



2022 New Zealand 1/24th Scale National Championships

Wellington Slot Car Club
 16th – 19th September 2022

The 2022 1/24th Nationals were held on the eight lane Nabokins track in Wellington, attracting eighteen entrants across seven classes. Scheduling the three-day event has always been a challenge – this year we tried a couple of changes to help the event to stay on time: after qualifying for each class, starting lane allocation was done by the race control programme – and scrutineering was shared amongst the racers, with names drawn to determine who would do each class. Together these measures enabled every day of racing to finish well ahead of schedule.



Concours d'Elegance



Concours Alex Johnson

On Friday afternoon before racing, Alex Johnson took out the New Zealand Concours d'Elegance Championship for the second consecutive year with another cleverly painted Saloon.

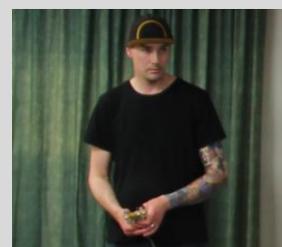


For the first time racing at the NATS I really enjoyed meeting the other competitors who were great to give tips on how to set up cars etc. The whole weekend was just great - meeting up with Chris and Gill who I have not seen in years. The track was nice to run on too. As for Allan and Jenny putting Terry and I up at their place brilliant - have to book in at Hotel Tucker for next time.

Dave Reese, Christchurch

I had a great weekends racing with a great bunch of people who were also willing to share not only knowledge but parts or even whole cars to run. On top of that what an awesome track!!

Shannon Williamson, Christchurch

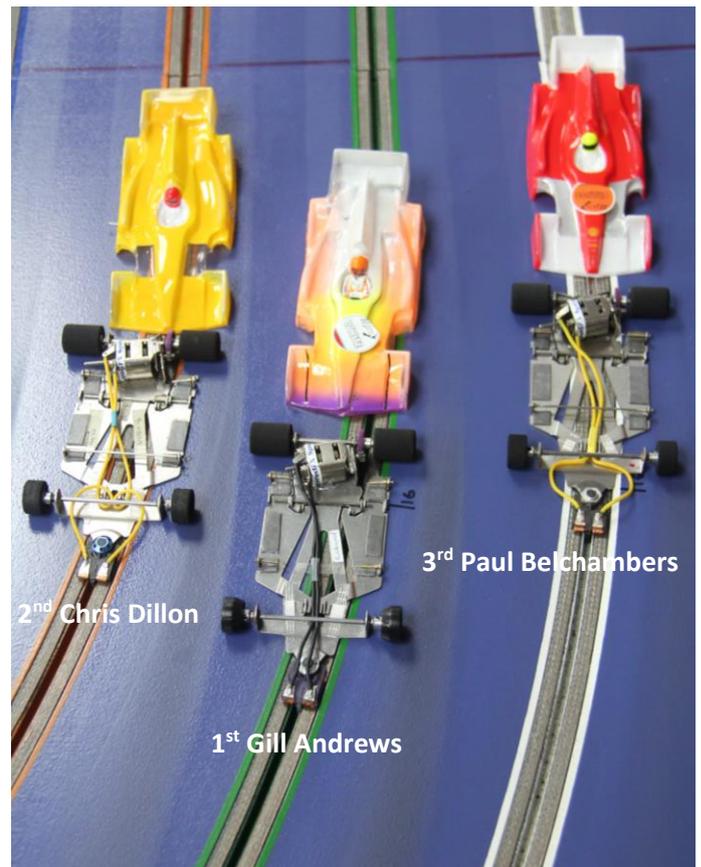


FK F1

Heat C was totally dominated by Ron Thornton who went on to win his race by a massive 20 laps from Nigel Boyce and Charles Le Breton.

The B heat was won by Tim Fellows, after overcoming an early challenge from Ivan Bailey, who led stints 2 and 3. Ivan and Alex Johnson made up 2nd and 3rd.

In the A heat, Chris Dillon got away to an early lead, but Gill Andrews was clearly the fastest man on the track and proved unstoppable, winning by five laps with Chris 2nd and Paul Belchambers 3rd. Overall, Allan Tucker was 4th and Tim Fellows took 5th from the B heat, bumping Russell Levy into 6th.



S16D Saloon



In Heat C, Nigel Boyce, Dave Young and Charles Le Breton were the top three finishers.

Ron Thornton initially led the B Heat, but retired after three stints, leaving Paul Caplan to battle his way up from 12th to win the B and ultimately take 7th overall. Alex Johnson and Tim Fellows completed the B podium.

In the A Heat, Gill Andrews got away to a clean start and led the first two stints, then Paul Belchambers came through and held the lead to finish two laps clear of Gill, with just another thirty segments back to Chris Dillon in 3rd. Overall, Allan Tucker was 4th, Eben Brand 5th and Russell Levy 6th.





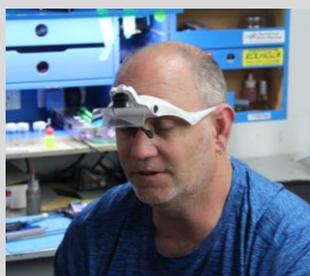
FK LMP

An early start on Saturday morning was needed to get three classes complete in time to go for dinner that evening. LMP saw an impressive run from Ivan Bailey as third fastest qualifier.

In the C Heat, Ron Thornton led the first two stints, then Sha non Williamson showed some real pace driving a car loaned by Paul Belchambers and led the rest of the race finishing four laps ahead of Ron.

In the B heat, Paul Le Breton led the first two stints, before being passed by Eben Brand who took the win less than a lap ahead of Tim Fellows, with Paul Caplan in 3rd - just two segments ahead of Paul Le Breton!

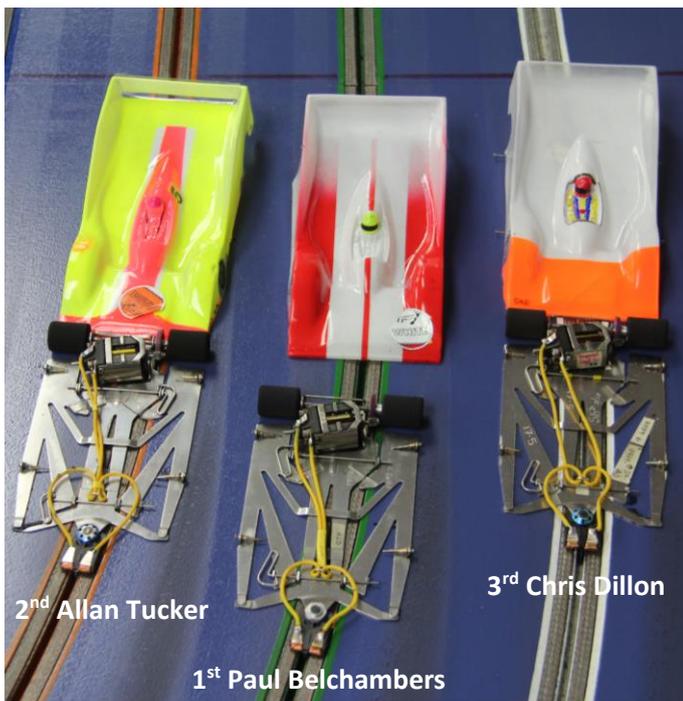
The A heat commenced with Ivan Bailey leading the first two stints. Then Ivan went onto Purple and Chris Dillon took the lead with a strong run on Green. Paul Belchambers was closing in, but disaster struck on Black when he lost a spur gear after being run into from behind. Chris was able to ease off and take an easy win by nine laps from Gill, or so it seemed, but on power off Russell just coasted past Gill to take 2nd by only one segment, and so Gill had to settle for 3rd. Overall, Ivan 4th, Paul salvaged 5th, and Allan Tucker 6th.



Saloon and GTP both cars had good pace and got better with some tweaks and a little coaching thanks Gill. G12 GTP was average so was just trying to up the stack laps. G12 wing a crash in the first lane early smashed a gear, bent axle and dislodged the can bearing, a quick bit of guess work to solder it back in place with a new axle and gear but about 45 laps down in the heat, car was hooking up well and manage a good total considering the bad start. Open, this was my first run with these having assembled the car ready for the 2021 event but covid put pay to that. had a good clean run the car still has plenty in it to give it is just the driver holding it back now!
Nigel Boyce, Marlborough



S16D GTP



With just six hundredths of a second between the top three qualifiers, some close racing looked likely. Heat C saw Nigel Boyce show everyone just how much quicker he was getting, winning by 14 laps from Charles Le Breton and Terry Harrop.

In the B heat, again Ron Thornton led the first two stints, then Paul Caplan came through with strong runs on Purple and Black to win convincingly by 7 laps from Ron, with Tim Fellows just ten segments back in 3rd.

The A heat saw Chris Dillon lead the first two stints, but then Paul Belchambers came through with strong runs on Blue and Purple. Chris regained the lead for stints 5 & 6 and they raced side by side for quite a while. Ultimately, Paul held the lead to win by two laps from Allan Tucker who snuck past Chris for 2nd in the last heat. Overall, it was Eben Brand 4th, Gill Andrews 5th and Russell Levy 6th.



Chris Dillon – 2022 Production Champion

2022 1/24th Scale New Zealand Championships

Wellington Slot Car Club. Porirua

NEW ZEALAND SLOT CAR ASSOCIATION INC.



Production Championship: Overall Placings / Points:

Place:	Driver:	FK F1		S16D Saloon		FK LMP		S16D GTP		Total Points:
		Place:	Points:	Place:	Points:	Place:	Points:	Place:	Points:	
1	Chris Dillon	2	47	3	45	1	50	3	45	187
2	Gill Andrews	1	50	2	47	3	45	5	43	185
3	Paul Belchambers	3	45	1	50	10	38	1	50	183
4	Russell Levy	6	42	6	42	2	47	7	41	172
5	Eben Brand	7	41	5	43	5	43	4	44	171
6	Allan Tucker	4	44	4	44	17	31	2	47	166
7	Tim Fellows	5	43	9	39	6	42	9	39	163
8	Paul Caplan	12	36	7	41	7	41	6	42	160
9	Ivan Bailey	8	40	10	38	4	44	13	35	157
10	Alex Johnson	9	39	8	40	11	37	11	37	153
11	Paul Le Breton	11	37	12	36	8	40	12	36	149
12	Ron Thornton	10	38	18	30	12	36	8	40	144
13	Nigel Boyce	14	34	11	37	15	33	10	38	142
14	Shannon Williamson	17	31	15	33	9	39	13	32	135
15	Charles Le Breton	15	33	14	34	16	32	14	34	133
16	Terry Harrop	16	32	16	32	14	34	15	33	131
17	Dave Reese	18	30	17	31	18	30	17	31	122
18	Dave Young	13	35	13	35	13	35	DNS	0	105

G12 Euro

The first Group 12 race saw a much wider spread of speeds, and with the field down to 16 racers it was a busy two heats of eight. Paul Caplan took the lead from the start in the B heat and won by an astonishing 25 laps from Paul Le Breton 2nd and Alex Johnson 3rd.

In the A Heat, Chris Dillon took an early lead and after just two stints looked to have the race under control with two and a half laps over Paul Belchambers. But in stint 3 he lost time with a torn body (bad choice of 5 thou) and eventually retired. Paul raced away unchallenged to win by almost 5 laps from Gill, with another 16 laps back to Russell in 3rd. Overall results were Tim Fellows 4th, Eben Brand 5th and Ivan Bailey 6th. It was an indication of just how much faster the A heat was, that Paul Caplan's 25 lap win in the B was only good for 7th overall.



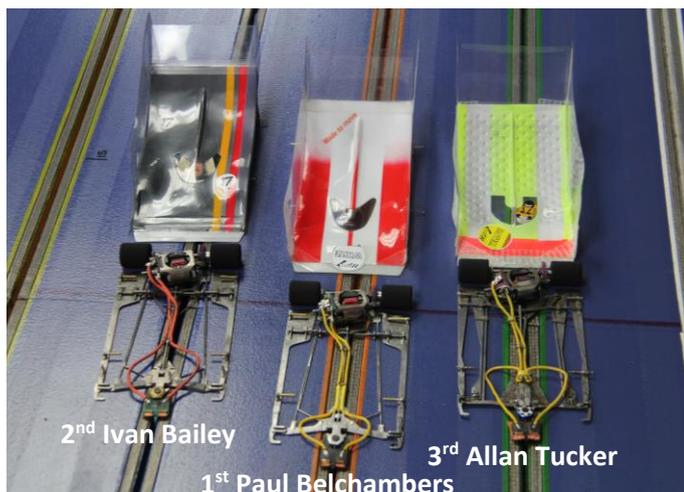
HMMRC showed up with Sistema lunch boxes for their pit set up. Unfortunately, Dave submitted his sick note halfway through the production championship and took an early flight home. A real shame as he had a bunch of really well-prepared gear that stayed in the race box.

The atmosphere in the room was great all weekend and bodes well for future attendance - Henderson is coming back! We were really pleased with the adjustments made to the race program, which was obvious in the outcome - keeping ahead of schedule.

Ivan Bailey, Henderson



G12 Wing



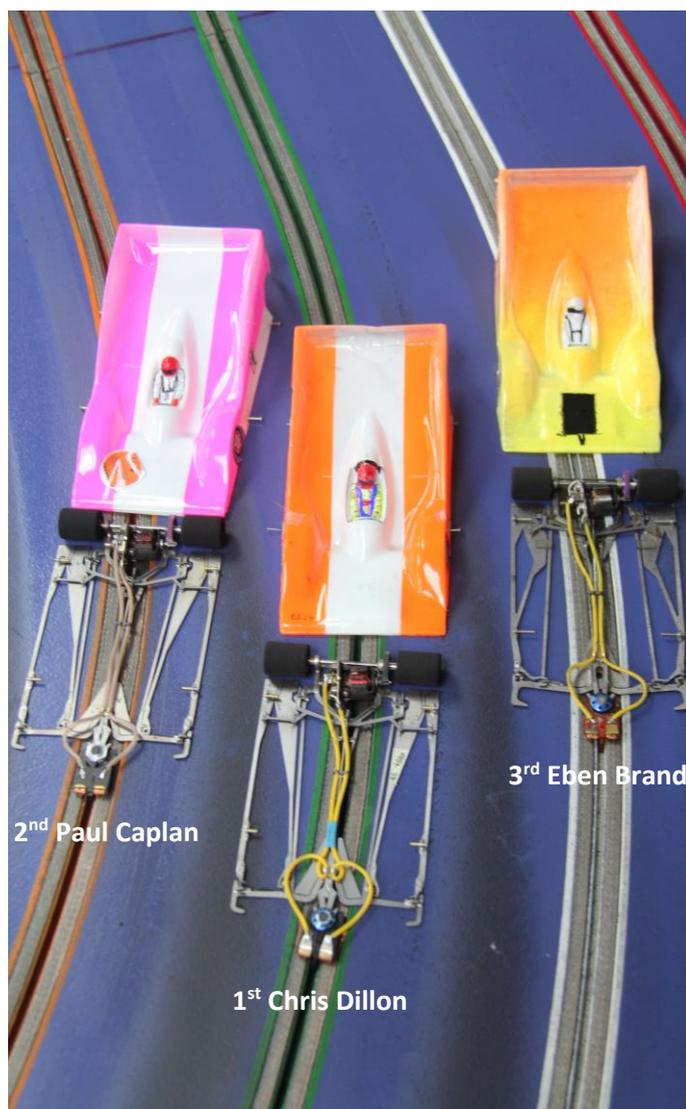
With Wing cars we expect dramatic speed differences between the fastest and slowest, but we did not expect race favourite Gill Andrews to crawl around the track in last place during qualifying. The mysterious problem was to take several stints to rectify.

The B heat started with a crash that saw Nigel Boyce in the pits with damage after just 3 laps. Paul and Charles Le Breton respectively took 1st and 2nd places, with an ever-improving Shannon in 3rd. Gill got up to speed in the 5th stint, at a pace which would have gained him 4th overall if he had sustained it from the start.

In the first stint of the A heat, Paul Caplan took the lead on Blue, and Russell Levy suffered damage and retired. In stint 2, Paul Belchambers ran away on Green and then led to the finish. After a slowish qualifying Ivan Bailey had a fast race, taking 2nd place, setting the fastest lap of the race on Orange and greatest distances on Orange and Blue. Allan Tucker was 3rd, Paul Caplan 4th, Tim Fellows 5th and Eben Brand 6th.

Open Euro

The B heat saw Nigel Boyce lead the first stint, then Ivan Bailey led the next four, before Eben Brand got ahead when Ivan was on Black, to win the B from Ivan and Nigel. In the A, top qualifier Paul Belchambers had a slow start on Red, letting Chris, Russell, Gill and Paul Caplan all get ahead of him. Once on Green he proceeded to start reeling in the field, only to suffer the first of several spur gear failures, allowing Chris to ease off and lead the rest of the race as first Gill, then Russell retired in stints 3 and 5 respectively. In the end, Paul Caplan was 2nd, Eben Brand 3rd (from the B), Ivan Bailey 4th, Paul B clawed his way back to take 5th, and Nigel was 6th Paul B was clearly the fastest man on the track setting six of the fastest lap times and four of the greatest stint distances. Rumour has it he will never run a used spur gear in Euro again...



Great weekend for me things couldn't have gone better. Two A finals, fifth in GP and Wing, and a fourth in G12 Euro – amazing. To top it off, beat the 2012 wing car champion!

Tim Fellows, Wellington

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Wellington Slot Car Club. Porirua

NEW ZEALAND SLOT CAR ASSOCIATION INC.



Eurosport Championship: Overall Placings / Points:

Place:	Driver:	G12 Euro		G12 Wing		Open Euro		Total Points:
		Place:	Points:	Place:	Points:	Place:	Points:	
1	Paul Belchambers	1	50	1	50	5	43	143
2	Ivan Bailey	6	42	2	47	4	44	133
3	Paul Caplan	7	41	4	44	2	47	132
4	Eben Brand	5	43	6	42	3	45	130
5	Paul Le Breton	8	40	8	40	7	41	121
6	Gill Andrews	2	47	14	34	9	39	120
7	Russell Levy	3	45	15	33	8	40	118
8	Nigel Boyce	10	38	13	35	6	42	115
9	Tim Fellows	4	44	5	43	DNS	0	87
10	Chris Dillon	15	33	DNS	0	1	50	83
11	Allan Tucker	12	36	3	45	DNS	0	81
12	Ron Thornton	11	37	7	41	DNS	0	78
13	Charles Le Breton	13	35	9	39	DNS	0	74
14	Terry Harrop	14	34	11	37	DNS	0	71
15	Shannon Williamson	16	32	10	38	DNS	0	70
16	Alex Johnson	9	39	DNS	0	DNS	0	39
17	Dave Reese	DNS	0	12	36	DNS	0	36

Many thanks to **Chris Dillon** for the words and **Ron Thornton** for the images