**UPIR Opens Raceway for Racing Season**

The sun shined brightly as the Upper Peninsula opened its gates Sunday afternoon for an open practice session, allowing near 50 drivers to get out on the track in preparation for the June 10th Friday Night Opener.

For over three and a half hours, drivers from all of UPIR’s six divisions took to the track, turning over a combined 300 laps throughout the practice session. Excluding a few minor spins, the session ran incident free. The track was also in great shape, which led to smooth, fast, laps being clocked by the drivers.

Of the 49 total drivers that made laps, there was one who went faster unofficially according to the press box and their stopwatch. Christian Groleau put in a blazing 13.58 second lap during his third run of the day around the quarter mile track. Other drivers turned laps in the 14 second range, including, Jim Groleau, Matt Peterson, and Todd Belanger, all 600 Micro Sprint Division drivers. If these speeds are anything to go off of, the 600 Division is going to be fast and wild again this year.

As wild, fast, and fun as practice was to watch, the racing is only going to be more exciting. UPIR opens its season Friday June 10, with grandstands opening at 6 PM EST, with racing slated to start at 7 PM EST. Grandstand admission costs Five Dollars, with concessions provided beneath the grandstand. For more information, go to [www.upirtrack.com](http://www.upirtrack.com).

Written by UPIR Race Reporter and Co-Announcer Todd Rose