



# *Racing History Today*

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## CONTRIBUTIONS

Founder: *Anthony Bristol*

Editor in Chief: *Anthony Bristol*

Layout Editor: *Chris Harris*

Writers: *Anthony Bristol, Chris Harris, Luis Martínez*

Photographers: *Anthony Bristol, Bill Green, Chris Harris*

Cover, Inside Cover, Table of Contents and Back  
Cover photos: *Anthony Bristol*

*For any questions or comments or if interested in  
contributing please reach out to us at  
[info@bristolimages.com](mailto:info@bristolimages.com)*



**IMRRC**

INTERNATIONAL MOTOR RACING  
RESEARCH CENTER





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# IndyCar Big Machine Music City Grand Prix

*Nashville, Tennessee  
August 6, 2023*

Kyle Kirkwood won the 2023 Big Machine Music City Grand Prix after holding off polesitter Scott McLaughlin in the final laps. Kirkwood had led all but 7 of the final 40 laps and was in front when a three-car pileup brought out a red flag with 5 laps to go. On the final restart, Kirkwood got out to a two and a half second lead ahead of McLaughlin with 2 laps to go. McLaughlin was able to cut the lead to under a second by the time the white flag waved, but ran out of laps to catch Kirkwood. McLaughlin finished second at Nashville for the second year in a row, while Kirkwood recorded his second win of the season. Álex Palou finished in third, with Josef Newgarden in fourth and last year's winner Scott Dixon in fifth. Dixon was also making his 318th consecutive IndyCar start, tying the record set by Tony Kanaan.

The start of the race saw McLaughlin lead the first 24 laps before pitting and giving up the lead to Romain Grosjean. Kirkwood started 8th and advanced to the lead by lap 28 after Grosjean's first pit stop. Kirkwood took his first pit stop on lap 29 but reclaimed 2nd position behind Palou by lap 34. Palou, who was on a different tire strategy, would remain in the lead until his second pit stop on lap 45, giving Kirkwood the lead once again. On the final pit stop cycle, Kirkwood came out of his out lap ahead of Palou, before McLaughlin emerged in between the two. By lap 54, the running order of the top five would not change, making Kirkwood the winner, followed by McLaughlin, Palou, Newgarden, and Dixon.

*-By Chris Harris*



Prix

# Streets of Nashville

## Results

1st - *Kyle Kirkwood*

2nd - *Scott McLaughlin*

3rd - *Álex Palou*





# Big Machine Music City Grand Prix

## IndyCar at the Streets of Nashville



Photos by Anthony Bristol







# IndyCar Gallagher Grand Prix

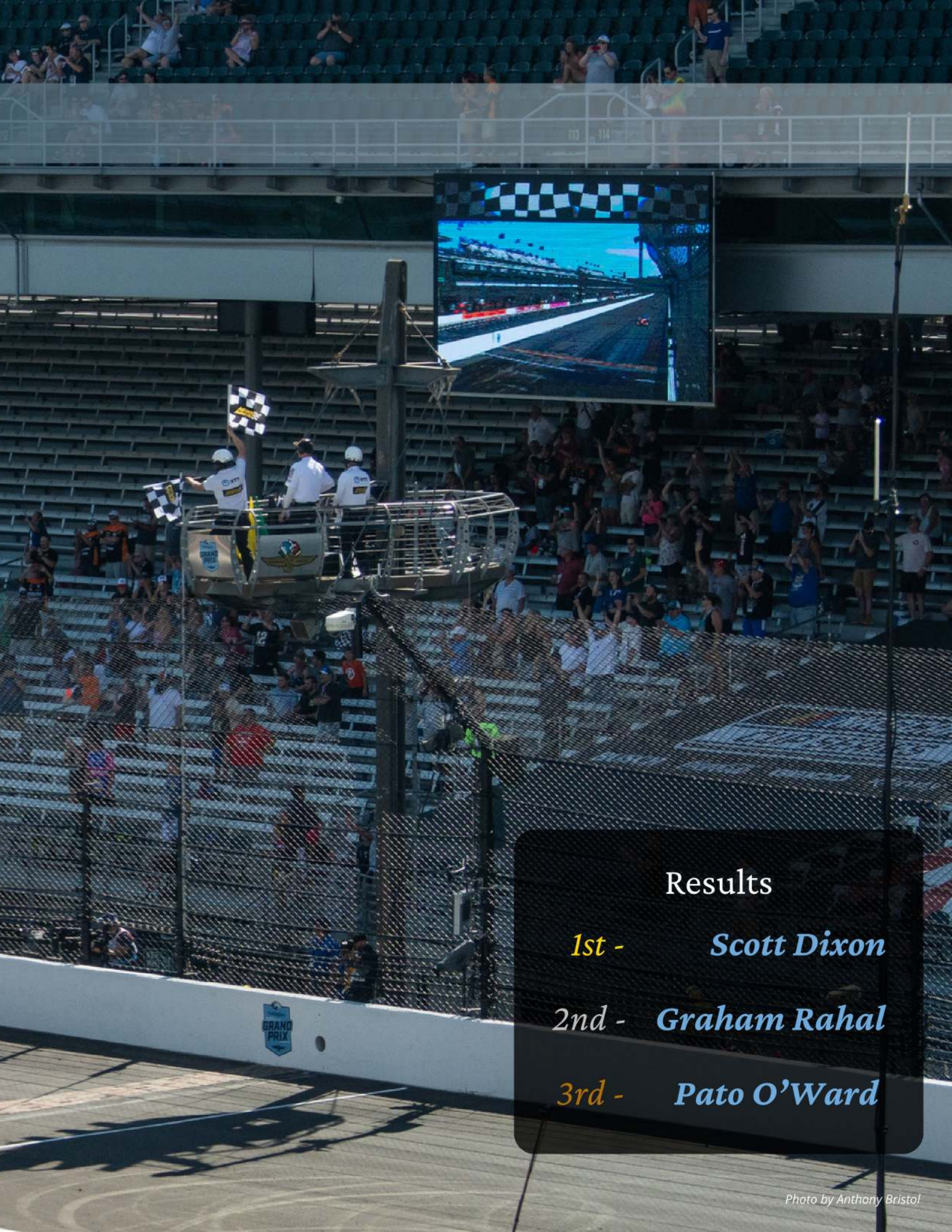
Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Indiana  
August 12, 2023

Scott Dixon got his first win of the IndyCar season at the 2023 Gallagher Grand Prix on the Indianapolis Motor Speedway road course, setting two records in the process. The race marked Dixon's 319th consecutive IndyCar start, breaking Tony Kanaan's previous record of 318. On top of that, Dixon has now won at least one race in each of the last 19 seasons, extending his old record. The win came after Dixon was involved in a wreck on lap 1, which left him toward the back of the pack but with no damage. On lap 5, with the race under caution, Dixon took the opportunity to pit and top off with fuel, opting to pit only two more times for the remainder of the race. The rest of the leaders would still have to pit three times, giving Dixon the advantage if he could save enough fuel. Dixon had no problem doing so, and also found a way to run at or near the front for much of the race. On lap 64, while polesitter Graham Rahal was coming out of pit lane from his last stop, Dixon went by and opened up a huge lead over Rahal, leading the lap by 7 seconds. Rahal, who led a race-high 36 laps, gradually chipped away at Dixon's lead while navigating lap traffic. With 3 laps to go, Rahal had cut Dixon's lead to under a half second, but ultimately could not catch him and settled for second. Álex Palou finished third, with Christian Lundgaard in fourth and Alexander Rossi in fifth.

-By Chris Harris







## Results

*1st - Scott Dixon*

*2nd - Graham Rahal*

*3rd - Pato O'Ward*



# IndyCar Gallagher Grand Prix

## Indianapolis Motor Speedway Road Course



Photos by Anthony Bristol









*Results*

*1st - Michael McDowell*

*2nd - Chase Elliott*

*3rd - Daniel Suárez*





# Verizon 200 at the Brickyard



Photo by Anthony Bristol





# Verizon 200 at the Brickyard

## NASCAR Cup Series at IMS Road Course



*Kyle Larson's cars  
being unveiled for  
the 2024 Indy 500  
and Coca-Cola 600*

*Larson is set to  
attempt "the  
double" in 2024  
and will try to join  
Tony Stewart as the  
only driver to  
complete both races  
on the same day.*



Photos by Anthony Bristol









2023 Go Bowling



*Results:*

*1st  
William Byron*

*2nd  
Denny Hamlin*



# ing at the Glen at Watkins Glen International



3rd  
Christopher Bell







# 75th Anniversaries of Watkins Glen and NASCAR In Film 2023 Go Bowling at the Glen



William Byron Celebrates his win in Victory Lane

## Story and photos by Anthony Bristol

In 1948, after World War II, in a little town called Watkins Glen, road racing was reborn in the United States. In the same year, the inaugural season of the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing took place, known today as NASCAR. Although NASCAR did not race in Watkins Glen in 1948, the pair would surely cross paths down the line in history and eventually form a bond that resonates with fans from around the world. Today, Watkins Glen and NASCAR fit together like America and apple pie.

While preparing to cover this race, I had been watching the weather forecast for the past week and some odd days leading up to race day. When the time came for a call to be made, I made the executive decision to cover the entire NASCAR Cup Series race only shooting 35mm film. I wanted a look that would give a nostalgic feel while photographing contemporary cars. Photographing exclusively in film, I was also able to show my experience utilizing a different

medium than today's traditional digital photography. I wanted a "true throwback look," per se, that would represent this occasion of two different 75-year anniversaries of racing. Thus, I thought shooting the race in all 35mm film fit that bill quite well.

On Sunday, August 20, 2023, the NASCAR Cup Series raced at Watkins Glen International on a warm, sunny mid-August day. Denny Hamlin, who started the race on the pole, was a strong contender to win the race. Starting second next to Hamlin was William Byron, who came into this race with 4 wins already on the season. Kyle Larson, who swept the NASCAR Xfinity and Cup Series races at WGI in 2022, was also expected to have a strong performance in 2023 and started in 5th.

At the finish of the race, when the checkered flag came out, Hamlin was in second position, giving Byron the win. Byron led 66 of 90 laps and

finished more than 2.6 seconds ahead of Hamlin. The victory by Byron would mark a career first for him as his first road course win in the NASCAR Cup Series and would put him at win number 5 of the season. Meanwhile, last year's winner, Larson, ended with a disappointing finish after running as high as 3rd. On lap 54, Larson was sent to the back of the field for a pit road speeding penalty. On the final lap, Larson was running in 19th position when contact with Austin Dillon dropped him back to 26th, where he would finish.

My experience on the hot side of the track shooting film in a digital age was an eye opener to how much photography has changed, and even more so when you look at it from a 75-year perspective and how you take your shots. I found myself trying to photograph like I normally would with a digital camera but quickly found half my film was gone before lap 30 in a 90-lap race plus a Victory Lane celebration and ceremony. In that very moment, I realized what the photographers



before me in a totally film world had experienced and needed to get quality photographs: patience —no different than a pass on the race track.

It was nice to be able to document a first-time road course winner at Watkins Glen International during the 75th anniversary of NASCAR and racing in Watkins Glen in general on a traditional medium that was once the only method to capture a moment in time. That truly makes for Racing History Today.



Photos by Anthony Bristol









Photos by Anthony Bristol



# Virginia is for Racing Lovers Grand Prix

## Class Winners



#3 Jordan Taylor and Antonio Garcia  
Corvette Racing  
Chevrolet Corvette C8.R GTD



#57 Madison Snow and Bryan Sellers  
Paul Miller Racing  
BMW M4 GT3





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# Virginia is for Racing Lovers Grand Prix

## IMSA WeatherTech Series at VIR

VIRGINIA IS FOR  
RACING LOVERS  
GRAND PRIX



Photos by Anthony Bristol











# IMSA at Indianapolis Motor

Class W



#6 Nick Tandy and Mathieu Jaminet  
Porsche Penske Motorsports  
Porsche 963



#11 Mikkel Jensen and Steven Thomas  
TDS Racing  
ORECA LMP2 07



#17 Wayne Boyd and  
AV  
Duquenois





# Speedway Road Course



## Winners



**Anthony Mantella**  
VA  
ne D08



**#79 Daniel Juncadella and Jules Gounon**  
WeatherTech Racing  
Mercedes-AMG GT3



**#57 Philip Ellis and Russell Ward**  
Winward Racing  
Mercedes-AMG GT3





# Tirerack.com Battle on the Bricks

## IMSA at Indianapolis Motor Speedway



Photos by Anthony Bristol







