

Matt Billings 2011 Season in Review; A Pair of Home Track Wins Tops Season Highlights and Finishes Third in BOS Point Standings

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The sophomore season for Matt Billings in the 358 Modified division was a good one for the 18 year old Brockville, Ontario racer. Matt had a successful season with three feature wins, 20 top five finishes, 28 top ten finishes in 39 events this season. Two of those victories came at his home town track, Brockville Speedway, and the other was at Chapman's Can Am Motorsports Park late in the season.

Billings started 2011 by graduating from the Race 101 Program in North Carolina in January. Matt was able to apply a lot of what he learned at the Race 101 program in marketing and communications, and soon bolstered the team's sponsorship for 2011. He brought in companies like Carquest and Hansler Smith Limited to the team, and excitement was high going into the new season.

On the track, the season got started at Merrittville Speedway in late April. This was Matt's first ever appearance at the track, and he scored a 15th place finish. More importantly, he gained some valuable experience, as he would be back there once again for a Mr. DIRTcar 358 Modified Series race. Billings raced the first month of the season at Chapman's Can Am Motorsports Park, and posted three top ten finishes in the first four races, including a second place run.

In May, Billings continued to race at Can Am, and also raced at Brockville Ontario Speedway. At Brockville, Billings got off to a great start, posting top ten finishes throughout the first two months of the season. In fact, his worst finish through mid July was a sixth. In that stretch, Billings also posted his first win of the year at Brockville on July 9th. Billings had still been racing Can Am weekly up to mid July, but with a lack of cars in the pits, Billings and his team made the difficult decision to stop going to Can Am, and they decided to travel to Mohawk Raceway on Friday nights for the rest of the season.

Billings continued to run well at Brockville, and posted another win on the final points night of the season on September 3rd. He also won on a return visit to Can Am that same weekend. Later in the month, Billings ran a Sprint Car at Can Am with the Empire Super Sprint, and while he qualified into the show, a hard crash down the backstretch resulted in heavy damage to the sprint after a violent rollover.

At the end of September, the team's focus shifted from the weekly short track, as the team prepared for Syracuse. Billings finished in the top 10 in 2010 in the 358 Modified Nationwide 150, coming off a win in 2009 while running in the Sportsman division. This year, Billings was able to improve on his 10th place finish from last year, and ended the race in 9th. He ended the 2011 season with

an eighth place finish in the season finale at Brockville in the DIRTcar Northeast Fall Nationals Mr DIRTcar 358 Modified Series race.

Matt Billings is a proud supporter of the Heart and Stroke Foundation, taking part in a fundraiser earlier this year. He also participated in a fundraiser for Alzheimer's Society of Canada. For more information on the Heart and Stroke Foundation, please visit www.heartandstroke.ca or for the Alzheimer's Society, please visit www.alzheimer.ca.

Billings Motorsports would like to thank all of their sponsors for their support during the 2011 season. Billings Automotive, Carquest, Stealth Racewear, Pastime Motors, Hansler Smith Limited, Enders Racing Engines, Brockville Physiotherapy, Babe Design, Finish Line Web Design, and Enders Racing are an integral part of the team's success, and we thank you all for your support this season.

For more information on Matt Billings and the Billings Racing Team, please visit our website, www.mattbillings74.com.



Matt Billings in action at the Brockville Ontario Speedway. Matt posted two feature wins, and finished third in points at the BOS. (Tyler Lambert Photo)