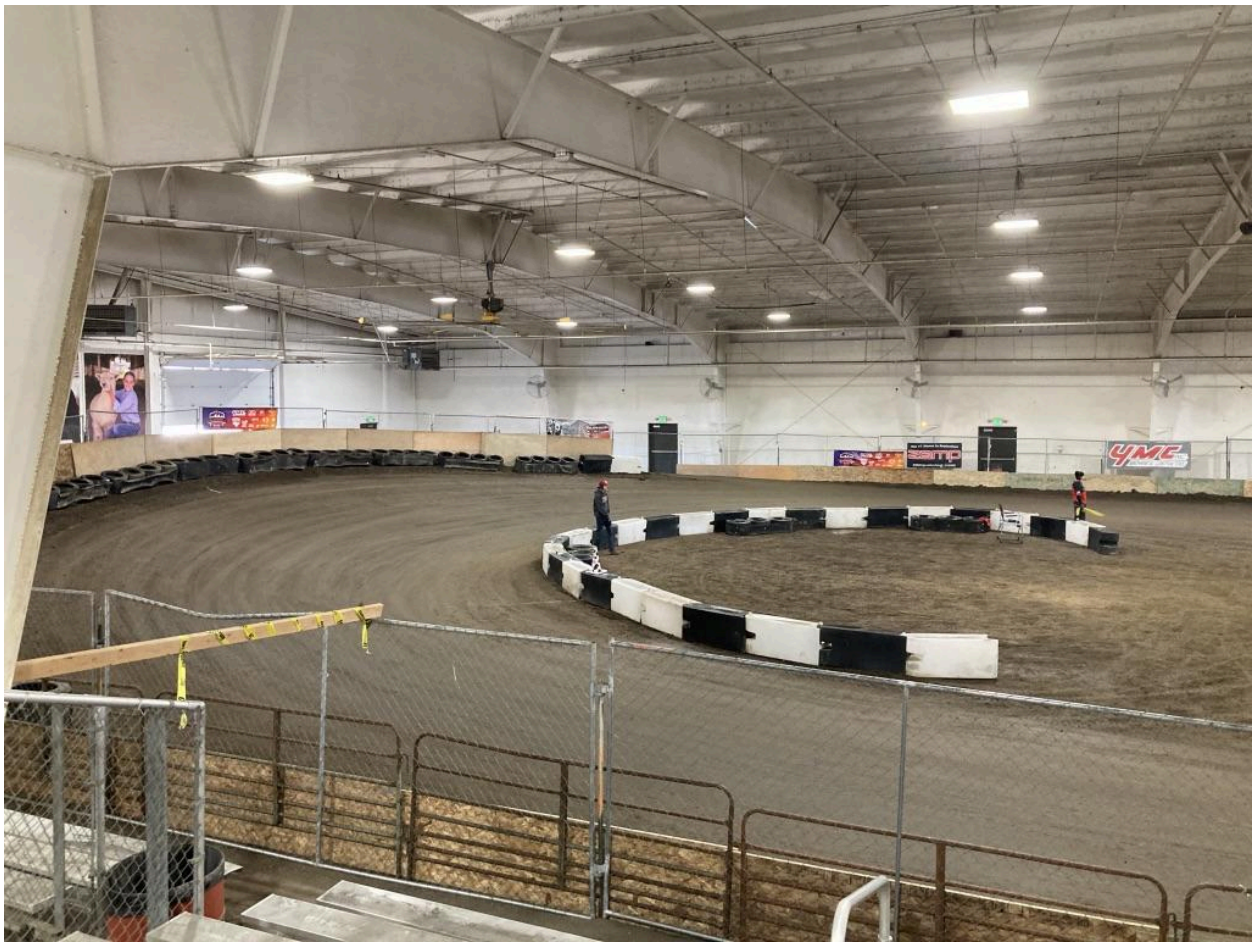
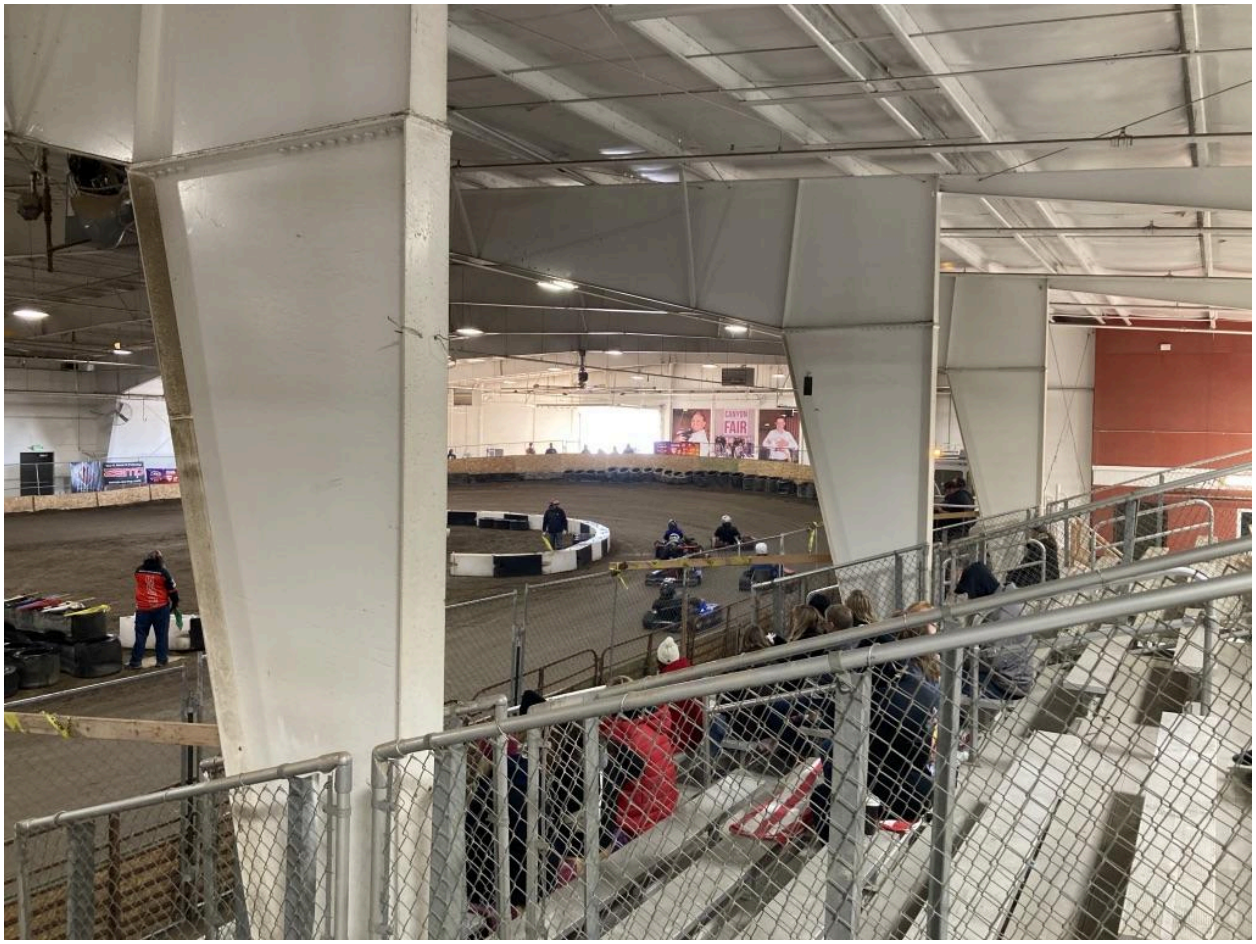
12-31-23: Caldwell Indoor Speedway
Track #217 | Caldwell, ID | Dirt Oval

I go back to Idaho every year for Christmas and there's so little racing there in general I've pretty much never even looked into the possibility of racing in December. I was amazed to learn that there was actually going to be an indoor race in Caldwell, less than four hours away.

I spent a while trying to figure out when it would actually start and never got an official answer, but I did get some guesses based on the previous day so I went off of that. I arrived around noon at the Canyon County Fairgrounds, where the race was being held inside what seemed to be a rodeo arena. I bought a $15 pit pass and wandered in.



The track was built with a surprising amount of banking in the turns, with a set of tires in the corners and the walls made up of plywood, metal gate things, and regular chainlink fence. The inside was defined just by plastic barriers. The bleachers were set back between the building supports and didn't offer a great view as a result. Sitting below the supports was the way to see the whole track but I wasn't entirely confident that the fence would stop an out of control vehicle from barging through, so I stuck to the top.



When I arrived they were running box stock heats. The intermediate 250s came next, there were three of them and they had quite a bit more power. One kept spinning out, he had speed but couldn't go more than a few laps without spinning.

The open quads actually put on a good show. They were super loud and started four wide from a standstill at the start/finish line. They could race two wide and actually used the banking a bit while doing so, the only class to really do so. A couple got pretty close to biking in the turns and I was glad no one crashed too hard, since they were basically just wearing a helmet with jeans and sweatshirts.

There were a couple other various kart classes, then the outlaw karts came out, running two heats. They had noticeably more power than the others and even though they also pretty much just ran the bottom of the track, they were much more fun to watch, and the only definitely countable class there.



The pits were located outside the building and actually outside, so it’s nice it wasn’t raining.



I then headed out and did my own thing for a while, I didn't feel like waiting around for the lunch intermission and all the other non-countable classes. I took a guess on when to come back and did a pretty good job, getting there during the box stock main. The 7 quads ran their main together, and they didn't throw any cautions, even when one was spun almost in the racing line exiting four and couldn't get the quad started for multiple laps.

The 9 outlaw karts ran a decent feature. They were all on the bottom, and as soon as anyone got a wheel off the flat they seemed to go backwards, but they had a lot of speed for a very small track and that made things interesting. Really, I'm just glad there's any sort of racing in December and it was so easy to pick up an unexpected 51st track on the year.