

PACIFIC F2000 RACING

PRESENTS FORMULA F2000 F1600

For Immediate Release

Tom Hope is Victorious on Series Return to Thunderhill Raceway

Willows, Calif. (April 11, 2015) – Tom Hope arrived at Thunderhill Raceway having completed a weekend sweep at the recent SCCA U.S. Majors Tour event at Chuckwalla Valley Raceway, ready to put the woes of Fontana behind him and did so by claiming victory in round three of the Pacific Formula F1600/F2000 Championship on the 2.866 mile Thunderhill course through the rolling hillsides of northern California. The race was run with the San Francisco Region of the SCCA as part of the SCCA U.S. Majors Tour.



Series drivers competed within run groups made up of several different classes due to a series format designed to allow drivers to compete in the series and SCCA sanctioned events simultaneously. The Formula 2000 group ran in FC and was grouped with FA, FM and the sports racer groups P1 and P2.

The mid-morning qualifying session was twenty minutes in duration and was held in nearly perfect clear and sunny conditions. The session began and Robert Armington; #11 Cypress Lane Racing, Hoosier Tires, Premium Power Systems, Inc. Van Diemen and Tom Hope; #10, H+M Racing Van Diemen immediately moved to the top of the time sheets and established themselves as the prime contenders for the victory posting times 2 second ahead of the rest of the field which included Peter West; #99, Racing Optics, Ken Partch, Frank Monise Motors, DFR Van Diemen; Connor Funk, #27, DFR Van Diemen; Ken Rozeboom, #81, Van Diemen and Alex Kirby, #8, Swift DB3. Armington secured the pole with a lap of 1m45.042s, 1.2 seconds ahead of Hope.

Unable to participate this weekend were Michael Manning, #25, Fast Forward Racing Components, Van Diemen, who lost an engine in testing as was without a spare; Yufeng Luo; #13, DFR Van Diemen, who was off competing in the U.S. F2000 Series; Harin DeSilva; #96, DFR Van Diemen, whose travel commitments did not allow him to be here and series newcomer Kim Wilcox, #62, Hooverspeed Van Diemen, with an injury.

At the green flag it was Hope who made the best start getting the jump on Armington and led the first lap ahead of West, Funk, Kirby and Rozeboom.

A full-course caution came out on lap two and as the field came by Hope led Armington with another class competitor in between them followed by West, Funk, Kirby and Rozeboom.

When the green flag came out with another class competitor in between them Hope easily managed to not only hold his lead but begin to extend it while Armington waited behind for an opportunity to pass the other competitor to set his sights on Hope. The process would take several laps as Hope continued to push his Pirelli shod Van Diemen farther ahead.

Sadly for Armington as they began moving through some lapped traffic, Armington was forced to take avoiding action as a result of a car spinning in front of him which dropped him to fifth place behind West, Rozeboom and Funk. This put an end to his chance for victory as he was now faced with the task of recovering as many positions as possible and with a car capable of sitting on the pole he set forth, his climb limited by the remaining number of laps. His task was made somewhat easier because of the field being strung out and he could pick them off one at a time which he managed by first passing Funk for fourth place and then Rozeboom for third. His time would run out as he pursued West in second place and he had to settle for the final podium step.

Tom Hope went unchallenged to the finish and claimed his first series win of the season, his third consecutive U.S. Majors victory, the fastest lap of the race and the lead in the point standings.

Peter West drove consistently to claim the runner up spot and thus continue with his best results in the series, also claiming the Master Class victory.

Behind Robert Armington in third came Ken Rozeboom, Connor Funk and Alex Kirby in fourth, fifth and sixth respectively, Kirby having retired after the tenth lap.

Round four will commence at 4:10pm on Sunday.

F2000 Qualifying: 1. Robert Armington, (Van Diemen-H), 1m45.042s; 2. Tom Hope, (Van Diemen-P), 1m46.271s; 3. Peter West, (Van Diemen-P), 1m48.600s; 4. Ken Rozeboom, (Van Diemen-A), 1m49.938s; 5. Connor Funk, (Van Diemen-P), 1m49.997s; 6. Alex Kirby, (Swift-H), 1m51.169s. Tires: A-Avon, C-Cooper, G-Goodyear, H-Hoosier, P-Pirelli.

F2000 Round 3 (17 laps): 1. Hope; 2. West, +1 lap; 3. Armington+ 1 lap; 4. Rozeboom, +1 lap; 5. Funk, +1 lap; 6. Kirby, +7 laps.

Fastest race lap: Hope, 1m46.213s.

Master class winner (over 50): West.

Points: 1. Hope, 32; 2. West, 25; 3. Armington, 24; 4. Rozeboom, 19; 5. Funk, 17; 6. Kirby, 15.

The series can be followed at facebook.com/pacificf2000racing and twitter.com/PacificF2000.

For more details go to www.pacificf2000.com or contact Peter West at 310-363-9444, or by email, pacificf2000@hotmail.com.