



**GOODYEAR**



## **ANOTHER STAR MAZDA GRADUATE MAKES THE JUMP TO INDY LIGHTS – NICK ANDRIES TO MAKE FIL DEBUT AT TOYOTA GRAND PRIX OF LONG BEACH THIS WEEKEND DRIVING FOR BRYAN HERTA**

Pinellas Park, Fla., April 11 - Nick Andries will take the next step in his racing career this weekend when he makes his Firestone Indy Lights debut behind the wheel of the #28 Barracuda Networks / Tbolt / Beyond Payroll Firestone Indy Lights car for Bryan Herta Autosport at the Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach.



"I'm excited to make Firestone Indy Lights debut and I want to thank Bryan Herta and Steve Newey for giving me the opportunity to get into one of their cars this weekend", said Andries. "There was a lot of hard work that went into making this happen, which will make strapping into the car for the first time on Friday that much sweeter."

Andries comes to Firestone Indy Lights after a strong season in the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear, where he amassed eight podium finishes in 11 races to finish third in the championship. After testing a Lights car at the end of last season, Andries worked over the winter to put together a deal for the 2012 season. When funding didn't materialize and a last-minute deal to run in the season opening Grand Prix of St. Petersburg, Andries' home race, fell through, he turned his attention to Long Beach and the oval test the following week at Auto Club Speedway, with the ultimate goal of racing in the Firestone Freedom 100 at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway in May.

"Right now Long Beach is a one-race deal. We are working hard on putting together a program for the oval test that follows at Fontana. Once I pass my Rookie Orientation, I would be qualified to race at Indy next month. We're going to play the rest of the season by ear, but for now my focus is on doing the best possible job this weekend at Long Beach."

### **About the Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach**

Brian Redman, Mario Andretti, Gilles Villeneuve, Nelson Piquet, Niki Lauda, Al Unser, Jr., Alex Zanardi, Juan Montoya, Paul Tracy, Sebastian Bourdais... just some of the names that have graced the top step of the podium at a race through the streets of the port city of Long Beach, Calif. Originally named the United States Grand Prix West, Long Beach held its first event, a Formula 5000 race, in 1975.

Seen as America's answer to Monaco, the United States Grand Prix West ran from 1976 to 1983. Since 1984, the Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach has run under various sanctions, with Firestone Indy Lights and its predecessors serving as the primary support race since 1989. Of the temporary street courses that



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**PERFORMANCE  
FRICTION  
BRAKES**



**BBS**



**REPLAY XD**





make up seven of the 11 races on the 2012 Firestone Indy Lights schedule, none has the history of the circuit built around the Long Beach Convention Center.

**Schedule, Round 3, 2012 Firestone Indy Lights**

Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach, Streets of Long Beach, Calif.,  
1.968-mile, 11-turn temporary road course

Friday, April 13

12:00 - 1:00 pm – Practice

Saturday, April 14

8:00 - 8:45 am – Practice

12:55 - 1:40 pm – Qualifying

Sunday, April 15

8:00 - 8:15am – Warm Up

10:45 am - 12:00 pm – Round 3, Firestone Indy Lights – 45 Laps

**Broadcast Schedule**

The Firestone Indy Lights race will be covered live on the IMS Radio Network (check here for list of affiliates or to listen live online). Live audio is also available along with live Timing and Scoring from [racecontrol.indycar.com](http://racecontrol.indycar.com), A tape-delay broadcast of the race will air Thursday, April 19th at 5pm Eastern on the NBC Sports Network.

**About Nick Andries**

Nick Andries began racing in kid karts when he was just five years old. After racing in karts for five years, Andries began his transition into racecars by participating in a Skip Barber Racing School. After earning a scholarship at the Skip Barber Karting Scholarship Shoot-out, he went on to win the 2009 Skip Barber Summer Race Series Championship. In 2010 Nick participated in the BFGoodrich/Skip Barber National Presented by Mazda, finishing sixth in points with one win, and in select Star Mazda races for Andersen Racing. In 2011, racing for Team Pelfrey, Andries collected eight podium finishes in 11 races to finish 3rd in the Star Mazda Championship.

Away from the track, Andries is a Mechanical Engineering student at St. Petersburg (Fla.) College. Learn more about Nick Andries at [www.nickandries.com](http://www.nickandries.com)

**About Bryan Herta Autosport**

Founded by veteran driver Bryan Herta and noted race engineer and team manager Steve Newey, Bryan Herta Autosport (BHA) has been a race-winning team in Firestone Indy Lights competition since 2009 and recently won the 2011 Indianapolis 500 with driver Dan Wheldon in only its second IZOD IndyCar Series start.

Learn more about Bryan Herta Autosport at [www.bryanhertaautosport.com](http://www.bryanhertaautosport.com).

