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For Immediate Release: September 11, 2012

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JDC MOTORSPORTS BACK IN STAR MAZDA VICTORY LANE AT LAGUNA SECA

Rookie star Chaves captured Round 16 win, while fellow first year standouts Freiberg, Piedrahita, and Read added to team's points tally in northern California doubleheader

MINNEAPOLIS, MN. (September 11, 2012) – JDC MotorSports was back on the top step of the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear podium this past weekend (September 8- 9), after a superb race-winning run by Gabby Chaves at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca. The rookie led a strong outing by the Minnesota-based squad, following a runner-up finish in Round 15 with a lights-to-flag victory in Round 16. Juan Piedrahita and series newcomer Lloyd Read added to the squad's success in California by each adding a pair of top-10s, while Freiberg also showed good speed and skill with 12th place finish in race one.

One week after scoring yet another podium finish on the streets of Baltimore, JDC MotorSports was on the other side of the continent ready to once again battle for top honors in the highly regarded Star Mazda Championship. With the famed Laguna Seca road course playing host to the final doubleheader event of the 2012 season, the goal was simple for the talented four driver line-up under the JDC awning...keep building on what has been an impressive second half showing.

Since the return to road course and street circuit action in July following a pair of oval races, JDC drivers have been among the ones to watch, earning six podium finishes in eight races.

That trend of success looked poised to continue right from the get go at Laguna Seca, with Chaves' No. 19 Claro/Marca Colombia/Tecpro/OMP/Red Line Oil/JDC MotorSports Mazda leading the way at the end of the three promoter's test day sessions. One of four title contenders entering the weekend, Chaves was again P1 following the lone practice run around the 2.238-mile road course, while the rookie trio of Freiberg, Piedrahita, and Read, who was making his series debut in the No. 16 Flextronics/Red Line Oil/JDC MotorSports Mazda, focused on developing their cars for the famed undulating road course.

After a qualifying run that witnessed Chaves just missing a true flyer and teammates dealing with traffic, it was time to battle for positions in Round 15.

When the lights went out to commence the action on late Saturday afternoon, Chaves quickly made his presence felt, slotting into second from his fourth place starting position. Piedrahita likewise was quickly on the move in his No. 9 Petrosur/GFK Motors/Red Line Oil/JDC MotorSports racing steed, working his way up to ninth from 12th on the grid. Behind the duo, both Read and Freiberg began battling for positions, steadily advancing forward from 15th and 16th respectively. While the battles involving the likes of Piedrahita, Read, and Freiberg were proving entertaining to watch, the focus for the majority of the fans on hand was the duel for the win. It



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culminated on the last lap when Chaves attempted a pass similar to the famed Alex Zanardi move many years ago at the famed 'Corkscrew' turn. The result featured both Chaves and the race leader briefly going off-course and continuing without losing a position, and the JDC racer taking home a well deserved runner-up finish. Piedrahita was the next JDC driver to the line, having worked his way up to eighth. Read made it three teammates in the top-10 with a strong 10th place finish in his debut, just ahead of Freiberg in 12th.

Given the strong results in the opening affair of the Laguna Seca twin bill, confidence was high under the team awning when the grid lined up for Round 16 on Sunday afternoon. Chaves, having posted the fastest lap in race one, was P1 when the lights went out. Getting a good launch, he not only held his starting position, but was quickly attacking the course and building a gap on his pursuers. Piedrahita and Freiberg also both enjoyed good starts, with the Colombian up to seventh by the end of lap one and then slotting into a comfortable fifth position within the next few laps, and the No. 91 TrueCar.com/Red Line Oil/JDC MotorSports entry advancing to 11th. With Read yet again steadily going up the scoring charts as the race progressed, the four-team squad was poised to enjoy an even better race two in northern California. Unfortunately, Freiberg's strong run was not to last, as she retired after going off course in turn six after just 14 laps. While Piedrahita dropped down the order in the closing the stages of the race after being hit from behind and spun around, Round 16 proved to be a highlight event for the team. Chaves, having never put a wheel wrong, scored a dominant debut series win when the checkered flag waved, using the fastest race lap to score a 15 second victory. Read, in what was an impressive second-ever Star Mazda race, was seventh at the line, just ahead of Piedrahita in ninth.

"This win is a great victory for me personally, for the JDC MotorSports team, and my sponsors, CLARO and Marca Colombia," said a jubilant Chaves, who also set the fastest race lap. "I had a very fast car yesterday even though I finished second to Jack, and today, as soon as the race started, I felt very much in control and was able to pull out a good gap and work on driving each lap as perfectly as possible. We have had a very consistent season, with nine podium finishes, but now that I know what a Star Mazda victory tastes like, I'll go to the final race at Petit Le Mans in a few weeks hungry for another one."

JDC MotorSports and its talented Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear contingent of drivers now have a hiatus until October 18-19, when the season concludes with Round 17 at Road Atlanta as part of the famed Petit Le Mans event. The Minnesota-based team travels to Georgia third in the team standings. Chaves enters the finale second in the championship chase, ahead of Piedrahita in seventh, Freiberg in 11th, and Stefan Rzadzinski in 15th.

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

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](https://twitter.com/GabbyChaves)

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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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