

Race wraps, looks ahead to 2009

Well, we are at the end of another Race season in NWR and Oregon. We made the last race in Oregon Region a NWR points race and we had 31 entries show up. I am told that it was our drivers who put Oregon over the top for the event so they thanked us. We had six volunteers that I know of at the event as well. Oh yes, and believe it or not, the weather was dry both days.

By the time you get this we will be holding or have held our October race

RACE REPORT

**TOM MASTERSON
ASSISTANT RE, RACE**

meeting to discuss supplemental regulations for next year. If you have suggestions please get them to us before Thanksgiving and we will certainly put them out for discussion. I don't know if we will discuss prices as we may not know what the prices for tow

trucks and ambulances are at this point.

Double Nationals dates for 2009 are May 23-25 at Pacific Raceways.

It is also time to suggest any candidates for Assistant Regional Executive of Race. If you have someone you would like to see in the position, please let us know.

Play safe and have fun.

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Lux ends year with fifth Top 10

BY TOM MOORE
NayKid Racing

BRASELTON, Ga.— Cindi Lux of Aloha, Ore., closed the 2008 SCCA SPEED World Challenge GT season with a ninth-place finish at Road Atlanta on Oct. 4. The impressive run marked the fifth time this year that Lux has piloted the No. 2 Team Mopar Dodge Viper Competition Coupe to a Top-10 result in a season limited to only eight races.

In classic Road Atlanta fashion, Lux's race came down to a side-by-side fight for supremacy in the closing laps. With one lap to go Lux was challenging for eighth but had to give up the pursuit in order to hold ninth. Despite being hit in the left rear with three turns to go, Lux held on for her third ninth-place finish of the season. The battle would leave a lasting memory for those watching the closing laps. Lux was the second-highest finishing Viper in the season finale of the series.

After a frustrating race the week before at New Jersey, Lux was eager to race at the ultra-quick Road Atlanta. The 2.54-mile, 12-turn facility has always been a favorite of the Northwest-based driver and Dodge has celebrated some of its greatest victories on the north Georgia circuit. Like Lux, the fast and flowing track plays well to the strong suits of the V10-powered Viper Competition Coupe.

Lux qualified a frustrated 14th for the 50-minute race but quickly made up

ground. An impressive launch in the customary World Challenge standing start rocketed Lux through turn 1 and up the hill ahead of many of her competitors. From there, the Mopar entry held its ground in a wheel-to-wheel battle for positions six through 10 that grew in intensity with each lap. The fight began to reach its peak with three laps remaining when the Lux Performance Group LLC-prepared American supercar hounded two Porsche 911s. Lux lobbed her challenge on seventh and eighth place from ninth, in the process turning a personal best lap just 0.7 seconds off the winner's best lap.

The white flag fell over the quartet of cars with seventh through 10th places running nose-to-tail. Lux drew deep from the well of the Viper's torque pulling onto Road Atlanta's long back straight. She brought her car alongside the eighth-place Porsche coming down the hill entering the turns 10A-10B complex. Digging for every opportunity, Lux put two wheels off the side of the track as the Viper split the air at 160 mph.

As the dust cloud of red Georgia clay kicked up behind her, Lux had to pull from the assault on eighth to defend her position from increasing pressure. Detroit cross-town rivalries now took center stage as the Corvette of Tomi Drissi thought he saw an opening to pass Lux. The two cars touched with the GM entry tagging the left rear of the Viper turning Lux sideways. Knowing there were only three more turns left in the

season, Lux kept her foot planted on the throttle of the Viper. Dropping down gears to maintain the engine's power and the Viper's nose pointed towards the finish line, Lux held the car on track and the Vette behind her to take ninth.

"The Mopar Viper was absolutely on rails in the race," Lux said. "The team of wizards on our crew just nailed the setup on the car. It ran flawlessly all race and it was a privilege to wheel this Viper around the race track. Both on the track and off it was a great weekend for us. The fans at Road Atlanta are so incredible, especially the Mopar enthusiasts. That really makes these races fun."

In only her second season of SPEED World Challenge competition, 2008 was an impressive year for Lux. Despite not traveling to two events, the 1999 American Le Mans Series Women's Global GT Series Champion finished 14th in the season-long points championship. Lux earned 458 driver's points and helped Dodge secure fourth in the manufacturers championship with its Viper Competition Coupe. The 12-time road racing champion had a season-high start (third) and finish (fifth) at Miller Motorsports Park and earned both the Racing Electronics Holeshoot Award and the Sunoco Hard Charger Award at Detroit.

"Being the last race of the year is kind of bittersweet," Lux said of Road America. "We have some strong momentum going and now we have to stop for the year. It was a great way to end the season with our fifth Top 10 finish."