

1954 Championship Results

Indianapolis, IN 500 Mile Race - 31 May 1954

Track Type: Paved Oval
 Race Distance: 500.000 miles
 Promoter: Indianapolis Motor Speedway

Lap Distance: 2.5 miles
 Margin of Victory: 69.990 sec

Ave Qual Speed: 138.630 mph
 Sanction Num: AAA # 1R54

Total Purse: \$268,642
 File: CH5401

FP	#	Driver	Car Name	Entrant	Chassis	Eng	SP	Qu Time	Qu Spd	Laps	Time/Speed	Purse	Pts
1	14	Bill Vukovich	Fuel Injection	Howard Keck Co.	Kurtis 500	Offy	19	4:19.97	138.478	200	3:49:17.27 130.840	74,934	1,000
2	9	Jimmy Bryan	Dean Van Lines	Al Dean	Kuzma D	Offy	3	4:17.76	139.665	200	3:50:27.26 130.178	35,884	800
3	2	Jack McGrath	Hinkle	Jack B. Hinkle	Kurtis 500	Offy	1	4:15.26	141.033	200	3:50:36.97 130.086	27,404	700
4	34	Troy Ruttman	Auto Shippers	Eugene A. Casaroll	Kurtis 500	Offy	11	4:21.37	137.736	200	3:52:09.90 129.218	12,709	387
5	73	Mike Nazaruk	McNamara	Lee Elkins	Kurtis 500	Offy	14	4:17.90	139.589	200	3:52:41.85 128.923	10,934	500
6	77	Fred Agabashian	Merz Engineering	Miklos Sperling	Kurtis 500	Offy	24	4:21.35	137.746	200	3:53:04.83 128.711	8,034	400
7	7	Don Freeland	Bob Estes	Bob Estes	Phillips R	Offy	6	4:20.23	138.339	200	3:53:30.65 128.474	6,884	300
8	5	Paul Russo	Ansted Rotary	Hoosier Racing Team, Inc	Kurtis 500	Offy	32	4:21.48	137.678	200	3:54:18.39 128.037	6,259	187.5
9	28	Larry Crockett	Federal Engineering	Federal Automotive Associates	Kurtis 3000	Offy	25	4:17.96	139.557	200	3:56:24.56 126.899	6,984	200
10	24	Cal Niday	Jim Robbins	Jim Robbins Co.	Stevens D	Offy	13	4:17.46	139.828	200	3:56:24.93 126.895	6,309	150
11	45	Art Cross	Bardahl	Ed Walsh	Kurtis 4000	Offy	27	4:19.60	138.675	200	3:57:39.42 126.232	5,254	59.5
12	98	Chuck Stevenson	Agajanian	J. C. Agajanian	Kuzma D	Offy	5	4:19.41	138.776	199	Flagged	3,709	21.5
13	88	Manuel Ayulo	Peter Schmidt	Peter Schmidt	Kurtis 500	Offy	22	4:20.56	138.164	197	Flagged	3,464	
14	17	Bob Sweikert	Lutes Truck Parts	Francis Bardazon	Kurtis 4000	Offy	9	4:20.48	138.206	197	Flagged	3,344	
15	16	Duane Carter	Auto Shippers	Eugene A. Casaroll	Kurtis 4000	Offy	8	4:20.42	138.238	196	Flagged	3,224	
16	32	Ernie McCoy	Crawford	Ray Crawford	Kurtis 500	Offy	20	4:20.08	138.419	194	Flagged	3,104	
17	25	Jimmy Reece	Malloy	Emmett J. Malloy	Pankratz D	Offy	7	4:20.28	138.312	194	Flagged	2,984	
18	27	Ed Elisian	Chapman	H. A. Chapman	Stevens D	Offy	31	4:21.26	137.794	193	Flagged	2,864	
19	71	Frank Armi	Martin Bros.	T.W. & W.T. Martin	Silnes D	Offy	33	4:21.49	137.673	193	Flagged	2,834	
20	1	Sam Hanks	Bardahl	Ed Walsh	Kurtis 4000	Offy	10	4:20.88	137.994	191	Wrecked, mainstretch	2,954	
21	35	Pat O'Connor	Hopkins	Motor Racers, Inc	Kurtis 500	Offy	12	4:20.71	138.084	181	Spun out, NE turn	3,274	
22	12	Rodger Ward	Dr. Sabourin	Dr. R. N. Sabourin, DC	Pawl D	Offy	16	4:18.44	139.297	172	Stalled BS	2,944	
23	31	Gene Hartley	John Zink	John S. Zink	Kurtis 4000	Offy	17	4:18.88	139.061	168	Engine	2,814	
24	43	Johnny Thomson	Chapman	H. A. Chapman	Russo/Nichel	Offy	4	4:19.39	138.787	165	Steering froze	2,884	
25	74	Andy Linden	Brown Motor Company	Brown Motor Co.	Schroeder	Offy	23	4:21.21	137.820	138	Broken torsion bar	3,654	
26	99	Jerry Hoyt	Belanger	Murrell Belanger	Kurtis D	Offy	30	4:21.20	137.825	130	Engine	2,624	
27	19	Jimmy Daywalt	Sumar	Chapman S. Root	Kurtis 500	Offy	2	4:17.53	139.789	111	Wrecked NW turn	4,444	
28	38	Jim Rathmann	Bardahl	Ed Walsh	Kurtis 500	Offy	28	4:20.44	138.228	110	Wrecked NW turn	2,764	
29	10	Tony Bettenhausen	Mel Wiggers	Mel B. Wiggers	Kurtis 500	Offy	21	4:20.35	138.275	105	Broken oil line	2,534	
30	65	Spider Webb	Advance Muffler	Bruce Bromme	Bromme D	Offy	29	4:20.91	137.979	104	Oil leak	2,604	
31	33	Len Duncan	Ray Brady	Ray T. Brady	Schroeder	Offy	26	4:18.59	139.217	101	Brkn brake cylinder	2,874	
32	15	Johnnie Parsons	Belond Equa Flow	So. Calif. Muffler Corp.	Kurtis 500	Offy	15	4:17.92	139.578	79	Broken piston	2,744	
33	51	Bill Homeier	Jones & Maloy	Cars, Inc.	Kurtis 500	Offy	18	4:19.09	138.948	74	Hit pitwall	2,414	

Lap Leaders

Bill Vukovich	90	61.92-129,150-200
Jack McGrath	47	1-44,89-91
Jimmy Bryan	46	63-88,130-149
Jimmy Daywalt	8	45-50,55,60
Art Cross	8	51-54,56-59
Sam Hanks	1	62

Relief Drivers

1	Jimmy Davies	Bardahl	Ed Walsh	Kurtis 4000	Offy	36	Rel Hanks 113-148
1	Jim Rathmann	Bardahl	Ed Walsh	Kurtis 4000	Offy	43	Rel Hanks 149-191
5	Jerry Hoyt	Ansted Rotary	Hoosier Racing Team, Inc	Kurtis 500	Offy	50	Rel Russo 151-200
12	Eddie Johnson	Dr. Sabourin	Dr. R. N. Sabourin, DC	Pawl D	Offy	67	Rel Ward 94-160
16	Marshall Teague	Auto Shippers	Eugene A. Casaroll	Kurtis 4000	Offy	29	Rel Carter 77-105
16	Jimmy Jackson	Auto Shippers	Eugene A. Casaroll	Kurtis 4000	Offy	15	Rel Carter 106-120
16	Tony Bettenhausen	Auto Shippers	Eugene A. Casaroll	Kurtis 4000	Offy	34	Rel Carter 121-154
16	Jimmy Jackson	Auto Shippers	Eugene A. Casaroll	Kurtis 4000	Offy	42	Rel Carter 155-196
27	Bob Scott	Chapman	H. A. Chapman	Stevens D	Offy	45	Rel Elisian 149-193
31	Marshall Teague	John Zink	John S. Zink	Kurtis 4000	Offy	17	Rel Hartley 152-168
33	George Fonder	Ray Brady	Ray T. Brady	Schroeder	Offy	58	Rel Duncan 44-101
34	Duane Carter	Auto Shippers	Eugene A. Casaroll	Kurtis 500	Offy	70	Rel Ruttman 101-170
38	Pat Flaherty	Bardahl	Ed Walsh	Kurtis 500	Offy	15	Rel JRathmann 96-110
43	Andy Linden	Chapman	H. A. Chapman	Russo/Nichel	Offy	27	Rel Thomson 114-140
43	Jimmy Daywalt	Chapman	H. A. Chapman	Russo/Nichel	Offy	25	Rel Thomson 141-165
45	Johnnie Parsons	Bardahl	Ed Walsh	Kurtis 4000	Offy	22	Rel Cross 121-142
45	Sam Hanks	Bardahl	Ed Walsh	Kurtis 4000	Offy	11	Rel Cross 143-153
45	Jimmy Davies	Bardahl	Ed Walsh	Kurtis 4000	Offy	30	Rel Cross 171-200
45	Andy Linden	Bardahl	Ed Walsh	Kurtis 4000	Offy	17	Rel Cross 154-170
65	Danny Kladis	Advance Muffler	Bruce Bromme	Bromme D	Offy	50	Rel Webb 55-104
71	George Fonder	Martin Bros.	T.W. & W.T. Martin	Silnes D	Offy	24	Rel Armi 141-164
74	Bob Scott	Brown Motor Company	Brown Motor Co.	Schroeder	Offy	52	Rel Linden 87-138
98	Walt Faulkner	Agajanian	J. C. Agajanian	Kuzma D	Offy	39	Rel Stevenson 56-94
98	Walt Faulkner	Agajanian	J. C. Agajanian	Kuzma D	Offy	78	Rel Stevensn 122-199

Non-Qualifiers

83	Eddie Johnson	McNamara	Lee Elkins	Turner D	Offy	137.599	DNS, too slow
53	Jimmy Davies	Pat Clancy	Pat Clancy	Kurtis 500	Offy	137.583	DNS, too slow
3	Marshall Teague	Hart Fullerton	Hart Fullerton	Kurtis 4000	Offy	137.552	DNS, too slow
21	Bob Scott	Travelon Trailer	Ernest L. Ruiz	Kurtis 500	Offy	137.504	DNS, too slow
6	Art Cross	Springfield Welding	Bessie Lee Paoli	Kurtis 4000	Offy	137.362	DNS, too slow
49	Danny Oakes	Micro-Nut	John C. Balch	Kurtis 4000	Offy	137.237	DNS, too slow
59	Jim Rathmann	Elgin Piston Pin	Elgin Piston Pin Co.	Kurtis 500	Offy	137.132	DNS, too slow
62	Duke Dinsmore	Commercial Motor Freight	Karl Hall	Ewing D	Offy	137.096	DNS, too slow
44	Walt Faulkner	Peter Schmidt	Peter Schmidt	Kuzma D	Offy	137.065	DNS, too slow
68	Ed Elisian	Peter Wales Trucking	Peter Wales	Kurtis 4000	Offy	136.581	DNS, too slow

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Non-Qualifiers

8	Duke Nalon	Novi	Novi Racing Corp., Inc	Kurtis FD	NoviSc	136.395	DNS, too slow
18	Bob Scott	Ray Brady	Ray T. Brady	Kurtis 4000	Offy		Did not qualify
22	Cliff Griffith	Tom Sarafoff	Tom Sarafoff	Kurtis 2000	Offy		Did not qualify
22	George Tichenor	Tom Sarafoff	Tom Sarafoff	Kurtis 2000	Offy		Did not qualify
23	Jerry Hoyt	Sumar	Chapman S. Root	Kurtis 3000	Offy		Did not qualify
26	Henry Banks	Hopkins	Motor Racers, Inc	Lesovsky D	Offy		Retired
36	Al Herman	Ed Stone	Edgar S. Stone	Kurtis 3000	Offy		Did not qualify
36	George Fonder	Ed Stone	Edgar S. Stone	Kurtis 3000	Offy		Did not qualify
37	Eddie Russo	Federal Engineering	Federal Automotive Associates	Kurtis 4000	Offy		Did not qualify
38	Bill Holland	Bardahl	Ed Walsh	Kurtis 500	Offy		Did not qualify
39	Pat Flaherty	Shouse Motors	James F. Shouse	Kurtis 500	ChryV8		Did not qualify
41	Frank Mundy	McDaniel	John L. McDaniel	Schroeder	Offy		Did not qualify
47	Danny Oakes	Ferrari	Marian A. Chinetti	Ferrari	Ferrari		Did not qualify
52	Chuck Weyant	Parks Motors	L. E. Parks	Silnes D	Offy		Did not qualify
54	Eddie Sachs	Marion Engineering	Milt Marion	Kurtis 2000	Offy		Did not qualify
66	Bob Christie	Christie	Bob Christie	Lesovsky D	Offy		Did not qualify
67	Potsy Goacher	D-A Lubricants	3-L Racing Team	Moore D	Offy		Wrecked practice, BS
67	Duke Dinsmore	D-A Lubricants	3-L Racing Team	Moore D	Offy		Did not qualify
69	Johnny Tolan	W. P. T.	Hoosier Racing Team	Kurtis 500	OffySc		Did not qualify
89	Pat Flaherty	Dunn Engineering	Harry Dunn	Kurtis 500	Offy		Did not qualify
93	Billy DeVore	Youngstown White Truck	Roy McKay	Kurtis 3000	Offy		Did not qualify
97	Walt Faulkner	Belanger	Murrell Belanger	Lesovsky D	OffySc		Did not qualify
99	Lee Wallard	Belanger	Murrell Belanger	Kurtis D	Offy		Retired

Data Source: 1954 Clymer Yearbook, IMS Scoring Report

Race Notes

- 1) Fastest leading lap: McGrath, lap 29, 1:04:04 (140.537).
- 2) Lap prizes: Vukovich \$13,500, Bryan \$6,900, McGrath \$7,050, Daywalt \$1,200, Cross \$1,200, Hanks \$150.
- 3) Larry Crockett names Rookie-Of-The-Year
- 4) Yellow flags totalled 21:09.
- 5) Pacecar --- Dodge, driven by W. C. Newburg
- 6) Bill Vukovich set new track record for 500 miles at 130.840, breaking Troy Ruttman's record of 128.922 set in 1952.
- 7) Jack McGrath set new four lap qualifying record of 141.033, breaking Chet Miller's record of 139.034 set in 1952.