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Ticket Sales Open, Direct Connection Grudge Race Competitor Lineup Set for MotorTrend Presents Roadkill Nights Powered by Dodge Event

- Popular online automotive builder showdown returns with new format featuring teams using Direct Connection Hellcrate Redeye 6.2L Supercharged Crate HEMI® engines in their builds
- Tickets for MotorTrend Presents Roadkill Nights Powered by Dodge on Saturday, August 12 are now available at <https://www.motortrend.com/roadkillnights-2023/>
- Direct Connection Grudge Race is part of MotorTrend Presents Roadkill Nights Powered by Dodge event, set for August 12, 2023
- New location for MotorTrend Presents Roadkill Nights Powered by Dodge event, now in its eighth year, moves street-legal drag racing on Woodward Avenue to downtown Pontiac, Michigan
- 2023 Dodge Direct Connection Grudge Race will pair an experienced drag racer and online automotive builder (The Mentor) with a “rookie” online builder/racer (The Rookie)
- The Mentor will assist The Rookie in building, tuning and testing their drag car build project before The Rookie ultimately battles it out on the strip during Roadkill Nights
- Grudge Race competitors will be connected with a Dodge Power Brokers dealer and have VIP access to the Direct Connection Tech hotline at (800) 998-1110 to assist with build projects
- Event will be second 2023 stop for Roadkill Nights Powered by Dodge, following spring event in Las Vegas that hosted the launch of new [Dodge Challenger SRT Demon 170](#)
- Information on the full Direct Connection Grudge Race lineup available at [DodgeGarage.com](#)
- To watch the latest episode of Roadkill, visit [MotorTrend+](#) or [MotorTrend FAST TV](#)
- Information on the Dodge brand available at [Dodge.com](#)

July 10, 2023, Auburn Hills, Mich. - Teams are set and the drag car build projects are in progress for the Dodge Direct Connection Grudge Race, scheduled to take place during the annual MotorTrend Presents Roadkill Nights Powered by Dodge horsepower festival on Saturday, August 12, 2023, in downtown Pontiac, Michigan. Tickets for MotorTrend Presents Roadkill Nights Powered by Dodge, now in its eighth year, are also now available for purchase at <https://www.motortrend.com/roadkillnights-2023/>.

MotorTrend Presents Roadkill Nights Powered by Dodge is moving to a new location in the heart of downtown Pontiac, as well as featuring a new format for one of the highlights of the event, the popular Direct Connection Grudge Race. Direct Connection is the Dodge performance parts brand, relaunched in March 2022, offering factory-backed performance parts through the Dodge Power Brokers dealer network.

The Direct Connection Grudge Race pits online automotive builders in head-to-head drag-racing competition. The 2023 Grudge Race will feature a new twist, with pairs of competitors working together to create a Dodge or Plymouth drag machine using Direct Connection performance parts, including the Hellcrate Redeye 6.2L Supercharged Crate HEMI® engine and a plug-and-play Hellcrate Redeye 6.2L Supercharged Crate HEMI Engine Control Unit (ECU). While 2023 marks the “Last Call” for the Dodge Challenger and Dodge Charger in their current HEMI-engine-powered forms, Direct Connection will continue to offer HEMI-powered crate engines.

Product sponsors providing additional parts support for Direct Connection Grudge Race competitors include Mickey Thompson Tires, Garrett, Aeromotive Inc., Callies Performance Products and Stanadyne.

An experienced drag racer and online automotive builder (The Mentor) will team with a “rookie” online builder/racer lacking previous drag-racing experience (The Rookie). The Mentor will “school” The Rookie on building, tuning and testing their build project before The Rookie ultimately battles it out on the drag strip at the corner of Woodward Avenue and W. Pike St. in Pontiac.

A new winner will be crowned for 2023, as two-time Grudge Race champion and drag racer, mechanic and automotive content creator Alex Taylor will move to competing in the Big Tire class at the event. The six teams of automotive personalities set to battle include:

- **Team Sick-Bastards:** Experienced racer and Sick The Mag founder Tom Bailey instructs his race shop employee EJ Naegeli as she makes her first-ever drag strip run
- **Team Corruptt:** Returning Grudge Race competitor Tony Arme (Corruptt Builds) assists adrenaline-loving rookie Kayla Rundle as she goes for the win
- **Team Dahminators:** Automotive builder Rob Dahmn works with a familiar face — girlfriend and Dodge enthusiast Erica Schrull — as she gears up to compete
- **Team Truck Yeah:** Performance garage owner Justin Keith coaches truck lover Lacey Blair with a RoadKill Nights first-ever build that’s a must-see
- **Team Soul Snatcher:** Grudge Race veteran Herman Young (Demonology) thinks his hard-earned race wisdom can help put ScrapLife Garage’s Lee Carter over the top
- **Team Throtl:** Two-time Grudge Race competitor Rickie Fernandez gives up his seat to school fellow Throtl member Quinn Clark

More information on the full Direct Connection Grudge Race lineup is available at DodgeGarage.com.

All competitors will be linked with a Dodge Power Brokers dealer to assist with their build projects as they use Hellcrate Redeye 6.2L Supercharged Crate HEMI engines as the foundational building blocks of their respective projects. Competitors will also receive VIP access to the Direct Connection Tech hotline at (800) 998-1110 for assistance. More information on Direct Connection and Dodge Power Brokers is available at DCPerformance.com.

MotorTrend Presents Roadkill Nights Powered by Dodge

MotorTrend Presents Roadkill Nights Powered by Dodge is taking street-legal drag racing on famed Woodward Avenue to a [new location](#) at the center of downtown Pontiac, Michigan, as well as growing the overall footprint of the one-day horsepower festival. The new starting line for street-legal drag racing competition will move to the corner of Woodward Avenue and W. Pike St. in Pontiac. The popular enthusiast event, scheduled to take place on Saturday, August 12, 2023, set a one-day attendance record of more than 40,000 attendees in 2022, and will bring tens of thousands of gearheads to downtown Pontiac.

The event will mark its second stop of 2023 with the visit to Pontiac. Dodge Last Call Powered by [Roadkill Nights Las Vegas](#), held at The Strip at Las Vegas Motor Speedway on March 20, 2023, brought the horsepower festival out west for the first time and served as the setting for the helicopter-drop reveal of the 1,025-horsepower Dodge Challenger SRT Demon 170, the seventh and final Dodge “Last Call” special-edition vehicle to be revealed.

In addition to the Direct Connection Grudge Race and street-legal drag racing in Big Tire and Small Tire classes, the second Roadkill Nights Powered by Dodge event of 2023 will feature a classic and modern muscle car cruise in, Dodge Hellcat Thrill Rides, an all-new Dodge Hornet drive, Dodge Demon drag race simulators, Dodge vehicle displays including the Dodge Charger Daytona SRT Concept, Dodge product displays, Direct Connection performance parts, RC car demonstrations, a vendor midway, beer gardens, entertainment, food trucks, celebrity appearances and more.

Roadkill Nights is an event produced by MotorTrend Group. With a hit show, Roadkill delivers a one-of-a-kind taste of Automotive Chaos Theory. For more information on Roadkill and Roadkill Nights, follow facebook.com/roadkillshow and twitter.com/roadkillshow. Fans can follow the action of Roadkill Nights with hashtags #RoadkillNights and #PoweredByDodge or watch ROADKILL across MotorTrend+, MotorTrend TV or MotorTrend FAST TV through Samsung TV Plus and XUMO.

For more information on the Dodge brand, visit Dodge.com or DodgeGarage.com.

ROADKILL

The ROADKILL brand delivers a one-of-a-kind taste of "Automotive Chaos Theory" and features authentic gearheads David Freiburger and Mike Finnegan in a variety of mediums, including Roadkill Nights branded events, and Roadkill shows available on [MotorTrend+](#), MotorTrend TV, and [MotorTrend FAST TV](#).

MotorTrend Group

MotorTrend Group, a Warner Bros. Discovery company, is the world's largest automotive media group dedicated to introducing, inspiring and intensifying people's passions for the motoring world. Comprised of more than 50 iconic brands including MOTORTREND, HOT ROD, ROADKILL, TOP GEAR AMERICA and more, MotorTrend Group is the ultimate source of entertainment and information for both auto enthusiasts and car shoppers, with a monthly audience of more than 26 million and over 70 million social followers. Featuring world-class automotive entertainment across the #1 television network for automotive fans, digital streaming channels, iconic events, the largest automotive social network, over seven decades of print and digital editorial content and cutting-edge resources for new-car shoppers, MotorTrend embodies every corner of car culture. From electric vehicles to timeless classic customs, MotorTrend Group brings the latest motoring trends to fans of all generations.

Dodge//SRT

For more than 100 years, the Dodge brand has carried on the spirit of brothers John and Horace Dodge. Their influence continues today as Dodge shifts into high gear with a lineup that delivers unrivaled performance in each of the segments in which the brand competes while moving forward to a future that includes electrified muscle in the form of the next-generation, all-new Dodge Charger.

The next-generation Dodge Charger electrifies a legend, with the Charger retaining its title as the world's quickest and most powerful muscle car led by the all-new, all-electric 2024 Dodge Charger Daytona Scat Pack. The all-new Dodge Charger will also offer performance choices via multi-energy powertrain options including the 550-horsepower Dodge Charger SIXPACK H.O., powered by the 3.0L Twin Turbo Hurricane High Output engine.

Dodge also keeps its foot on the gas as a pure performance brand with the 710-horsepower Dodge Durango SRT Hellcat, the most powerful SUV ever, and best-in-class standard performance in the compact utility vehicle segment with the Dodge Hornet.

Dodge is part of the portfolio of brands offered by leading global automaker and mobility provider Stellantis. For more information regarding Stellantis (NYSE: STLA), please visit www.stellantis.com.

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