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Contact: Mandy Skinner  
Phone: 847-708-7713  
Email: [press@juncosracing.com](mailto:press@juncosracing.com)

## **Juncos Racing Announces Driver Lineup for 2011 Star Mazda Championship**

Vero Beach, Fla. (December 22, 2010) – Juncos Racing has officially confirmed its driver lineup for the 2011 Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear. The four young and diverse talents that will represent the 2010 championship winning team in 2011 are Tatiana Calderon, Martin Scuncio, Joao Horta and Gustavo Menezes.



Tatiana Calderon, 17, first competed with Juncos Racing five years ago as an eager young go-kart driver and reunited with the team once again last year for her rookie season in the Star Mazda Championship. By the third race at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca, the Colombian racer had already delivered her first top-ten of the 2010 season, and by the second half of the year, she was consistently competing with the front-runners to take five additional top-ten finishes. The former teammate of 2010 Star Mazda Champion Conor Daly will return to the series this season stronger than ever and ready to seize her first victory.

“I am really excited about being with Juncos Racing again for the 2011 season,” said Calderon. “They have shown how competitive they can be for the last two years, and they have all the tools a driver needs to be at the top. Last year, I gained a lot of experience which I’m sure will help us this season, especially with a busy schedule. We will be facing some new tracks and sharing time with the IZOD IndyCar Series which I know will be a great experience. I am really looking forward to testing again in January. I think I am much more prepared both physically and mentally for this season than I was last year. I am ready to fight for the Championship in 2011, and I am sure the team is, too.”

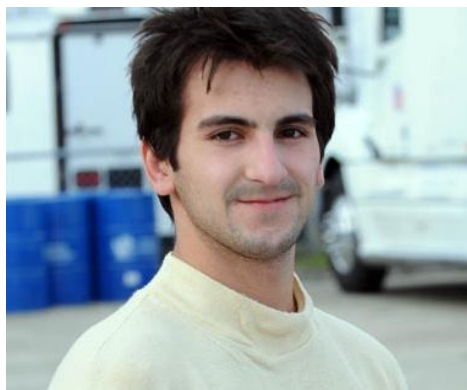
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Running alongside Calderon is Chile resident Martin Scuncio, 19, a rookie who made his debut in the Star Mazda Championship last season at the finale event in Road Atlanta. Despite being his first Star Mazda Championship race and first experience on the famous 2.54-mile road course, Scuncio immediately commanded the attention and respect of others by finishing in the top-five positions in every official session, narrowly missing the pole position due to a session-ending red flag, and claiming a fourth place finish in the race. The 2008 Chilean Formula 3 Champion has already proven what a competitor he is in a single event and has even more to show in 2011.

“I am so happy to join the Juncos Racing team in 2011,” said Scuncio. “We did really well at the last race, and we have a very good relationship with one another. Now, it is time to compete for an entire season, and I am ready for it. The 2011 season will be completely different than last year because we have new tracks in the schedule, so we will have to do a lot of testing before the start of the season in St. Petersburg. Once again, I am very happy to join this team. The guys here are awesome, and I know they will help me fight for the Championship all season. I want to say thank you to Ricardo (Juncos) for trusting in me and allowing me to be his driver for the whole season. 2011, here we come!”



Joao Horta, 20, though not a rookie to the Star Mazda Championship, will make his debut as a Juncos Racing driver in 2011. Like many other aspiring racecar drivers, the Brazilian began his career in go-karts where he won multiple races and championship titles in Brazil. By 2008, Horta was ready to take his passion for speed to the next level—formula cars. Horta spent 2008 and 2009 competing in the Formula BMW Americas Championship before graduating to the Star Mazda Championship in 2010 where the rookie claimed four podiums, five top-five finishes and nine top-ten finishes in 13 total rounds. Horta’s return to the series in 2011 will undoubtedly see him in the hunt for his maiden win.

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“I am very happy to be joining Juncos Racing in 2011,” said Horto. “I am really looking forward to being a part of the “Big Family” that this team is. I am definitely ready and willing to learn everything that the team has to teach me, and I will of course do my very best to bring good things to them as well.”



The final, youngest member of the four-car team will be 16-year-old Gustavo Menezes. The American premiered on the racing scene at age six and became the California State Champion in go-karts that same year. The subsequent years saw many race and championship wins in go-karts, and at age 11, Menezes became the youngest driver to win a JICA Snap-On Stars of Karting race. The following year, Menezes headed overseas to race go-karts in Europe—in addition to racing in the U.S.A.—where he continued to impress, and in 2009, the karting ace was awarded the Jim Russell Future Driver Award.

The 2011 Star Mazda Championship will be Menezes’ first attempt at racing a full season of formula cars, but with a résumé like his, the Juncos Racing team has full confidence in the young man’s abilities.

“I am very excited to be competing in the 2011 Star Mazda Championship,” said Menezes. “It will be a great challenge for me, and I can’t wait to get started with the first race in St. Petersburg. It is great to be partnering with Juncos Racing again as I raced for them when I was younger in karts, and I know they are one of the teams to beat in this series. I think we will be able to put up a strong fight this season. It is a very big step for me to go directly from karting to the Star Mazda Championship level, but I’m sure I will learn a lot through this experience.”

“I am extremely happy to announce our complete driver lineup for 2011 this early,” said Team Owner Ricardo Juncos. “It’s the result of all the hard work the whole team has done over the last two years. It gives us the chance to have these four fantastic drivers that have not only proven their driving talents, but also have the right attitude which is so important for this team and any other successful team, too. All four of our drivers are good people with a lot of passion, and that really counts for a lot.

“After the last race of the 2010 Championship, we have been working harder than ever to get ready for 2011. We have done a lot of private testing to ultimately decide on this driver lineup, and we are all very happy with the decision.

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“The most important thing each person at Juncos Racing has is passion, and that is something you can't buy. I really believe it is the key to victory, and I have no doubt that we will be fighting for the Championship again in 2011 with each one of our drivers.”

Juncos Racing's preparation for the 2011 Star Mazda Championship will begin with testing throughout the month of January. The first official series test will be at Barber Motorsports Park in Alabama from March 14-16, and the opening race of the 2011 event calendar will be at the Streets of St. Petersburg on March 27 in conjunction with the IZOD IndyCar Series. To see the full schedule for 2011 or for more information, please go to [www.juncosracing.com](http://www.juncosracing.com).

**About Juncos Racing:** Juncos Racing is centrally located in Vero Beach, Florida, U.S.A. to offer diverse levels of racing year round. Juncos Racing operates out of a state of the art facility which houses vehicles suitable for all levels of racing, from go-karts to open wheel Formula race cars. It is one of the few teams in the United States which offers a development program starting from racing go-karts to racing professional open wheel race cars. The team's goal is to provide young and older drivers alike with a foundation upon which they can build a career in motorsports. Juncos Racing offers two and three-day racing schools which cover theoretical and hands-on driving techniques. With your dedication and the team's expertise and advanced training techniques, Juncos Racing is confident that you will achieve and master the fundamentals of racing. For more information, please visit [www.juncosracing.com](http://www.juncosracing.com).

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