



# 2020 New Zealand 1/24<sup>th</sup> Scale Nationals

Wellington Slot Car Club

24<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> September 2020

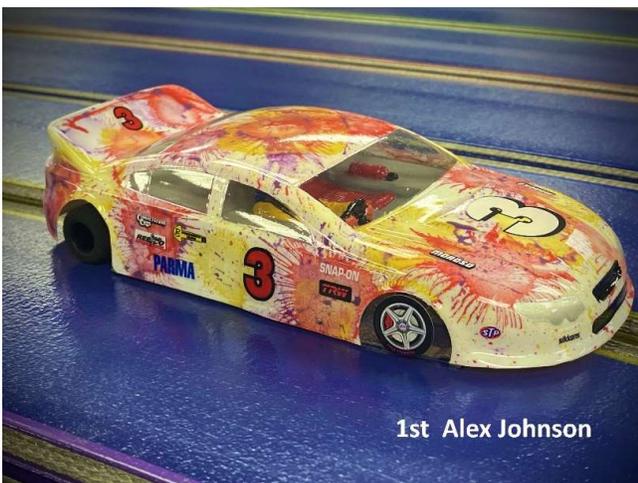
2020 will be remembered for many things, but in the world of slotcars, it has been the year Covid-19 disrupted almost every major racing event worldwide.

Our 24<sup>th</sup> Nationals has been one of the few events to proceed unscathed, and this year was particularly exciting - the newly acquired, state of the art, Janis Nabokins built eight lane track was undoubtedly an attraction for out of town racers, with great contingents from Auckland and Blenheim clubs, and a record number of entrants.

Very noticeably, the visitors improved their mastery of the track as the meeting progressed, with standout performances from Darren Macleod, Steve Meadows, Paul Caplan and Doug Macrae.



## Concours d'Elegance



1st Alex Johnson

Returning to racing at the Wellington club after an absence of 13 years, Alex Johnson made quite a splash with his paintball Commodore, and was a clear winner.



## FK F1

The eventual winner had never won F1 before and this year showed some hunger...

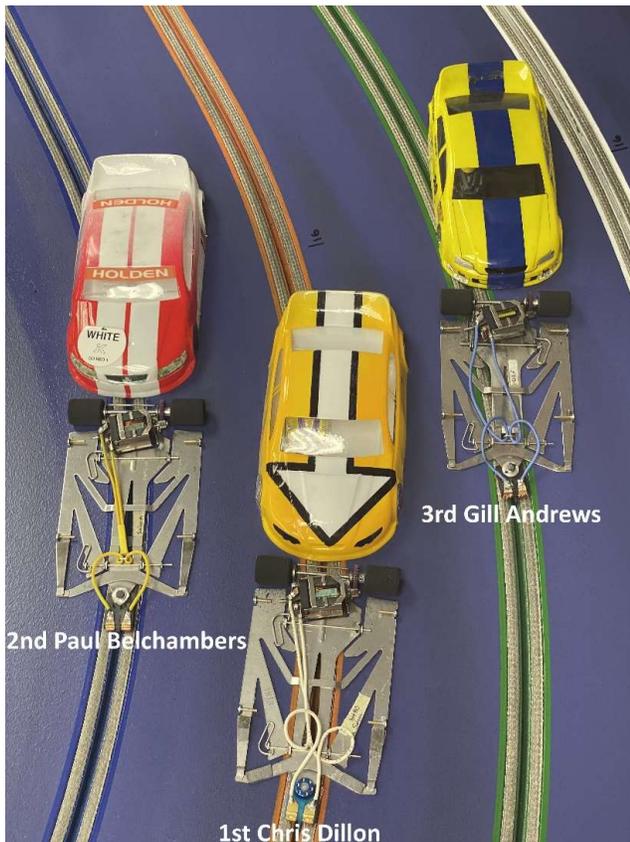
It was Paul Belchambers who right from the outset established control - on his favourite starting lane Green, Paul pulled out a 69 segment lead over Gill Andrews in the first stint, leaving Allan Tucker and Chris Dillon in somewhat chaotic pursuit of the two leaders.

By halfway, with Purple and Black completed, Paul had a slim but significant lead of 73 segments, and as he moved onto the faster lanes, he built his lead. In the very last stint Chris hunted down Gill to steal second place, with Gill third and Allan fourth.

Paul Caplan, Darren Macleod, Eben Brand and Paul de Latour completed the top eight.



## S16D Saloon



Not everyone's favourite class, many found it tough to get these the "taxi" to handle decently with the C43 chassis, and there were some enterprising placements of lead to tame these beasts.

Previous multiple Saloon winner Chris Dillon got a clean start and moved ahead of the field by almost a full lap during the first stint, never to be strongly challenged. The real action was for the places - Steve Meadows made an early run for second place, but Gill Andrews and Darren Macleod moved past him, then the ever dangerous Paul Belchambers quietly took ownership of second place.

Final placings were Chris, Paul, Gill, Darren and Steve, with Russell Levy (2012 National wing car champion), Paul Caplan and Paul de Lautour completing the top eight.





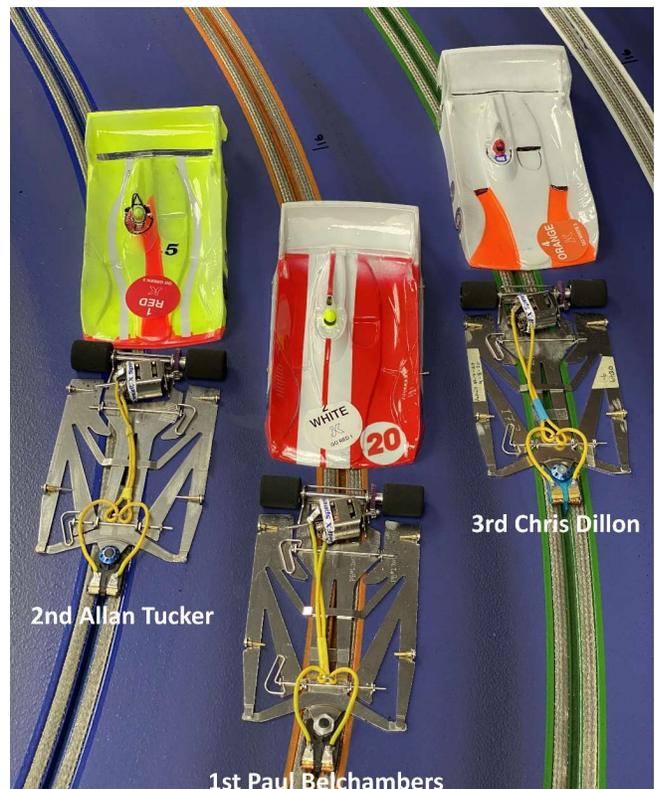
## FK LMP

Our so called “production” cars, these C43 4002 cars are the most tightly contested class we run, and with the inclusion of the Russian body (Kolhoza Eurosport Audi) they drive like baby wing cars. To be even slightly competitive you need to absolutely wring their necks at all times, and one off can ruin your whole race.

Which is pretty well how the A final of this class unfolded. Allan (TQ) Tucker got away cleanly and seized the lead, with Steve Meadows looking dangerously fast in second place. After the first stint, Paul Belchambers was fifth and Chris Dillon was sixteenth!

Allan held on for one more heat, then after a strong run on Blue, Paul took the lead – Allan was just 22 segments behind after stint six, but after eight stints, Paul took the win by a lap and 44 segments. Somehow Chris climbed back to third with Steve a lap and a half further back in fourth.

Gill Andrews, Paul Caplan, Russell Levy and Chris Parkes rounded out the top eight



2nd Allan Tucker

3rd Chris Dillon

1st Paul Belchambers

# S16D GTP



The S16D turboflex GTP had been a favourite class of many racers, and with the advent of the C43, these cars are now even more fun to drive – somehow the downforce compensates for the massive 30 gram lump of motor, and they actually feel nicely balanced.

Darren Macleod had been (not so quietly) getting faster with each passing class during the meeting, and now he was poised to strike. The flag dropped and Darren was off to an early lead, which he held for two stints. Paul Belchambers (the favourite based on past performance) had struggled during qualifying and found himself ninth after a tough first stint on Red lane.

By the end of the third stint Chris Dillon had edged ahead, with Paul already up to second, Darren third and Gill fourth. Meanwhile Allan Tucker – sixth after three stints - was flying and moved up through the rest of the race to take second place, just two laps behind Chris.

Final results were: Chris , Allan, Darren, Paul Belchambers, Paul Caplan, Gill Andrews, Eben Brand and Paul de Lautour.

## 2020 24th Scale New Zealand Championships

### Wellington Slot Car Club.

Porirua.

NEW ZEALAND SLOT CAR ASSOCIATION INC.



#### Production Championship: Overall Placings / Points:

Driver:	Grand Prix		Saloon S16D		LMP FK		GTP S16D		Total Points	
	Place:	Points:	Place:	Points:	Place:	Points:	Place:	Points:	Points:	Place:
Chris Dillon	2	47	1	50	3	45	1	50	192	1
Paul Belchambers	1	50	2	47	1	50	4	44	191	2
Gill Andrews	3	45	3	45	5	43	6	42	175	3
Paul Caplan	5	43	7	41	6	42	5	43	169	4
Darren McLeod	6	42	4	44	11	37	3	45	168	5
Allan Tucker	4	44	23	25	2	47	2	47	163	6
Russell Levy	10	38	6	42	7	41	9	39	160	7
Chris Parkes	9	39	10	38	8	40	16	32	149	8
Steve Meadows	11	37	5	43	4	44	25	23	147	9
Steve Murch	14	34	9	39	9	39	14	34	146	10
Eben Brand	7	41	12	36	22	26	7	41	144	11
Paul de Lautour	8	40	8	40	26	22	8	40	142	12
Paul Le Breton	16	32	11	37	14	34	10	38	141	13
Anthony Schroder	12	36	13	35	17	31	15	33	135	14
Jonathan Webb	13	35	14	34	21	27	13	35	131	15
Nigel Boyce	18	30	16	32	18	30	12	36	128	16
Ivan Bailey	25	23	15	33	10	38	17	31	125	17
Dave Young	19	29	20	28	16	32	21	27	116	18
Rob Jackson	20	28	18	30	19	26	19	29	113	19
Ron Thornton	22	26	24	24	13	35	23	25	110	20
Charles Le Breton	24	24	21	27	20	28	20	28	107	21
Doug Macrae	15	33		0	12	36	11	37	106	22
Alex Johnson	23	25	22	26	23	25	22	26	102	23
Stu Smith	17	31	17	3	15	33	24	24	91	24
Tim Fellows	21	27	19	29	24	24		0	80	25
Lisa Andersen		0		0	25	23	18	30	53	26

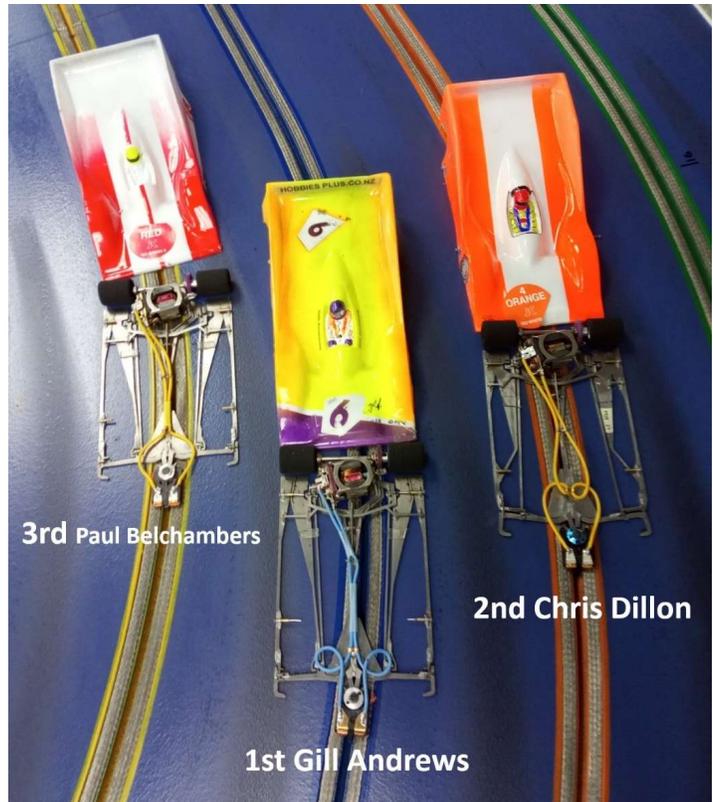
## G12 Euro

The last race on Saturday night was the first of the Eurosport classes. After four TQ's in the production races Chris Dillon was relegated to 2<sup>nd</sup> fastest qualifying by Steve Meadows.

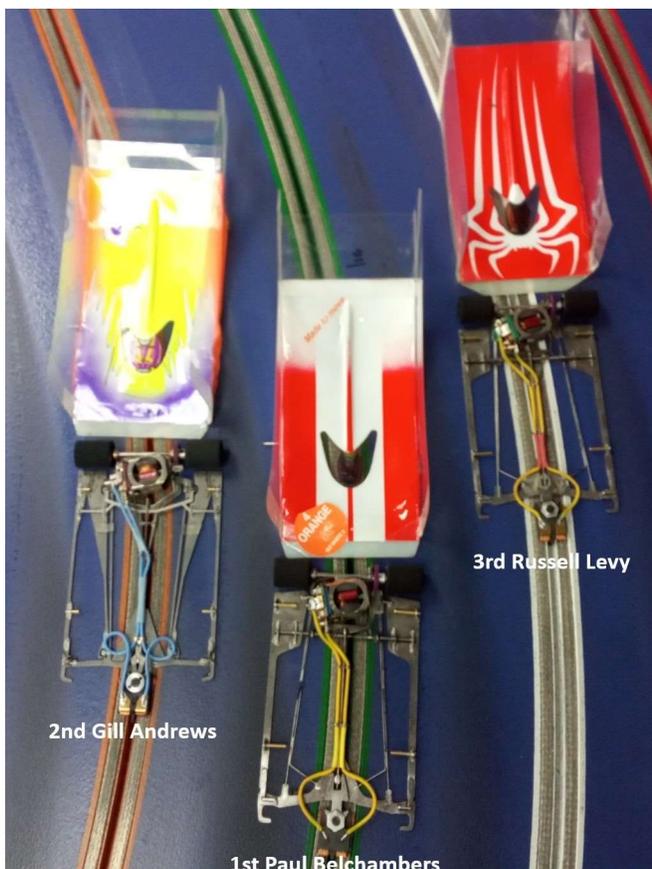
First stint of the A final - Gill Andrews got off to a strong start on blue lane, building a lap and ten segments lead over Steve Meadows on Orange, with Darren (from the B) just two segments behind Steve.

Apart from a shaky run on yellow, Gill held the lead for the rest of the race and was clearly the fastest man on the track, finishing eight laps ahead of second place. Paul Belchambers was third, and notably Doug Macrae worked his way up from starting eleventh to take fourth.

Eben Brand, Steve Meadows, Darren Macleod and Russell Levy completed the top eight.



## G12 Wing



Wing cars on a flat track – “how does that work?” Maybe that’s why this class drew the greatest number of Facebook views by a huge margin (thanks Allan for great race streaming!)

The hot favourite in this class had to be Gill Andrews, and he TQ'd with 4.137. He'd elected to run his winning G12 GTP car with a wing body – would it last another 24 minutes?

Come the end of the first stint, it was Doug Macrae, 84 segments ahead of Steve Meadows, with Gill a further 45 segments back in third... was this going to be the race that the guys from Auckland would win?

After his second stint, on Blue, Gill had taken the lead, which he held right up to the end of stint seven – meanwhile Paul Belchambers and Russell Levy were swapping second and third places. Going into the eighth stint Gill was clearly down on power, and on Red lane – while Paul was flying on Orange and took almost three laps off him to burgle the win.

Third was Russell, (on the podium at last) fourth Steve Meadows, then Paul Caplan, Darren Macleod, Doug Macrae and Steve Murch.

# Open Euro

Opens – the last and fastest class of a long weekend, with a record field of Nineteen entrants!

Darren TQ'd with a disturbingly fast 3.726, followed by Paul Belchambers, and Steve Meadows.

After the first stint the order was Chris, Darren, Gill and Steve, but bad luck struck Steve in stint two and he was out.

In stint three Paul took the lead on Blue lane and pulled away from the rest of the field. As the race progressed, Chris dropped to fourth, then clambered back to second, Darren dropped to fifth, then came back up to third, while Gill Andrews was overtaken by the leading bunch and ended up fourth.

Allan Tucker, Doug Macrae, Paul de Lautour and Russell Levy completed the top eight.

And suddenly the Nationals were over. An excellent race meeting, lots of good sportsmanship, not too much yelling, and the new track was a hit – most people can't wait to get back on it again.



## 2020 24th Scale New Zealand Championships

### Wellington Slot Car Club.

Porirua.



#### Eurosport Championship: Overall Placings / Points:

Driver:	Gp 12 Eurosport		Gp12 Wing		Open Eurosport		Total Points	
	Place:	Points:	Place:	Points:	Place:	Points:	Points:	Place:
Paul Belchambers	3	45	1	50	1	50	145	1
Gill Andrews	1	50	2	47	4	44	141	2
Chris Dillon	2	47	11	37	2	47	131	3
Darren McLeod	7	41	6	42	3	45	128	4
Doug Macrae	4	44	7	41	6	42	127	5
Russell Levy	8	40	3	45	8	40	125	6
Eben Brand	5	43	10	38	13	35	116	7
Steve Meadows	6	42	4	44	18	30	116	8
Paul de Lautour	12	36	12	36	7	41	113	9
Steve Murch	14	34	8	40	11	37	111	10
Allan Tucker	20	28	9	39	5	43	110	11
Paul Le Breton	11	37	14	34	10	38	109	12
Anthony Schroder	9	39	18	30	12	36	105	13
Ivan Bailey	13	35	15	33	14	34	102	14
Paul Caplan	24	24	5	43	17	31	98	15
Dave Young	17	31	19	29	15	33	93	16
Chris Parkes	18	30	24	24	9	39	93	17
Rob Jackson	23	25	13	35	19	29	89	18
Ron Thornton	21	27	22	26	16	32	85	19
Stu Smith	10	38	21	27	0	0	65	20
Nigel Boyce	15	33	17	31	0	0	64	21
Charles Le Breton	16	32	20	28	0	0	60	22
Jonathan Webb	22	26	16	32	0	0	58	23
Lisa Andersen	19	29	23	25	0	0	54	24