

Airport Drags Report, 2009

This year, we actually had two events, the rained out one, and the one that actually happened. Yes, the first scheduled date was Aug. 15th and 16th and we were ready, yes ready for everything except for two days of soaking wet rain. It was a great disappointment. Gimli had actually not scheduled a race that weekend as so many of their racers wanted to come to Altona. We had a totally sold out 2 days with some very quick Gimli cars. It wasn't meant to be.

The Drag Race Committee consisted of Co-chairmen, Richard Neufeld and Cornie Sawatzky, Lyle Dunsmore, Russ Toews, Clayton Wieler, Jake Bueckert, Don Elias, and Jeff Wiebe. After the rainout, we soul searched, rallied, and agreed that the race must go on. Two weeks later, August 29th and 30th, and the race was held. True, the Gimli component was on a points weekend and a lot of the guys cancelled, but there was enough interest that Saturday, out of the 60 available spots, we had 53, and Sunday, we were sold out.

Saturday started out cold and cloudy, but the sun came out in the PM, and it was a good day. Sunday was a banner day with perfect conditions, and it was one of the best racing days ever. No accidents, no equipment breakdowns, and a lot of fun was had by all.

Here is non scientific analysis of the race by community, etc.:

Racing both days: 27 competitors.

Racing Saturday only: 16

Racing Sunday only: 33

By community:

Altona: Saturday: 5, Sunday: 9

Austin: Saturday: 2

Bagot: Sunday: 1

Dominion City: Saturday: 2, Sunday: 2

Emerson: Sunday: 1

Grandview: Saturday: 1

Kane: Sunday: 1

Gladstone: Saturday: 2, Sunday: 2

Gretna: Saturday: 1, Sunday: 1

Letellier: Saturday: 1

Neepawa: Saturday: 2, Sunday: 2

Pilot Mound: Saturday: 1, Sunday: 1

Plum Coulee: Saturday: 3, Sunday: 4

Reinfeld: Saturday: 3, Sunday: 1

Rosenfeld: Sunday: 1

Rosetown: Saturday: 2, Sunday: 4

St. Agathe: Saturday: 1, Sunday: 1

St. Jean: Saturday: 1

St. Malo: Saturday: 1, Sunday: 1

Winkler: Saturday: 13. Sunday: 19

Wpg. Saturday: Saturday: 1, Sunday: 3

Without the Food Booth generating profit and our sponsors, we simply could not break even as the intention of this race is to bring affordable entertainment to the Southern MB community. We ask that you support our sponsors, as they are an integral part of this event. Here is a breakdown of their contributions:

Drag Race Sponsorship Program for 2009

Platinum Sponsor @ \$1000

Piston Ring

Gold Sponsors 5 @ \$500 each: \$2500

BSI Loewen Insurance (Altona)

West Park Motors (Altona)

Derksen Trucking (Altona)

Precision Autobody (Altona)

TJ Auto Repair (Morden)

Silver Sponsors 15 @ \$250 each: \$3750

Access Credit Union (Altona)

Altona IGA

Altona Motor Inn

Chase Autobody Supplies (Wpg)

Chad's Auto Repair (Winkler)

Domo Gas Bar (Altona)

Heartland Credit Union (Gretna)

Millar Auto Machine (Winkler)

Skyline Autobody (Winkler)

Sun Valley Co-op (Altona)

Sunvalley Tire (Winkler/Altona)

Sunset Diner (Plum Coulee)

Rhineland Car Co. Ltd. (Altona)

Paul's Auto Parts (Winkler)

10 Bronze Sponsorships @ \$150 each: \$1500

AMC Signs (Altona)

Altona Chamber of Commerce

Aztec Auto (Altona)

Border Real Estate (Altona)

Finishline Autobody (Gretna)

Page Print (Altona)

Pizza Haven (Altona)
Prairie Sky Promotions (Altona)
Southland Honda (Winkler)
The Ice Cream Hut (Altona)

Thanks to all the hard working volunteers who helped make this event such a success this year.
Without your help for both events (the rainy one and the good one) we couldn't have done it.
Don Elias