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JDC MOTORSPORTS COMMENCES CANADIAN STAR MAZDA CHAMPIONSHIP RUN WITH DOUBLE PODIUM IN TORONTO

Chaves and Piedrahita led defending series champion back to post-race celebrations in Rounds Seven & Eight

MINNEAPOLIS, MN. (July 10, 2012) – The first of three consecutive Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear events in Canada proved highly successful for JDC MotorSports over the weekend (July 7-8), as the three-time series champion took part in the post-race podium celebrations in both Rounds Seven and Eight in Toronto, Ont. Gabby Chaves led way in the opening affair with a third place finish, before Juan Piedrahita went one better in race two with a runner-up result. Add-in two more top-four results by the two racers, a 10th place finish by Stefan Rzadzinski and 11th place result by Ashley Freiberg, and the Minnesota squad is poised for a great second half charge 'North of the Border'.

With the Star Mazda Championship having not visited the fast and bumpy confines of the Toronto street circuit since 2007, the goal for JDC MotorSports and its talented quartet of racers in day one's two practice runs was to get acclimated to the 2.84-km layout and make the most of the fact the team won the previous race around the Canadian National Exhibition grounds.

In sweltering summer heat, the day's action proved to be an up and down affair. Chaves showed good speed in the No. 19 Claro/Marca Colombia/Tecpro/OMP/Red Line Oil/JDC MotorSports entry, posting the fifth quickest time overall on the day, however, his quicker afternoon run ended prematurely following contact with one of the concrete retaining walls. Piedrahita likewise had an eventful day, spinning in the morning session, before posting the ninth best time after the lunch break. Rzadzinski, who was returning to series competition after missing the oval rounds, was next on the timesheets with a strong 10th place effort, while Freiberg showcased here ever-growing skills with the 13th fastest time.

When the JDC drivers rolled back on-course on Saturday morning for the lone qualifying run, they were greeted by slightly cooler temperatures and the threat of rain. Making the most of the early stages of the session to get in at least one good lap, the majority of the JDC contingent benefitted from a red flag and subsequent heavy rain and lightning that ended qualifying early, earning places in the front-half of the deep field. Pedrahita ultimately was the quickest driver under Minnesota team awning, going sixth fastest. Chaves was next on the timesheets in seventh, immediately followed by the No. 91 TrueCar.com/Red Line Oil/JDC MotorSports entry of Freiberg in eighth. Rzadzinski, having never gotten in a true flyer, was 11th best in the session.

With a dry track and returned high temperatures, it was time to go racing just after the lunch break on Saturday. The start proved to be an eventful affair, as two cars - including one of the



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front-row starters - failed to launch from the traditional standing start, forcing the majority of the field to take evasive action. With all four JDC cars successfully negotiating the chaos, they were poised to charge forward. Chaves and Piedrahita promptly did just that. In what were stellar examples of racecraft and speed, Chaves in the end took the checkered flag in third, with Piedrahita close behind in fourth. For Rzdazinski and Freiberg, the 21-lap race was a constant fight for position, with the duo eventually crossing the stripe in 11th and 13th respectively.

With fast lap times setting the grid for race two of the Toronto doubleheader, three of the four JDC cars lined-up within the top-10 when Round Eight commenced prior to the IndyCar Series race. Right from the get go it was apparent the JDC cars were ready to fight for positions and move forward. While Freiberg was hampered by some early race contact from behind, and Rzdazinski lost a potential top-five finish with a lazy spin in his No. 93

PoweredbyAlberta.com/Red Line Oil/JDC MotorSports car entry in turn one, JDC enjoyed one of its best races as a whole. Piedrahita led way with a superb runner-up finish, and was closely followed by Chaves in fourth. Rzdazinski recovered to finish 10th, with his teammate Freiberg chasing him home in 11th.

"I'm so happy to be back on the podium," commented Piedrahita. "We had a great weekend where we went from not being quite fast in the two practice sessions, to being on the podium in race two. The team did a great job by giving me a very competitive car in both races, and these results are great for the championship fight. We will keep pushing hard in the next races in Edmonton."

"It was a complex weekend trying to find the optimal balance for a track that has patches of asphalt and concrete," stated Chaves. "Once again we managed to add good points to the championship battle. The team and I will keep working hard to improve, and we feel positive about going to Edmonton and getting some great results."

"Overall I am happy with the weekend," said Freiberg. "This track was a blast, and JDC MotorSports and I made some good improvements. I am really excited about my qualifying performance, because I knew I could still get more out of the car if the rain hadn't stopped the session early. I have to give a big thank you to TrueCar, Virgin, Bell Helmets, JDC, and Mike Zimicki for all the help this weekend. I couldn't be happier with the improvements we have made so far, we just need to keep focusing forward."

"It was great to be back in the car," added Rzdazinski. "The track was fun to drive and the Canadian fans were great. Other than the one mistake, I drove my best race thus far in Star Mazda in race two. The goal now is to build on that in Edmonton and get some strong results in front of the hometown fans and supporters. Once again special thanks go out to the PoweredbyAlberta.com partners who help me go racing."

JDC MotorSports continues the Canadian swing of the 2012 Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear on July 21-22, with Rounds Nine and Ten at the Edmonton City Centre Airport street circuit in Alberta. JDC MotorSports travels to the western Canada doubleheader third in the team standings, while Chaves, Piedrahita, Freiberg, Rzdazinski are third, fifth, 11th, and 12th in the title fight respectively.

JDC MotorSports races with associate sponsorship from www.RedLineOil.com



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Additional information on JDC MotorSports can be obtained from the team's website @ www.jdcmotorsports.com For direct contact, please contact John Church @ 952-233-3075

Learn more about Gabby Chaves at www.gabbychaves.com and keep up to date via Twitter @ [GabbyChaves](#)

Learn more about Ashley Freiberg at www.ashleyfreiberg.com keep up to date via Twitter @ [AshleyFreiberg](#) and her Facebook page @ [AshleyRacing](#)

Learn more about Juan Piedrahita at juanchopiedrahita.com keep up to date via Twitter @ [Juanpc9](#) and his Facebook page @ [Juan-Diego-Piedrahita-Juancho](#)

Learn more about Stefan Rzadzinski at www.rzadracing.com keep up to date via Twitter @ [rzadracing](#) and his Facebook page @ [Stefan-Rzadzinski](#)

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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 won a third Star Mazda Championship with Tristan Vautier in 2011, in addition to being victorious in the USF2000 National Championship and earning multiple podium finishes in its Prototype Lites Championship debut campaign. JDC MotorSports will once again contest full seasons in the Star Mazda Championship, USF2000 National Championship and Prototype Lites Championship in 2012.

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