

The #86 team wasted little time preparing for the 2023 season as they completely stripped the car before sending it to McColl Racing Enterprises to get new remote bump stop brackets installed in preparation of the chassis being painted by Paul Howse. With costs rising exponentially, the #86 team has made the decision to forgo the APC United Late Model Series for this season and return to Flamboro Speedway in search of their first pro late model track championship.



With the car being ready shortly after a few of the team returned from their yearly golfing trip to New Smyrna Beach, the team was asked by John Casale, the owner of Flamboro Speedway, to put the car into the Flamboro booth at the annual Motorama Custom Car and Motorsports Expo in Toronto from March 10th – 12th. The #86 had a slightly different look at the show as it was supporting a partial body wrap courtesy of Craig Kamrath and Imagewraps out of Owen Sound. The new look was a hit as the team brought home the 'Outstanding Pro Late Model' award for the second time in their history. Along with the new look comes new hero cards for the upcoming season courtesy of Jeff Crichton and Monarch Graphics & Design Centre.

With the first practice session being postponed twice from April 22nd & 29th to May 6th due to rain, the team arrived at Flamboro and were pleased with the handling of the car. Billy went out for three sessions that consisted of 15 minutes each and despite a small loose off condition on exit of the corners, the majority of the sessions were spent checking the car for leaks and despite a small leak in the rear seal of the transmission and a bleeder screw that was knocked off when the car turned right in the pits, everything else was ready to go as the team packed up to head back to the shop to get ready for the first race of the season. Of course, this upcoming season would not be possible without all of our sponsors including Spira Fire Protection, Hy-Grade Steel Roofing System, Aberfoyle Powersports, BrokerLink Insurance, All Team Sports, BlueTriton – Pure Life Water, Arctic Glacier Premium Ice, Elma Steel, Fleet Image, Dominion Sure Seal, Monarch Graphics & Design Centre, Victaulic Company, National Fire Equipment, Nuco, Vinnie's Mr. Fixit, Wix Filters and Wolseley Canada.



This off season the Spira Racing family lost two of its members as on December 7th Billy's mom Jackie lost her battle with breast cancer at the age of 61. Jackie will be remembered for her love of arts and crafts, passion for family, love of everything cars, caring for her fur babies, a special love for Holidays, especially Christmas and being the #1 fan of her son Billy & his racing career. On race weekends Jackie could always be found pacing around the outside of the track as she cheered Billy on. On December 28th Joanne Ware, wife of Hy-Grade Steel Roofing System owner Tom Ware, lost her battle with pancreatic cancer at the age of 66. She was diagnosed in October and made it to her goal of seeing her Grandchildren open their gifts Christmas

Day, surrounded by family. In life Joanne was known for her amazing generosity to her family, friends, and community. She loved planning family events and having us all together, seizing every opportunity to take a photo. She loved to garden, crochet, sew and travel, always working on something special. There was always a plan, and she was always prepared. The entire Spira Racing family is saddened by their passing and they will both be missed deeply. Our condolences go out to their family and loved ones. The 2023 season kicks off on this coming Saturday May 13th as Billy and the #86 team head to Flamboro for the season opener with twin 30-lap features on the schedule. The pit gates open at 4:00PM, the front gates open at 5:00PM and racing gets underway at 6:30PM.

