## 1964 Jacksonville, Florida: Wendell Scott's Historic Win

Here's an historical scenario that you can experience on your game table, NASCAR pioneer Wendell Scott taking the checkered flag! The driver cards were created by RED WHITE & BLUE RACIN' fans Don Weed and Tim Lowery. Here's the background information on this race, as explained by Don...

It was on December 1, 1963 and a crowd of 5000 people surrounded the half-mile Speedway Park dirt track in Jackson-ville, Florida. A field of 22 cars were vying for the trophy of a 200-lap feature race, the third race in the Grand National circuit of the 1964 season. At the end of it all it was one of the most controversial and historic races in NASCAR history.

Richard Petty was embarking on his historic first title, but this was not destined to be his night. After leading over half the race, he began to fade back. Other big-name drivers (Joe Weatherly, LeeRoy Yarbrough, Ned Jarret and David Pearson) succumbed to mechanical failures. Emerging through the haze of the stirred-up track was a furious race between Buck Baker and Wendell Scott.

What was the controversy? When the race reached '200' laps, Buck Baker was awarded the win and the trophy. Baker was known to be a very outspoken opponent of allowing Wendell Scott to race at all. After the dust had settled, Scott lodged a complaint that he had "passed Baker at least three times." NASCAR confirmed that Scott had indeed been in the lead and had actually completed 202 laps in the 200-lap race due to a counting error! But by then the crowds and the trophy were long gone.

Why was it historic? Scott was the first black driver to win a NASCAR race. He had a true passion for the sport and made do with second-hand parts and rebuilt his cars on his own. For years he survived on a shoe-string budget and acted as his own mechanic. He suffered hardships that many of his fellow drivers never had to face, including racial prejudice. His one point of glory was almost stolen from him, but he will always be in the record books as the pioneer he was.

The attached set represents the field of this historic race. There's a card representing Scott's performance over the entire 1963-64 season and another card representing his performance of that night, with slightly improved stats (he DID win the race after all). The modified card has an asterisk after Scott's name.

Wendell Scott passed away in 1990, but his family never gave up its quest to gain possession of the trophy he earned but never received. No one knows exactly what happened to the original trophy presented to Buck Baker after the race. Later, when the original could not be located, Scott was given a cheap replica trophy. He died in 1990, but his family never gave up pursuing the trophy and the respect that he had earned that night in Jacksonville. In 2010, after having conducted an exhaustive search for the trophy with no results, the Jacksonville Racing Hall of Fame secured an era-specific trophy that was as close as possible to the original, and commissioned to be built a replica of his powder blue #34 Chevy that won the race. A ceremony was held in December to honor Scott, and at long last he got his trophy.

Interestingly, of the 22 drivers that started the race, Scott was one of only ten who finished. Ten cars broke down, and two were wrecked out. The Jacksonville track card (at right) reflects the historical aspect of that specific race. We hope you enjoy the history!

## 1964 Jacksonville SPEEDWAY PARK

Dirt Track • Jacksonville, FL '64 Jacksonville 200 [20 turns]\*

ESCAPE [NC] • REPAIR [NC]

TOP Group MIDDLE Group BOTTOM Group DUEL!		
METALLIC Dire RACE CAM Results		
2 3	RARE PROBLEM	0.5 miles length Dirt Oval
4 5 6	STAR SKILL HEAT <b>∗</b>	* Use "100" race rules for races run here. Black die "2" indicates
7 8	CONTROL SMART*	MIDDLE group on turns 1-10; TOP group on turns 11-20.
9 10	REFLEX PROBLEM	NO pit turns.
- 11	١V	Red White & Blue RACIN'

\* Conclude turn with PROBLEM roll, MIDDLE group.

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**12** TROUBLE

