

## Raymond wins Late Model sojourn to Sungold Stadium



**ABOVE : Luke Raymond won at Warrnambool. Photo by Inaction Photos.**

Late Models down south got a little bit of a kick along with their November 30 sojourn to Warrnambool's Sungold Stadium where the division displayed what they could bring to the table in the future, with a field of nine supporting the Sprintcar main event, and it was South Australian Luke Raymond who came out on top when the event came to an end.

The Late Models had an influx of Victorians as momentum builds with a state association on the way, and Echuca's Graham Forte, Eildon's Brock Edwards, Gary Bryans from Pakenham, Healesville's Justin Pearson, & Billy Mentiplay from Tynong, were keen competitors against South Australians Luke Raymond, Steve Vaughan, Stuey Hill & Matthew Nulty.

Heat one got underway and storming from within the pack Pearson surprised the South Australians and burst to the front to take a great win in front of Raymond, Hill, Vaughan, & Forte.

Showing the competitiveness of the small field Vaughan went from finishing fourth to winning the second heat in front of Raymond. 3<sup>rd</sup> was Forte, who hadn't raced for about sixteen years, 4<sup>th</sup> was Pearson whose set up was just wrong for this heat, & Bryans, a regular runner up in Sydney, finished 5<sup>th</sup>.

With only eight cars in the field the lads were given a ten lap final with Pearson still unable to come to grips with his set up. His car was like a bucking bull at a cowboy bar. Meanwhile at the front Vaughan and Raymond had a terrific stoush, pressured all the way by Forte. Raymond eventually got the better of Vaughan, with Forte, Hill & Bryans rounding out the top five.

Raymond was pleased after the win with the experience. "It is great to record a win here at Sungold Stadium. Here's hoping it's not the last for Late Models. We are starting to find our way with car counts between South Australia and Victoria. It will be a division to come on in leaps and bounds."



**ABOVE : Graham Forte drove well to finish 3<sup>rd</sup>. Photo by Inaction Photo.**

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