

# 2019 SOD season opener at Crystal loaded!



FORT WAYNE, IN (April 25, 2019) – The 40<sup>th</sup> Lane Automotive Sprints On Dirt powered by King Engine Bearings / MSD Ignition / Motul season opens with SOD's traditional opening race venue, Ron Flinn's Crystal Motor Speedway, this Saturday, April 27, loaded with talented drivers.

Last year, Zane DeVault, Plymouth, Indiana, drove to his first SOD victory by just 0.03 seconds over hard-charging 2018 SOD champion Chad Blonde (Litchfield, MI) and Matt Foos (Fremont, OH). Not only was the racing exciting, but SOD's "Beyond Limits" format proved itself with DeVault winning with a 360 engine over Blonde's 410 and the 305 of Foos.

While there has been a lot of talk about having lost a generation in racing, things are looking brighter for the future. Zane DeVault, 2018 Butler champ Boston Mead, micro sprint champion Keith Sheffer Jr., Butler standout Tylar Rankin, and 2nd generation SOD competitor Zac Broughman have all notified SOD that they will be racing at Crystal. Also competing will be Quentin Blonde. The nephew of Chad, Quentin

was impressive with SOD late last season picking up three consecutive hard charger awards.

Not to be outdone, veteran drivers Chad Blonde, pavement standout and Chad's cousin Jason Blonde (Michigan Motor Sports Hall of Fame member) will compete at Crystal. Joining them will be 2017 SOD champion Steve Irwin and Ryan Ruhl who is off to a quick start this spring and always a threat to win at Crystal. Jay Steinebach has progressed from 9<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> in points over the last three seasons and will be shooting for the championship this year. Top twelve 2018 points finishers Ricky Ferkel, Justin Ward, Mark Aldrich, Mike Schumacher, and Eric Smith are expected at Crystal. Robert Bulloch, away from sprint cars in 2018, returns to SOD competition as Steinebach's team mate.

Don't miss all the excitement as the 40<sup>th</sup> Sprints On Dirt season begins. In case the weather doesn't cooperate, a Saturday, May 4, rain date is already in place. To stay up to date on race status, sign up for RainedOut text alerts on the SOD website.

Check out Crystal Motor Speedway, at [www.crystalmotorspeedway.com](http://www.crystalmotorspeedway.com) and on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/CMSpeedway](http://www.facebook.com/CMSpeedway).

For more information, check out these websites:

Lane Automotive – [www.laneautomotive.com](http://www.laneautomotive.com)

King Engine Bearings – [www.kingbearings.com](http://www.kingbearings.com)

MSD Ignition – [www.msperformance.com](http://www.msperformance.com)

Motul – [www.motul.com/us/en-US](http://www.motul.com/us/en-US)

Sprints On Dirt – [www.sprintsondirt.com](http://www.sprintsondirt.com)

