic and challenging 2.238 mile course. Running with the San Francisco Region of the SCCA in their SFR Championship Series Double Regional, both classes competed in the same run group for the first time this season and saw Scott Huffaker and series newcomer Tim de Silva claim victories in F1600 and F2000 respectively.

With seven run groups competing, the San Francisco Region began the action with practice and qualifying for Saturday's race held on Friday.

There were changes to the series this weekend with an increase in prize money paid down to sixth place and the allowance for drivers not competing on the spec Pirelli tire to compete for prizes but not series championship points which meant that ten of the eleven drivers competing in the F2000 class and all of the F1600 drivers were series participants at this event.

Qualifying began at 3:10 on Friday and it was Timothy de Silva, a newcomer to the series and son of series regular Harin de Silva, driving the #98, TLP Racing, DFR Van Diemen who claimed the pole position for the F2000 class with a best lap of 1m27.951s, over a second ahead of Tom Hope driving his #18, H+M Racing Van Diemen. Series point leader Peter West; #99, Racing Optics, Kodenko Jeans, Malibu Health, Frank Monise Motors, Dave Freitas Racing Van Diemen was third fastest ahead of Scott Vreeland, #51, Redhorse Constructors, Porter Racing, BV Training Van Diemen; Connor Funk, #97, Dave Freitas Racing Van Diemen; Harin de Silva; #96, Dave Freitas Racing Van Diemen; Paul Rodler, #45, Porter Racing, Swift DB6; Chuck Raggio, #14, Apex Orthopedics, Van Diemen; William Jordanov, #59, Van Diemen and Jeffrey Pietz, #80, Cleveland Infant Care Van Diemen. Rodler was the only Pinto powered entry with all others using the Ford Zetec engine.



Leading the qualifying in the F1600 class was series point leader Scott Huffaker, #9, Van Diemen RF97/Honda ahead of Jon Brandstad, #44, JBF Racing, Swift DB6/Honda and David Jalen, #50, Over Budget Racin', Swift DB1/Ford. Both Brandstad and Jalen have been previous competitors in the series, Bradstad having won two races at Sears Point in 2011 prior to converting his Swift to Honda power and Jalen competing earlier this season at Thunderhill Raceway.

After an aborted start and a second lap at pace car speed, the field saw the green flag to begin the second lap and it was Timothy de Silva who took the early advantage over Hope followed by Vreeland, West, Funk, Harin de Silva, Rodler, Raggio, Pietz and Jordanov, while a little further back the F1600 group was led by Huffaker followed by Brandstad and Jalen.

On lap 2 Scott Vreeland got past both West and Hope to take over second place with the remainder of the field beginning to string out behind. Vreeland managed to hold off Hope for two laps but on lap 4 Hope had displaced Vreeland and set off after de Silva who was breaking away from the field recording laps nearly a second faster than Hope in second place and set the fastest lap of the race on lap 7, at 1m28.517s.



Timothy de Silva, in his series debut, drove flawlessly to the end and the Rancho Palos Verdes resident scored his first series victory while Tom Hope pressed on finishing in second place, 4.783 seconds behind and for Hope it meant re-taking the lead in the championship.

The battle for third place raged on as the position was held by four different drivers before the final step on the podium was decided. West, Hope and Vreeland all held the position until Vreeland spun at the Andretti hairpin on lap 8 dropping him down to sixth

place elevating Connor Funk to the podium, finishing nearly 20 seconds back.

Harin de Silva drove a steady race to finish in fourth place another 15 seconds back and claimed the Master Class victory.

Peter West looked set for a fourth place finish until lap 11 when, while negotiating the corkscrew, the suspension gave way and West was forced to nurse his car back to the pits with a bent suspension arm. This dropped him to tenth among series runners and fifth among those eligible to score points.

Paul Rodler brought his Swift DB6 home in fifth place, the first of the drivers not running for championship points. Rodler was followed by Chuck Raggio, Jeffrey Pietz, and Scott Vreeland, who nursed his car to the end suffering from electrical problems, and William Jordanov in sixth through ninth positions respectively.

The F1600 race was a straight forward affair with Huffaker leading from wire to wire to claim his third win of the season. Huffaker also claimed the fastest race lap and the two bonus points that go along with it to take a commanding lead in the standings.

Jon Brandstad, who last raced with the series in 2011, did all he could to try to hang on to the youngster from Menlo Park taking the runner-up spot in his Swift DB6/Honda.

David Jalen showed well with his Swift DB1/Ford until his race was cut short with mechanical woes and completed the podium.

**F2000 Qualifying:** 1. Timothy de Silva, (Van Diemen-P), 1m27.951s; 2. Tom Hope, (Van Diemen-P), 1m29.043s; 3. Peter West, (Van Diemen-P), 1m29.847s; 4. Scott Vreeland, (Van Diemen-A), 1m30.387s; 5. Connor Funk, (Van Diemen-P), 1m30.548s; 6. Harin de Silva, (Van Diemen-P), 1m30.688s; 7. Paul Rodler, (Swift/Ford-H), 1m31.490s; 8. Chuck Raggio, (Van Diemen-A), 1m32.557s; 9. William Jordanov, (Van Diemen-A), 1m35.643s; 10. Jeffrey Pietz, (Van Diemen-A), 1m35.729s. Tires: A-Avon, C-Cooper, G-Goodyear, H-Hoosier, P-Pirelli.

**F2000 Round 7 (16 laps):** 1. T. de Silva; 2. Hope, +4.783s; 3. Funk, +19.610s; 4. H. de Silva, +35.222s; 5. Rodler, +53.666s; 6. Raggio, +56.646s; 7. Pietz, +1m32.561s; 8. Vreeland, +1 lap; 9. Jordanov, +1 lap; 10. West, +5 laps.

**Fastest race lap:** T. de Silva, 1m28.517s.

**Master class winner (over 50):** H. de Silva.

**Points:** 1. Hope, 113; 2. West, 108; 3. Funk, 106; 4. Armington, 51; 5. Kodenko, 44; 6. Kirby, 34; 7. T. de Silva, 34; 9. Rozenboom, 20; 9. H. de Silva, 19

**F1600 Qualifying:** 1. Scott Huffaker, (Van Diemen RF97/Honda-A), 1m35.941s; 2. Jon Brandstad, (Swift DB6/Honda-H), 1m36.984s; 3. David Jalen, (Swift DB1/ford-H), 1m37.597s. Tires: A-Avon, C-Cooper, G-Goodyear, H-Hoosier, T-Toyo.

**F1600 Round 7 (15 laps):** 1. Huffaker; 2. Brandstad, +6.686s; 3. Jalen, +8 laps.

**Fastest race lap:** Huffaker, 1m35.060s.

**Master class winner (over 50):** Brandstad.

**Points:** Huffaker, 144; Swanbeck, 85; Kirby, 75; Renfrow, 72; Smrz, 58; Payne 49, Erlandson, 34; Brandstad, 25; Jalen, 19.

Qualifying for round 8 will be held later this afternoon with the race to be held Sunday morning at 10:10am.

The series can be followed at <https://www.facebook.com/pacificf2000racing> , <https://instagram.com/PacificF2000>, and <https://www.twitter.com/PacificF2000>.

For more details go to <http://www.pacificf2000.com> or contact Peter West at 310-363-9444, or by email, [pacificf2000@hotmail.com](mailto:pacificf2000@hotmail.com).