

CLASS OF 2015

Sandy MacKinnon

Sandy MacKinnon has been around auto racing for nearly his whole adult life. Even though he says he retired from the sport in 1988, this championship car owner is only a handshake away from offering advice.

Prior to his retirement as an active participant, Sandy experienced the growth and changes in racing from his earliest involvement in 1956 with a six-cylinder coupe to the construction of a one-mile speedway in neighboring New Hampshire.

Much of Sandy's involvement in racing took place on the clay/oil racing surface of Beech Ridge Speedway. Winning races and championships was his goal and he accomplished both as a car owner, especially when he teamed up with Jim McClure, who was inducted into the Maine Motorsports Hall of Fame in 2011.

Sandy was the Late Model Sportsman championship car owner in 1975 and the Modified division championship car owner in 1979 and 1981. In 1980, Sandy and Jim had the honor of representing the United States and Beech Ridge in Bradford, England.

Looking for new challenges, Sandy decided to field a car on the NASCAR North Tour. Unfortunately, NASCAR dropped its involvement with the touring series following a disagreement with tour officials in 1985. Seeing the direction the tour was heading, Sandy was one of a number of car owners who encouraged NASCAR to return to the northeast.

In 1987, Sandy, driver Joey Kourafas and the 'Pumpkin Squad' won the inaugural NASCAR Busch North Series championship. As Sandy calls it, one of his most memorable moments in racing.

Sandy and wife Carol make their home in Wells, Maine.

