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For Immediate Release: April 12, 2011

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# JDC MOTORSPORTS SCORES DOMINANT STAR MAZDA WIN AT BARBER MOTORSPORTS PARK

## Vautier led every lap of Round Two in Alabama en route to a 39-second victory

MINNEAPOLIS, MN. (April 12, 2011) – JDC MotorSports returned to its winning ways on Sunday (April 10), scoring a dominating win in Round Two of the *Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear* at Barber Motorsports Park. French standout Tristan Vautier started from the pole and never looked back, giving the Minnesota-based squad its first series win of 2011. Rookie of the Year contender Nick Mancuso added to the excitement with a strong drive to sixth place.

After strong run to begin the 2011 campaign on the streets of St. Petersburg – earning a podium finish – JDC MotorSports were looking to keep the momentum going when the highly-competitive Star Mazda Championship traveled to Barber Motorsports Park for Round Two. Given Vautier had been the man to beat in official pre-season testing at the Alabama road course – leading five of six sessions – the drivers and crew were confident of entering the event. That certainly showed during the opening practice runs on the undulating track, as Vautier's No. 5 Cecibon/Circuit du Laquais/Fontanels/Red Line Oil JDC MotorSports entry ended the sessions second on the overall timesheets. Mancuso, despite his lack of junior formula car experience, also looked good, posting the 10<sup>th</sup> best time.

The trend of JDC cars challenging for top honors continued in afternoon qualifying. Vautier, finding more speed each time he got behind the wheel, proved to be unbeatable in the timed run, capturing the pole position for Round Two. Mancuso also shined in the session behind the wheel of the No. 27 Jimmy John's Sandwiches/Indeck/Lake Forest Sportscars/Red Line Oil JDC MotorSports, posting the seventh best time, third quickest among the talented rookie contingent.

Following an uncharacteristic two-day break between sessions, the action resumed with Vautier leading the skilled Star Mazda field to the traditional standing start on Sunday morning. Vautier promptly made the most of his starting position when the lights went green in front of an enthusiastic crowd, leading the way into and out of the opening sequence of turns. With a clear track ahead, the French racer never looked back, building a gap on the chasing pack lap after lap. The end result was a dominating 39-second win for Vautier when the checkered flag waved after 33 laps. Behind the race winner, Mancuso continued to impress onlookers, earning a sixth place finish as the top rookie.

"We knew that the track was going to change a lot between the start of the race and the end, and that tires would be the key to the race," said Vautier. "The JDC team and my engineer Rick Cameron gave me a very good car, and it was my job to not slide it around and keep the tires as





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good as possible in case we needed them at the end of the race. But I got into a good rhythm and the car was very fast without trying too hard, so I just drove at a comfortable pace and was surprised to finish so far ahead. The next races are ovals, and I have a lot to learn about racing on them, but the team is working very well together and we all have confidence in each other, which is the most important thing."

"I'm very excited to have finished in the top-10 again in only my second open-wheel race," commented Mancuso. "We were very close to a top-five in the Jimmy John's/INDECK car, but I am happy with sixth place and, more importantly, another full race under my belt. A big thanks to JDC for a great car, and congratulations to Tristan who drove a great race. I hope to be up there battling with him soon! Now off to the ovals; this should be exciting!"

The JDC MotorSports drivers and crew now have a break until May 28th, when the chase for the *Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear* series title resumes with Round Three at the Lucas Oil Raceway in Indiana as part of the famed 'Night Before the 500' event. Entering the first of back-to-back oval races, Vautier leads the driver standings, and JDC MotorSports tops the team standings.

JDC MotorSports races with associate sponsorship from <a href="www.RedLineOil.com">www.RedLineOil.com</a>

Additional information on JDC MotorSports can be obtained from the team's website @ <a href="https://www.jdcmotorsports.com">www.jdcmotorsports.com</a> For direct contact, please contact John Church @ 952-233-3075

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## **About JDC MotorSports:**

Involved in formula car racing since its inception in 1994, JDC MotorSports has established itself as one of the leading junior open-wheel teams in North America. Initially making its mark in the F2000 class of club racing competition, JDC MotorSports was soon a team worth watching in the pro ranks. Competing in the Formula Ford 2000 Zetec Championship, the team not only won races, but also helped develop multiple young drivers. In 2005, JDC MotorSports expanded its efforts, entering the Star Mazda Championship. Quickly becoming one of the top teams in the series, JDC captured both the driver and team titles in 2007, as well as Rookie of the Year honors, with Dane Cameron scoring a series-high three wins. In 2008, JDC MotorSports was the runner-up in the Star Mazda Championship and finished fourth in its inaugural season of F2000 Championship Series competition. The Minnesota-based team won the Star Mazda Championship title with Rookie of the Year Adam Christodoulou, and the F2000 Championship Series title with Chris Miller in 2009. This past year, JDC continued its winning ways, earning the Rookie of the Year award in the Star Mazda Championship with Connor De Phillippi, and scoring a non-points win in the USF2000 National Championship. The Minneapolis-based squad will compete in the Star Mazda Championship, USF2000 National Championship and Prototype Lites Championship in 2011 via multi-car operations.