

Mincomp's Corner

April, 97



We went racing over the March 16 weekend; the third National for the team was at Firebird Raceway near Phoenix.

It started out as the race weekend from hell! On the way out we blew two rear tires on the tow rig, and with only one spare...well you do the addition. With two tires on the left and one on the right and as much tongue weight transferred off as possible, we headed from Palm Springs to Firebird with a maximum speed of 40 MPH. We did not get there speedily but we did get there! Now onto racing!

Going into this weekend the points and a finish were on my mind, but I was not going to let them overshadow the weekend. For this event I had made several changes to the chassis, starting with the dampers. I also changed all the suspension numbers around quite a bit. Right out of the trailer the Mincomp Mini was very good. In fact the first practice session I was running right at the lap record. Hmmm, this is quite good! Every session I adjusted the chassis a bit and it responded quite nicely.

What have respectfully become the usual suspects in attendance were Mike Fazzi & Paul Oelrich with their Minis. I can not say I had fun racing with them since I kinda ran off and hid, but they had a lot of good fun racing between themselves. The weather was a bit warm at 103, but when things are going well I guess you just don't feel the heat. In the end I set a new qualifying record by 2.2 seconds faster than the old, and also set a new race record by about a second. I went into this weekend focused on breaking lap records and consistent fast lap times and I am pleased I accomplished both.

Next National, Buttonwillow April 26-27.

Bill Gilmore