



The 2024 Cor PowerSports season is finally underway! After week after week of warm temperatures including 50 degree days in February, zero snow, and deteriorating ice conditions, we were finally able to go race this past weekend. Our 2024 schedule has changed quite a bit since we announced it in 2023 so here is a quick recap of the past few weeks. Our original opening two rounds in Brainerd and Ottertail were cancelled off the bat due to deteriorating ice. We then announced the final round in Ironwood, Michigan would be a Trilogy Cup which will consist of three separate days of racing and three days of separate points. Then round three in Park Rapids was changed to a lake race but at a later date in February. With little to no snow in Northern Minnesota, the I-500 was forced to cancel in 2024. Park Rapids then took this race date which was the second weekend in February. Temps continued to rise as race day approached which caused us to cancel Park Rapids all together. As February 24th was approaching, the scheduled venue of Walker was losing ice quickly which caused us to cancel the event. However, Naytahwaush had built enough ice on the cold days and offered to host not one but two events on North Twin Lake. We officially announced we would be going racing for the first time of 2024 on February 24th and 25th for the Nightriders 200! We also will be racing in Naytahwaush on March 2nd & 3rd for the Snodeo 200! What a rollercoaster!

Saturday morning welcomed us with sunny blue skies and warm temperatures! The green flag was set to drop at 9 AM where the thermometer read a nice 25 degrees, the perfect day to go racing! With minimal snow on the lake, the course was smooth as glass which made for some high speed racing! The day started off with the Pro Open (presented by Polaris) and Semi Pro Improved (presented by FXR) class qualifiers. They ran a two lap time based race to determine the starting order of their finals later on in the day. After two laps of high speed racing, Talyor Bunke (Polaris) was the top qualifier in Pro Open with a two lap time of 13:00.242. Bunke was 16.189 seconds faster than the next qualifier, Caleb Nymann (Arctic Cat). Clocking in third was Zach Herfindahl (Arctic Cat) 16.648 second back, Jesse Hallstrom (Ski-Do) in fourth 16.755 seconds back, and rounding out the top five was Re Wadena (Arctic Cat) 15.952 seconds back. In the Semi Pro Improved class, times were a little tighter than the Pro Open class. Luke Van Lyssel (Polaris) was quickest with a time of 14:00.054. O'Ryan Bosek (Polaris) was second 1.122 second back, Brandon Wolter (Polaris) was third 4.097 seconds back, Cooper Kangas (Ski-Doo) fourth 6.660 seconds back, and rounding out the top five was Jon Arneson (Arctic Cat) 13.076 seconds back. Those five from each class set the front row of their finals that was set to run at the end of the day.

Race two of the day was the Sport Improved class (presented by Ski-Doo/BRP) two-lap qualifier. The heads up final and qualifying format is new to the Sport class in 2024. In years prior these classes have run a two day merged time format. The Sport Improved class had 25 entries making it extra competitive! After two laps, Tyler Brown was top qualifier on his Polaris with a time of 14:16.728. In second was Dylon Tollefson (Polaris 3.589 seconds back, Aaden Olson (Arctic Cat) was third 7.584 seconds back, Draycen Byfuglien (Polaris) was fourth 8.297 seconds back,

and in fifth was Brady Wadena (Arctic Cat) 8.970 seconds out of first. Those five qualified for the front row of their final which was set for race seven.

Race three consisted of the Junior 14-17, Junior 14-17 Girls, Vet 30+, Masters 50+, and Classic classes. All of these divisions will race both days and be scored on an overall times combined from both days. After day one, Gunner Arlaud (Arctic Cat) led the Classic class (presented by On Snow Magazine) by 57.087 seconds. Trig Anderson (Arctic Cat) led the Junior 14-17 class (presented by Christian Transport) by 23.866 seconds. In the Junior 14-17 Girls division (presented by TDS Trucking), Katie Clark (Arctic Cat) led after day one over Rachel Wimpfheimer (Arctic Cat). Todd Severson (Arctic Cat) led the Masters 50+ class (presented by Polaris) by 14.855 seconds. In the Vet 30+ class (presented by Rox Speed FX) Jared Christensen (Polaris) led after day one by 14.361 seconds.

Race four on the day had the Junior 10-13, Junior 10-13 Girls, and Junior 8-12 classes battling it out. In the competitive Junior 10-13 class (presented by The Hunter Houle Foundation) Rielly Clark (Arctic Cat) led the class by only 2.456 seconds over Luke Fredman (Polaris). In the Junior 10-13 Girls class (presented by The Hunter Houle Foundation) Charlie Kangas (Ski-Doo) led over Madyson Landin (Polaris) and Kynsie Diesen (Arctic Cat). In the Transition 8-12 class (presented by C&A Pro Ski) Bretley Iverson led by 4 minutes.

In race five, it was time for the Pro Women to shine along with the Trail, and Vintage classes. In the Pro Factory Women's class (presented by Nelson International), it was a close battle after day one with Mckenna Cloose (Arctic Cat) leading after day one by 1.891 seconds over Leah Bauer (Polaris). In the Trail class (presented by Caliber), Kyle Quesenberry (Arctic Cat) led after day one. In the Vintage class (presented by Sedona), Paul Sillerud is back for another season on his leaf spring. He was the lone entry in the class but put in a solid day one completed both laps problem free.

The final two day class race of the day was the Pro Vet 35+, Expert 600 Limited, and Masters 40+ classes. In the Expert 600 Limited class (presented by Carver Performance), Trig Anderson (Arctic Cat) led his second class of the day. In the Masters 40+ class, Jon Arneson (Arctic Cat) led. All seven of the Masters 40+ entries finished within one minute of each other! In the Pro Vet 35+, Justin Tate (Polaris) led after day one.

We then moved onto the three heads up finals to finish out the day. The first to take the line was the Sport Improved class presented by Ski Doo/BRP. The top five qualifiers chose their starting spot on the front row and the rest of the pack lined behind them in rows of five. The green light flashed and sleds were off for their four lap final. Draycen Byfuglien (Polaris) took the early race lead with Brady Wadena (Arctic Cat) and Tyler Brown (Polaris) all nose to tail. These three races passed each other for the lead all four laps which put on a great show. On the final lap, Byfuglien and Wadena separated themselves just enough from Brown to make it a two sled battle to the checkered. Wadena was leading coming into the final chicane section but Byfuglien snuck to the inside and took the lead with two corners to go. Draycen Byfuglien held it through the last corner and took the win claiming his first Cor PowerSports Sport division win on his Polaris! Brady Wadena took a strong second place on his Arctic Cat 2.980 seconds back with Tyler Brown

rounding out the podium on his Polaris 14.929 seconds out of first. Taking fourth was Jakob Olson (Polaris) 15.830 seconds back and rounding out the top five was Leah Bauer (Polaris) who also raced Pro Women's! There were battles all the way through the back with the top 13 sleds all within one minute of each other after four laps!

The next heads up final of the day was the Semi Pro Improved Final presented by FXR. These racers lined up to do battle for six laps. The green light flashed and the battle began. Luke Van Lyssel (Polaris) took the early race lead over O'Ryan Bosek (Polaris) in second and Jon Arneson (Arctic Cat) in third. After lap one, Bosek led the pack with Van Lyssel in second and Arneson running a solid third. Similar to the Sport Improved class, the top three separated themselves and battled. The lead changed after almost every corner of every lap between Van Lyssel and Bosek which made for another great race. The two would head away from the finish line with one sled leading and come back with another leading. After six laps of the two swapping positions, Luke Van Lyssel just edged out O'Ryan Bosek by 0.561 seconds to take the win. Jon Arneson rounded out the podium 5.480 seconds back. In fourth was Derek Kloety (Arctic Cat) 31.308 seconds back and Cooper Kangas (Ski-Doo) finished fifth 32.300 seconds back.

The final race of Saturday was the ten lap Pro Open Final presented by Polaris. The top qualifier Taylor Bunke got to choose his starting position first and the rest in line after. Top five started on the front row with the rest in rows of five behind. Taylor Bunke got the early race lead and quickly pulled away on his Polaris. On lap one, T. Bunke laid down a 6 minute 31 second lap time while Herfindahl in second ran a 6 minute 35 second time and Hallstrom in third ran a 6 minute 36 second lap. After lap two, Bunke still led the way with a 6 minute 33 second lap time but Herfindahl made his way into second with a 6 minute 31 second lap and Hallstrom in third with a 6 minute 32 second lap. Ross Erdman sat fourth and Aaron Christensen in fifth. On lap three, the leader Taylor Bunke experienced an engine issue which caused him to pull out of the race. This put Herfindahl into the lead with Hallstrom in second and Erdman in third. Herfindahl continued on his fast laps slowly pulling away from the Hallstrom and Erdman battle. Erdman raced passed Hallstrom which now put him into the second place position trying to chase down the 312. Herfindahl kept getting faster and clocked in his fastest lap of the race on lap six with a 6:31.622. Sleds started to get shuffled with fuel stops and the leader took his fuel stop right after laying down his burner of a lap. Herfindahl remained in the lead after his fuel and continued to show speed. After ten laps of racing, Zach Herfindahl (Arctic Cat) earned his first win of the 2024 season with a total time of 1 hour 6 minutes and 4.730 seconds. Placing second was Ross Erdman (Polaris) 21.731 seconds back. In third was Pro division rookie, Jesse Hallstrom (Ski-Doo) 34.569 seconds out of first. In fourth was Justin Tate (Polaris) 1 minute 6.312 seconds back and rounding out the top five was Aaron Christensen (Polaris) 1 minute 22.823 seconds back.

Overnight the area saw dusting of snowfall, just enough to cover the lake and make it appear it was winter! Even though the snowfall was minimal, it did change the track on Sunday. Instead of a flat smooth track with flat track corners, the snow created slight bumps throughout the course and berms in the corners. We also saw more water in the corners of the course on Sunday.

Sunday started off at 9AM and it was a warm 30 degrees with the sun sneaking in and out of clouds all day. The first race of the day was the Pro Factory Stock (presented by Arctic Cat) and

Semi Pro Factory Stock (presented by C&A Pro Ski) two lap qualifier. After two quick laps, Jesse Hallstrom (Ski-Doo) was the top qualifier in the Pro Factory Stock class with a two lap time of 13:23.389. Clocking in second was Evan Peppel (Polaris) 2.203 seconds back, Aaron Christensen (Polaris) was third 3.013 seconds back, Dan Revering (Polaris) in fourth 4.346 seconds back, and Ross Erdman (Polaris) rounding out the top five 6.813 seconds back. In the Semi Pro Factory Stock class, Keagen Houser (Arctic Cat) was fastest with a time of 13:47.927. Not even one second slower was Cooper Kangas (Ski-Doo) in second 0.799 seconds back. In third was Oliver Olson (Polaris) 7.548 seconds back, Brandon Wolter (Polaris) in fourth 8.785 seconds back, and Luke Van Lyssel (Polaris) was fifth 9.175 seconds out of first.

The second race of the day was the two lap Sport Stock (presented by Woody's) qualifier. After two laps the top qualifier was Brady Wadena (Arctic Cat) with a time of 13:59.056. Clocking in second was yesterday Sport Improved winner, Draycen Byfuglien (Polaris) 2.315 seconds back. In third was Dylon Tollefson (Polaris) 4.744 seconds back, Tyler Brown (Polaris) was fourth 5.078 seconds back, and in fifth was Jon Arneson (Arctic Cat) 6.933 seconds back. The top 27 competitors in the Sport Stock qualifier were all within 1 minute of each other! That is some close racing action.

Race three was the first classes to finish their two day combined results. In the Classic class (presented by On Snow Magazine), Gunner Arlaud was leading going into the final lap but ran into an issue which handed to overall win over to his dad Glen Arlaud (Polaris) with a two day time of 43 minutes 24.143 seconds. Placing second overall was Kyle Grover (Polaris) and in third was Justin Olson (Polaris). In the Junior 14-17 class (presented by Christian Transport), Trig Anderson put together a solid two days of racing to come away with the win on his Arctic Cat with a total time of 45.52.994. In second was Brady Wimpfheimer (Arctic Cat), and in third was Axel Amsden (Arctic Cat). In the Junior 14-17 class (presented by TDS Trucking), Katie Clark took the win with Rachel Wimpfheimer placing second both on Arctic Cat. In the Masters 50+ class (presented by Polaris), Todd Severson (Arctic Cat) took the win by three seconds over Jeff Mckay in second and only 31 seconds over Tommie Quam in third! In the Vet 30+ class (presented by Rox Speed FX), Adam Brandt (Arctic Cat) was victorious over Jared Christensen (Polaris) in second.

In race four, the future of our sport took the track. In the Junior 10-13 class (presented by The Hunter Houle Foundation), Rielly Clark (Arctic Cat) and Luke Fredman (Polaris) both ran fast all weekend and after two days of racing, Clark edged out Fredman for the win by only 1.4 seconds over Fredman. Rounding out the podium was Gage Clark (Arctic Cat). In the Junior 10-13 Girls class (presented by The Hunter Houle Foundation), Kynsie Diesen (Arctic Cat) went from third to first on day two and took the overall win. In second was Charlie Kangas (Ski-Doo) and in third was Madyson Landin (Polaris). In the Junior Transition 8-12 class (presented by C&A Pro Ski), Bretley Iverson (Arctic Cat) took the win with Aiden Jurina in second and Gavin Gruhot in third.

In race five, the Pro Women (presented by Nelson Internation) finished their close battle. After two days of racing, Leah Bauer (Polaris) took the lead after a close battle with Mckenna Cloose (Arctic Cat) who finished only 2.109 seconds behind Bauer after two days. Rounding out the

podium was Gabby Hallstrom on her Ski-Doo. In the Trail class (presented by Caliber), Kyle Quensenberry (Arctic Cat) took the win over Dan Gruhot in second and Hunter Nelson in third. In the Vintage class (presented by Sedona) Paul Sillerud finished his solid weekend of racing and took the win.

The Expert 600 Limited class (presented by Carver Performance) finished their weekend in race six of the day. Trig Anderson (Arctic Cat) earned his second win on the weekend over Axle Amsden (Arctic Cat) and Brady Wimpfheimer (Arctic Cat) in third. Masters 40+ class (presented by Arctic Cat) also finished up their weekend with Jon Arneson (Arctic Cat) taking the win with Todd Severson (Arctic Cat) in second and Jeff Mckay (Polaris) in third. Arneson also won the Pro Vet 35+ class (presented by Studboy) with Jared Christensen in second and Justin Tate in third, both on Polaris.

The first heads up final of the day was the four lap Sport Stock final presented by Woody's. The top five qualifiers took the front row and the green light flashed Just as day one, the sport competitors put on a show. Arneson and Byfuglien took the early race lead and battled up front. Yesterday's front running Wadena sat back in fourth early behind Tollefson in third. Wadena quickly made a few passes and made his way into the second place spot with Arneson in first and Byfuglien in third. On the final lap, Brady Wadena (Arctic Cat) made his way into the lead and earned his first Cor PowerSports win of the season with a total time of 27:54.104. In second just 0.999 seconds behind first was Jon Arneson on his Arctic Cat. Rounding out the podium was Draycen Byfuglien (Polaris) 2.669 seconds back. In fourth was Tyler Brown (Polaris) 5.330 seconds back and in fifth was Jakob Olson (Polaris) 6.837 seconds back.

Next up was the six lap Semi Pro Factory Stock final presented by C&A Pro Ski. Keagen Houser took the early race lead with Olivier Olson in second and yesterday's Semi Pro Improved winner, Luke Van Lyssel in third. After a few laps, Van Lyssel charged his way to the front to take command of the race. Houser then sat second with Olson in third. Water started to break through in some of the corners of the race course so this caused racers to make quick strategic decisions to stay out of the water. Houser kept Van Lyssel honest staying on his back bumper through the rest of the race. After six laps, Luke Van Lyssel (Polaris) was able to hold off the pressure and earn the Semi Pro Factory Stock win with a time of 41:14.948. Coming across the line second was Keagen Houser (Arctic Cat) but due to hitting a course marker, he was given a 10 second penalty which pushed him back to the third place finishing position 11.789 seconds out of the lead (crossed the line 1.789 seconds after Van Lyssel). Bumping up to second due to the penalty was Oliver Olson (Polaris) who finished 5.239 seconds behind Van Lyssel in first.

The final race of the weekend was the premier Pro Factory Stock ten lap final presented by Arctic Cat. This race was running heads up with a mandatory fuel stop. Pro rookies Jesse Hallstrom (Ski-Doo) and Evan Peppel (Polaris) led the field and quickly pulled away from class veterans Aaron Christensen (Polaris) in third and Ross Erdman (Polaris) in fourth. Every mile of the race, Hallstrom and Peppel would swap positions battling bar to bar the entire race! The veteran Christensen kept his distance in third and watched the youngsters battle it out. Fuel stops started mixing up the mid pack but the leads stayed out on the course as long as they could! Erdman fueled earlier than the leaders which then put Busse and Tate into the top five. Hallstrom

and Peppel continued to run almost identical lap times all ten laps. On lap four, Peppel and Hallstrom lap time was only separated by 0.011 seconds. And on lap seven, their lap times were only a 0.010 second differential. On lap nine, both Peppel and Hallstrom pulled into the fuel stop bar to bar. Hallstrom had a flawless fuel stop and that was the only difference between the two in the final. Peppel got out of the fuel stop and had one lap to catch the leader of Hallstrom. Christensen was able to run his fuel stop smoothly to keep him in the final podium position. As Hallstrom shot across the lake one final time, Peppel was closing in but just ran out of time. The checkered flag flew and the Pro ranks rookie Jesse Hallstrom (Ski-Doo) won his first ever Pro Factory Stock race with a total time of 1 hour 7 minutes 33.601 seconds. Crossing in a close second was another Pro rookie Evan Peppel (Polaris) only 1.634 seconds back. Rounding out the podium was class veteran Aaron Christensen (Polaris) 10.342 second out of first. In fourth was Justin Tate (Polaris) 25.011 seconds back and placing fifth was Marshall Busse (Polaris) 26.705 seconds out of first.

We are so thankful for the Naytahwaush community and Nightriders club for picking up an additional race weekend so we could get our season underway! We are excited to announce we are racing this coming weekend again in Naytahwaush, Minnesota! Check out website or Facebook page for updates on pit parking adjustments we are making for this upcoming weekend.

2024 Cor PowerSports Sponsors

