



HOTTEST HOT WHEELS

HOT WHEELS LEGENDS TOUR ARIZONA WINNER HEADS TO FINALS

Now with stops in 17 countries and billed as the world's largest traveling car show, with vehicle submissions made online, the 2023 Hot Wheels Legends Tour presented by Mobil 1 kicked off in-person events in May in Miami, Florida, arriving in metro Phoenix on September 23 at Walmart on S Market Street in Gilbert, Arizona.

Michael Brown of Deputy, Indiana claimed the top spot here with matching BMW Isetta builds. "Big Dill" is a 1957 BMW Isetta-based dragster powered by a 1200cc Harley-Davidson Shovelhead motor. Isetta body aside, the vehicle is completely

original, as Brown designed and built every aspect of the vehicle himself, from custom frame and metal fabrication to its custom gold interior and the green paint that gives it its name. Brown says Big Dill took an estimated 438 hours to create.

As if the Harley-powered micro dragster wasn't enough, Brown also transformed a matching Isetta into a hauler named "The Pickle Jar," to carry tiny Big Dill. This Isetta flatbed is powered by a Chevrolet 230 straight-six engine mounted on a custom-made subframe designed to accommodate its tilting load bed. To achieve its unique styling, Brown

retrofitted Ford Model A front fenders to the rear of the extended frame and Volkswagen Beetle rear fenders to the front.

Judges including Hot Wheels designers and others evaluate entrants and finalists on creativity, authenticity and garage spirit. Built, not bought, is the spirit of the Tour, with custom creations of all makes and models, shapes and sizes encouraged to enter.

After one more in-person event in early October at Hot Wheels headquarters in El Segundo, California, the Tour culminates with a virtual Global Semi-Final and Grand Finale, November 2 and 11 respectively. The ultimate goal is to have an owner's passion project adapted to 1:64-scale as the next Hot Wheels Garage of Legends inductee. ■

