



## Sloan Henderson

July 17, 1992 – Present

Nationality: American

Raced: 2004 – Present

Website: [www.sloanhenderson.com](http://www.sloanhenderson.com)

**Background:** Sloan Henderson was born in Dayton, OH in July of 1992 and is attending Dayton Christian Schools. She began racing Quarter Midgets in 2004 when she was only twelve years old and quickly found success, winning the Senior Novice Eastern Grand National Championship in just her fourth race. In 2005, she competed in Bandoleros and had the opportunity to participate in Lyn St. James' Driver Development Academy. Henderson had many top finishes in the years that followed, including winning both the Ohio State National Points Series and the KOIL (Kentucky, Ohio, and Indiana Legends) Tour Series Championship in 2006. In 2007, she began her first season racing Legend cars and she made history by becoming the first woman to win a feature race in the KOIL Tour Series. She continued to drive Legend cars in 2008 and also tested a NASCAR Whelen Late Model, which she competed in throughout the 2009 season. During the test, she was just .04 seconds away from setting the track record at Kil-Kare Speedway in Xenia, OH. Henderson has achieved much recognition over the past few years, as she has successfully managed to balance her studies with her motor sport career. The City of Franklin, Ohio named December 15, 2008, "Sloan Henderson Day" in honor of her accomplishments. She closed the 2009 season by finishing in 6<sup>th</sup> place in Ohio's NASCAR Whelen Late Model Series and was named the state's "Rookie of the Year" for the series. She was also invited to participate in the prestigious Drive for Diversity Testing and Evaluation Combine that year. During the 2010 season she will continue racing NASCAR Whelen Late Models and hopes to drive in the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series in the coming years. Her long-term goal however, is to eventually compete in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series.

**Inspiration and Influences:** Henderson's involvement with racing began because of a horse-riding accident at the age of twelve. The accident left her with a broken jaw and a desire to become involved in a different hobby. Although her father hoped it would lead to something safer, Henderson decided to try racing and she was immediately hooked. Her dad promised that he would take her to compete in the Eastern Grand National Championship in Connecticut if she won her third start, and Henderson did not disappoint. After winning the race, she went on to the Nationals and claimed the title. These wins further increased her passion for the sport and she realized it was something she wanted to pursue. She has been racing ever since. Henderson recognizes the support of her sponsors and is very grateful to her parents, Steve and Shelley, who have stood by her side as she works towards her racing dreams.

### Racing Accomplishments:

- Won the Eastern Grand Nationals title in Connecticut while racing Quarter Midgets in 2004.
- Won over fifty heat and feature races and broke three track records in 2004.

- Finished in 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Gasoline Alley Nationals in 2004.
- Finished in 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Music City Race Points in 2005.
- Participated in Lyn St. James' Driver Development Academy in 2005.
- Won the Ohio State National Points Series while racing Bandoleros in 2006.
- Won the KOIL (Kentucky, Ohio and Indiana Legends) Tour Series Championship in 2006.
- Finished in 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Young Gun Division at the Summer Nationals in 2006.
- Became the first woman to win a race at Rockcastle Speedway in Mt. Vernon, KY in 2006.
- Won 13 feature races in Bandolero Young Guns in 2006 and set three track records.
- Finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Bandolero Young Gun National Points Series in 2006.
- She was the first woman in history to be in the Top 3 in the National Point Standings in 2006.
- Became the first woman to win a feature race in the KOIL Tour Series in 2007.
- Finished the 2007 season with five heat and feature race wins.
- Selected to participate in Ron Sutton's Driver Development Program in 2008.
- Finished in 11<sup>th</sup> place in the National Semi-Pro point standings in 2008.
- Finished in 6<sup>th</sup> place in the INEX Young Lions National Points Series in 2008.
- Won the Young Lions Ohio State Championship in 2008.
- Finished with 13 feature wins in the Semi Pro/Young Lions divisions in 2008.
  - She had 33 top five finishes in 2008.
- She had 4 podium finishes, 6 top five finishes, and 18 top 10 finishes racing Whelen Late Models in 2009.
- Became the first woman to set the fast-time at Kil-Kare Speedway in Xenia, OH, 2009.
- Became the first woman to win a heat race at Columbus Motor Speedway in Columbus, OH, 2009.
- Finished in 6<sup>th</sup> place in Ohio's NASCAR Whelen Late Model Series in 2009.

#### **Awards and Recognition:**

- Became the first woman to receive the "No Fear Award" at Music City Motorplex, 2005.
- The City of Franklin dedicated December 15, 2008 as "Sloan Henderson Day."
- Named the NASCAR Whelen "Rookie of the Year" for Ohio in 2009, becoming the first female in the state to win that honor.

**Life off the Track:** In addition to juggling school and racing, Sloan Henderson also enjoys volunteering with several charities. She is active in both the "Worth Waiting For" program and the "Make a Wish Foundation" and also supports Susan G. Komen's Race for the Cure. Henderson also does weekly updates on her racing on Dayton's radio station, the Rebel 105.9, and writes articles for the Franklin Chronicle.

**Interesting Fact:** Henderson earned her NASCAR license before she got her driver's license. She is constantly trying to improve her racing skills and frequently plays Xbox racing games and the program "Mind Shaper" to prepare herself for competitions.

#### **Sources Consulted**

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