



- DIVING DEEP INTO THE TALENT POOL -

Star Mazda Championship debuts upgraded car, new teams, hot young drivers and racing legends in 2009 season opener at 57th annual 12 Hours of Sebring

Fast Facts – Round One of the 2009 Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear at the 57th Annual 12 Hours of Sebring

- A 30-car field of top drivers from around the world is expected to line up for the Star Mazda series' F1-style standing start; countries represented include the U.S., Canada, England, Ireland, Norway, Brazil, Venezuela, Chile and Japan. Three of the top four and seven of the top ten drivers in the 2008 championship will return to battle in 2009.
 - Conor Daly, son of F1/Indy Car/Sports Car racing legend and two-time 12 Hours of Sebring winner Derek Daly (1990 – 1991) will be in the Star Mazda field and hoping to continue the family winning streak at Sebring alive with a victory in his series debut.
 - Another racing legend, Eliseo Salazar (like Daly, a veteran of F1, Indy Cars and prototypes) will debut Eliseo THL Motorsports, a Star Mazda team focusing on helping South American drivers launch their North American motorsports careers.
 - The Star Mazda Championship is entering its 19th year as one of the premier open-wheel driver development series in North America. Series graduates have gone on to race in F1, Indy Cars, NASCAR, American Le Mans and Grand-Am.
 - Changes for 2009 include faster Star Mazda race cars with upgraded aerodynamics, suspension and engine, several new teams and teams with new 'ladder programs' connecting from karting up to ALMS and the IRL; prize money remains \$1.5 million, including a fully-sponsored drive for the series champion in the 2010 Atlantic Championship courtesy of the *MAZDASPEED* Motorsports Driver Development Ladder.
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With a 30-car field on tap for Round 1 of the 2009 season at the 57th annual 12 Hours of Sebring, the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear is set to dive into the deepest talent pool in recent years. Three of the top four and seven of the top ten drivers in the 2008 championship will return to battle in 2009. Thirty or more cars are expected to line up for the F1-style standing start, with drivers representing all areas of the U.S. as well as Canada, England, Ireland, Norway, Brazil, Venezuela, Chile and Japan.



High-profile names joining the Star Mazda Championship series this season include Indianapolis native Conor Daly, son of former F1/Indy Car/Prototype driver and noted auto racing TV commentator Derek Daly, a two-time winner (1990 – 1991) of the 12 Hours of Sebring. The younger Daly won the 2008 Skip Barber Pro Series Championship and is driving the #22 Andersen Racing/Indeck/Cytomax/The College Network/Merchant Services Mazda in the 2009 Star Mazda Championship. With sponsorship from the MAZDASPEED Motorsports Driver Development Ladder, the unique and prestigious Mazda-sponsored program that provides funding for series champions all the way from karting to the top levels of auto racing, Daly will be looking to continue the family tradition of Sebring victories in his Star Mazda championship debut this weekend.

Another prominent name from the world of F1 and Indy Cars, Eliseo Salazar, will also be joining the series as team principal of Eliseo THL Motorsports, a new team formed to provide a stepping-stone for South American drivers to develop careers in North American motorsports. Headquartered in Pittsburgh, PA will field the Eliseo THL Motorsports Star Mazda car for rising 18 year-old Chilean racer Kevin Toledo.

The Freshman Class

Three of the top four and seven of the top ten drivers from the 2008 season are returning for a second year of high-speed education in the Star Mazda Championship, including American Joel Miller, who won this event from the pole in 2008. Miller, the 2007 Skip Barber Pro Series champion, raced to a second-place finish in the 2008 Star Mazda Championship with sponsorship from the MAZDASPEED Motorsports Driver Development Ladder will return with the JDC Motorsports team. Peter Dempsey, the 'Irish Steamroller' who won four races last year (three of them in a row) and started on the pole three times on his way to a 3rd-place finish in the championship will also return for a second year, driving for a new team, AIM Autosport (the team that won the 2008 championship with American John Edwards).



Alex Ardoin, the Lafayette, Louisiana racer who won the 2007 season-ending race at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca and finished fourth in the 2008 Star Mazda Championship battle will return for his third season (making him actually a 'Junior' rather than a freshman), driving this year for a new team, JDC Motorsports. Other returning drivers who finished in the top-10 last year include Californian Billy

Goshen (Goshen Racing), Brazilian Ciao Lara (JDC Motorsports), Texan Kristy Kester (Kester Motorsports) and Vancouver's Taylor Hacquard (Kester Motorsports).

Rookie Contenders



Top contenders for the Star Mazda Championship 'Rookie of the Year' honors must certainly include Richard Kent, the 'stranger from nowhere' who showed up at the last race of the 2008 season, set a new track record in winning the pole and then won the race. Kent, an Englishman, is a veteran of both European Formula Renault and Palmer Audi and will drive for Andersen Racing in 2009. Other hot prospects include the afore-mentioned Conor Daly and Kevin Toledo, as well as Scandinavian racer Anders Krohn from Stavanger, Norway (Mundill); he was the 2008 US F2000 series champion and Rookie of the Year.

AIM Autosport, the team that won the 2008 Star Mazda Championship with 17 year-old American John Edwards (now racing in the Atlantic Championship with sponsorship from the MAZDASPEED Ladder), continues their tradition of developing young talent by fielding cars for Canadian David Ostella and Venezuelan Jorge Goncalvez. Both are 17 years old and competed last season in the Formula BMW Americas series. Goncalvez has also raced Formula Renault in South America and Europe.

Thomas Asseo (JDC Motorsports) ran the Formula Russell Championship in 2008, winning 'Rookie of the Year' and finishing third in the championship with one win and six podium finishes; he was born in Paris and now lives in Los Angeles. Running with Goshen Motorsports is 16 year-old Ryan Booth, the 2007 Formula TR Pro Series champion who ran the Formula Asia series in 2008, winning at the Bira Circuit in Pattaya, Thailand.

New team Juncos Racing has a duo of 'ROY' prospects, including Miami, FL native Sean Burstyn, a graduate of the Juncos Racing School, the Skip Barber Racing School and the Formula Renault 1600 championship in 2006. He ran the Star Mazda race at Sebring in 2007 and competed in the Formula Mazda-based FARA Championship in 2008. Canadian Michael Furfari began in karts at age 12, graduated to Formula Renault 1600 in 2007 and spent 2008 testing in the Juncos Star Mazda car preparing for his full-time debut in the 2009 season.

Driving for Andersen Racing this season is Brazilian Denis Navaro; he started racing karts in 2004, graduated to open-wheel cars in 2006 and ran the South American Formula 3 series in 2007 – 2008, finishing third in last year's championship with four wins and six poles.

Experts and Masters

Chris Cumming, the Vancouver racer who won the 2008 Expert Series championship (for drivers 30 to 44 years old) with seven class wins, has changed teams to Kester Racing and will again be a top contender in 2009. And the top returning racer in the Master Series (for drivers 45 and older) is Gerry Kraut (right), who finished second in the class last season with three class wins and five top-3 class finishes. Kraut, from North Oaks, Minnesota, drives for JDC



Motorsports and is the CEO of a private investment company. His principal competition for the Master Series championship will come from Californian Mike Guasch, a veteran Star Mazda racer who ran only half the season in 2008, but still managed to finish third in the Master championship.

The Expert Series will see serious action this season with Cumming defending his title against four other drivers in the same age category. Returning after a debut season in 2008 that saw him score three class wins and finish second in the championship is Texan J.W. Roberts (Team GDT). Back for a more extensive 2009 schedule after running six of twelve races in 2008 is Oregon Racer Phil Fogg, Jr., who finished third in the Expert Series last year. Also of note are two newcomers to both the Star Mazda Championship and the Expert Series, Walt Bowlin of Tarpon Springs, FL (Juncos Racing) and widely-experienced Japanese racer Toshihiro Deki (Goshen Motorsports) who has competed in Formula 3, Formula Toyota, and Formula Junior 1600, as well as Mazda RX-8 and RX-6 sports cars.

Expert and Master Series drivers race the same kind of car as all the other Star Mazda racers, and compete in the same events for the same championship points and prize money, but they also have a race-within-a-race that sees the Star Mazda Championship with five drivers on the podium at the end of the race; the top-3 as well as the top-finishing Expert and Master.

Series Graduates

In a thoroughly convincing demonstration that the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear is the premier 'gateway' ladder series to all forms of racing, a five recent series graduates from four countries have announced plans to move up to the Indy Racing League, the new FIA Formula Two series, Grand-Am sports cars and the Atlantic Championship.

American John Edwards drove the #7 AIM Autosport/ Mobil1 Mazda to four wins, four poles and three podium finishes, capturing the 2008 Star Mazda Championship and the fully-funded Atlantic Championship ride that goes with it. As a result, he will return to the Atlantic series (where he raced in 2007) again 2009; he has signed with Newman Wachs Racing as driver of the No. 36 MAZDASPEED/ Nuclear Clean Air Energy/Entergy machine.



2007 Star Mazda champion, Californian Dane Cameron, moved up to the Atlantic Championship with Genoa Racing in 2008 courtesy of the MAZDASPEED Motorsports Driver Development Ladder scholarship. He scored four top-fives, two podiums and a pole to finish seventh in the championship. He has signed to co-drive the full 2009 Grand-Am Rolex Sports Car Series GT season with Doug Peterson in the No. 30 Racers Edge Mazda RX-8.

Michelle Bumgarner, a 19 year-old female racer from the Philippines who competed in the Star Mazda Championship in 2008 has signed a five-year deal with Walker Racing to compete in the Indy Racing League beginning with the Indy Lights series in 2009. And another fast female, Swiss racer Natacha Gachnang, who made Star Mazda series history with back-to-back podium finishes in 2007, is again breaking new ground as the first female racer in the new 2009 FIA Formula Two Championship.

Swiss racer Natacha Gachnang ran with AIM Autosport (the same team that won the 2008 championship with John Edwards) during the 2007 Star Mazda Championship season. Already an experienced karting champion and open-wheel racer, she made series history with back-to-back podium finishes at Portland at Cleveland and scored an unbroken string of seven top-10 finishes. After finishing third in the 2008 Spanish F3 championship, she continues to make motorsports history by becoming the first female racer to sign up for the new 2009 FIA Formula Two Championship. She will be joined by Tom Gladdis, the 17 year-old racer from Gibraltar, U.K. who scored one Star Mazda victory, two poles and three podiums on his way to a sixth-place finish in the 2008 championship.

Other recent series graduates include Indy Car stars Marco Andretti and Graham Rahal and ex-F1 driver Scott Speed, now competing in NASCAR. Also now in NASCAR is 2004 series champion Michael McDowell who went on to drive Champ Cars and Daytona prototypes before moving to stock cars and becoming the ARCA RE/MAX 'Rookie of the Year' 2007. He graduated to Sprint Cup with the Michael Waltrip team in 2008.

Climbing the MAZDASPEED Ladder

Raphael Matos, the talented Brazilian racer who won the 2005 Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear, clinched his fourth open-wheel racing title in six years by winning the 2008 Firestone Indy Lights championship for AFS/Andretti Green with a record of three wins, five poles and 13 top-10 finishes. His performance also earned him 'Rookie of the Year' honors. His 2008 accomplishments also include winning the GT class in the Rolex 24 at Daytona and an overall Daytona Prototype win in the season-ending SunRichGourmet.com 1000 presented by The Grand and Little America Hotels at Miller Motorsports Park.



As a result, Matos will climb to the top step of the North American open-wheel ladder in 2009, making his debut as an IRL driver with the Luzco Dragon team.

Matos (left) began his climb up the open-wheel ladder with the Formula Dodge National Championship in 2003. He moved up to the Star Mazda Championship in 2004, finishing 7th in the championship. Returning to Star Mazda in 2005, he won the first four races, captured three pole positions and scored eight podium finishes in 12 races on his way to winning the championship.

2005 was the first year of the MAZDASPEED Motorsports Driver Development Ladder, and Matos utilized the sponsorship provided by the program to move up to the Atlantic Championship Powered by Mazda in 2006, finishing 4th in the championship. He returned to the Atlantic Championship in 2007 with Sierra Sierra Enterprises, scoring six wins on his way to the championship.

Ladder Teams

While the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear is a part of the MAZDASPEED Motorsports Driver Development Ladder, a number of Star Mazda Championship teams also have their own internal ladder programs. Pre-eminent among these is Andersen Racing, (www.andersenracingteam.com), which runs racing programs in karting, Formula BMW, Star Mazda and Indy Lights. They also own a test track, Andersen Racepark, in Palmetto, Florida, where the team is based. Andersen is also the 'official driver development team' of Rahal Letterman Racing. Another team with IRL connections is Kester Racing, which has expanded from the two-car brother/sister team of J.C. and Kristy Kester (right) that they campaigned in 2008, to a four-car team for 2009 that includes Expert Series champion Chris Cumming and rising Vancouver racer Taylor Hacquard. The Kester team has also forged a 'driver development' deal with the IRL's Team 3G, making its series debut in 2009 with driver Stanton Barrett.



The Mundill team that will campaign Anders Krohn in the 2009 Star Mazda Championship has recently purchased a Pescarolo/Judd LMP1 car that they will campaign in the American Le Mans series beginning later this season. JDC Motorsports, the 2007 Star Mazda series champions with Dane Cameron, also run a highly-competitive F2000 effort, and the new Juncos Racing team runs a driving school in addition to their new three-car Star Mazda effort.

Upgraded Star Mazda Race Car Debuts

In the first major upgrade of the Star Mazda 'Pro Car' since its introduction five years ago, Star Race Cars has produced a package of mechanical and software upgrades for the 2009 season. More than 150 of these high-tech, carbon-fiber, rotary-powered single-seaters are utilized by competitors in the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear, as well as SCCA competition and regional Star Mazda series around the U.S., such as the Molecule Formula Mazda Challenge on the West Coast.



The upgrades, including new wings, shock absorbers and suspension rockers, are designed to increase the car's aerodynamic efficiency and top speed while improving engine cooling; in addition, it will be easier for drivers and their engineers to arrive at the best setup for each track. The cumulative effect of the upgrades will be to increase both top speed and cornering speed, reduce maintenance costs and enhance the mechanical reliability of what is arguably already one of the most dependable, cost-effective open-wheel cars in competition today.

Sebring Schedule

Sunday, March 15, 2009

1:00 pm Star Mazda Crew Chiefs meeting

Monday, March 16, 2009

8:00 am - 9:00 am Test Session - Star Mazda Championship Presented by Goodyear
12:20 pm - 1:20 pm Lunch
12:30 pm Star Mazda driver meeting
1:20 pm - 2:20 pm Test Session - Star Mazda Championship Presented by Goodyear
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Track Orientation for ALL Race Participants (**NO CARS**)

Tuesday, March 17, 2009

10:05 am - 10:40 am Test Session - Star Mazda Championship Presented by Goodyear
11:25 am - 12:25 pm Lunch
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm **Conor Daly MAZDASPEED Ladder driver one-on-one session with Calvin Fish and Brian Till (*)**
4:40 pm - 5:15 pm Test Session - Star Mazda Championship Presented by Goodyear
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Calvin Fish and Brian Till media training for all Star Mazda Drivers (*)

Wednesday, March 18, 2009

8:00 am - 10:15 am ****MANDATORY Driver head-and-shoulder photos for American Le Mans Series Drivers (ALL Classes) to be scheduled in 10 minute intervals in the Panoz Suite #4 - 2nd Floor of Pit Structure. Drivers need to be in driver suit with proper patches and also bring helmet to shoot. Scheduling chart will be available in mid-February.**
11:45 am - 2:15 pm ****MANDATORY Driver head-and-shoulder photos for American Le Mans Series Drivers (ALL Classes) to be scheduled in 10 minute intervals in the Panoz Suite #4 - 2nd Floor of Pit Structure. Drivers need to be in driver suit with proper patches and also bring helmet to shoot. Scheduling chart will be available in mid-February.**
12:00 pm - 6:00 pm **MANDATORY TELEVISION PREP/FEATURE VIDEO** shooting for American Le Mans Series Drivers (ALL Classes) on Wednesday, March 18th ONLY. Drivers need to be in driver suit with proper patches. There will be two (2) shoots and locations: 1) Suite (TBD) adjacent to Panoz Suite #4 - 2nd Floor of Pit Structure and 1st Floor Media Interview Room. Scheduling chart will be available in mid-February.
12:20 pm - 1:00 pm Lunch
1:00 pm - 1:40 pm Practice - Star Mazda Championship Presented by Goodyear
3:45 pm - 5:30 pm ****MANDATORY Driver head-and-shoulder photos for American Le Mans Series Drivers (ALL Classes) to be scheduled in 10 minute intervals in the Panoz Suite #4 - 2nd Floor of Pit Structure. Drivers need to be in driver suit with proper patches and also bring helmet to shoot. Scheduling chart will be available in mid-February.**
6:30 pm - 9:30 pm **Conor Daly / MAZDASPEED Ladder driver photo shoot and dinner (*)**

Thursday, March 19, 2009

8:40 am - 9:20 am Practice - Star Mazda Championship Presented by Goodyear
9:45 am - 10:10 am Mazda press conference
12:15 pm - 12:50 pm Lunch
12:30 pm Star Mazda driver meeting
1:45 pm - 2:30 pm Qualifying - Star Mazda Championship Presented by Goodyear
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm Sponsorship workshop for all Mazda drivers (presented by Townsend Bell) (*)

Friday, March 20, 2009

7:30 am - 4:30 pm IMSA Registration
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm Lunch
3:55 pm - 4:40 pm Star Mazda Championship Presented by Goodyear Race - 45 Minutes

Tentative - schedule subject to change

(*) These events are mandatory and will take place in the Skip Barber garage/classroom area which is located outside of turn 17 (make a right just after the guard shack and before going over the drive over bridge).



02.13.08

- Miami**
 137 Miles to Sebring
 US 27 North to Hwy. 98
- West Palm Beach**
 98 Miles to Sebring
 I-95 or Florida's Turnpike to SR 710 & SR 70 to US 27 North to Hwy. 98
- Tampa**
 94 Miles to Sebring
 SR 60 East to US 27 South to Hwy. 98
[Driving directions from Tampa International Airport \(click here\)](#)
- Orlando**
 79 Miles to Sebring
 US 27 South to Hwy. 98
[Driving directions from Orlando International Airport \(click here\)](#)
- Daytona Beach**
 141 Miles to Sebring
 I-4 West to US 27 South to Hwy. 98
- Sarasota**
 81 Miles to Sebring
 I-75 to Hwy. 66 to US 27 North to Hwy. 98

- **Where is Sebring International Raceway?**
Sebring is located about 90 miles from Tampa, Orlando and the Palm Beaches. The track is adjacent to Sebring Regional Airport, just off Highway 98, three miles east of US 27.
- **When is the 2009 12 Hour Race?**
March 18-21. The Mobil 1 Twelve Hours of Sebring presented by Fresh from Florida starts at 10 am on Saturday, March 21st. There is no racing activity on Sunday.
- **What cars run in the Mobil 1 Twelve Hours of Sebring?**
The American Le Mans Series, featuring the same cars and drivers that compete in the famous 24 Hours of Le Mans in France. The ALMS features the world's most technologically advanced race cars, driven by road racing's finest drivers. Visit Americanlemans.com for more information.
- **What other racing events take place?**
Six different supporting series will race at Sebring prior to the Mobil 1 Twelve Hours of Sebring.
- **What type of tickets should I purchase?**
The "Superticket" is the most popular ticket at Sebring. It is offered as a four-day or Saturday-only ticket. Supertickets include access to the paddock, where the race teams are located. Supertickets purchased by February 13th are \$10 less than tickets purchased at the gate. Other types of tickets include Pit Box seats in the open-air viewing area of the pit structure, overlooking the pits and the start/finish line. Club Sebring is the most exclusive ticket at Sebring, and includes access to the Club Sebring suite overlooking the pits, complimentary beverages all four days and catered meals on Saturday.
- **If I purchase a Saturday-only ticket, when can I enter the raceway?**
Beginning Friday at 8 pm.
- **How do I purchase tickets?**
You can order online or by calling 800-626-7223. Credit cards accepted are MasterCard, Visa, Discover and American Express.
- **Do kids have to purchase a ticket?**
No. All children 12 and under are admitted free as long as there is an adult accompany them. The exception is Club Sebring and Pit Box access, where a child's ticket is required.
- **When is the Will Call window open?**
Beginning at 7:00 AM on 3/18/09, tickets can be picked up at Will Call 24 hours per day. Will Call is located on the Registration side of the Sebring International Raceway office building located at the front entrance of the track (Gate 2).
- **If I can't attend, can I get a refund?**
There are absolutely no refunds under any circumstances.
- **What about car parking?**
Sebring offers both reserved trackside parking and first-come first-serve parking. All automobiles must pay a \$25 charge to enter the raceway for first-come first-serve parking in General Car Parking (If you arrive with four or more people in your automobile, that fee will be waived) and \$75 for General RV Parking or \$75 for North Paddock Car Parking and \$95 for North Paddock RV Parking. Any vehicle that is pulling another vehicle (trailer, pop-up camper, etc) will need to purchase BOTH a Car and RV parking. Reserved trackside parking for motorhomes and cars is very limited and must be ordered in advance. Call the raceway for more details. If you are not arriving until Saturday, it is highly recommend that you park outside the track in the free parking overflow lot and take the shuttle inside.
- **What about camping at Sebring?**
Many race fans camp at the track. Reserved trackside parking spaces are located at several locations around the circuit, although they sell-out early. Non-reserved motorhome parking is also available on a first-come first-serve basis. See the ticket order form for motorhome parking fees. Tent camping is allowed at no additional charge.

- **Do you have hookups for motorhomes?**
No.
- **Are there showers at the raceway?**
Yes.
- **Can I bring my own food and beverages?**
Yes.
- **Can I bring a charcoal or gas grill?**
Yes.
- **Are there vendors selling food?**
There are dozens of vendors, selling a wide range of food and souvenirs.
- **Can I meet the drivers?**
Sebring is one of the most spectator-friendly tracks in the world. All spectators have access to the paddock, where the race teams are located. Every team is easily accessible. An autograph session open to all fans is held on Friday, in which every driver participates.
- **Can I walk on the track and see the starting grid before the race?**
Yes! Spectators may go on the track prior to the start of the race Saturday morning and see the cars and drivers up close.
- **Are there special places for car clubs to gather?**
Yes. Many marques have special car corrals. Call for more information.
- **What time do the gates close at night?**
The gates are open 24 hours a day. Spectators can arrive anytime beginning at 6 am on Wednesday of race week.
- **Are there grandstands at Sebring?**
Sebring is a traditional road racing circuit, in which spectators can walk from turn to turn and watch the action. There are elevated viewing berms at several locations. In addition, the Pit Box seats offer an elevated view of the front straight. There are no grandstands.
- **What else is there to do at the raceway?**
Vintage race car displays, the Party Zone, special "Tech Talk" and autograph sessions for fans, and many other activities take place during race week.
- **Can I drive a motorcycle at the race?**
Motorcycles are now allowed to enter the raceway and park in a designated area. They may NOT go anywhere else on the raceway property.
- **Can I bring a bicycle, scooter or ATV?**
No. Positively no vehicles of this type are allowed inside the raceway.
- **Can I bring a golf cart?**
No.
- **Can I bring my Dog?**
No. Absolutely no pets are allowed.
- **What is the weather like at Sebring in March?**
Daytime temperatures are usually in the 70s. It has rained on race day only six times in 56 years, however be prepared! It can get cool at nights as well, sometimes into the 40s.
- **What if it rains?**
The Mobil 1 Twelve Hours of Sebring presented by Fresh from Florida runs rain or shine.
- **Is there a gift shop at Sebring?**
Yes. A permanent gift shop is located in the raceway administration building at the front entrance. It is open daily from 9 am, to 4 pm. During race week, gift shops are also located in the paddock and along the midway.

- **Is the race broadcast locally on radio?**
Yes.
- **Where can I buy the souvenir program?**
Programs are sold at the front entrance and at several locations throughout the facility. The Sebring souvenir program is recognized as one of the best in racing and a true collectors item. After the race, they can be purchased at the Gift Shop (supply is limited and the program often sells out).
- **Can I monitor the radio frequencies of the race teams on my scanner?**
Yes. A list of frequencies is made available by the scanner vendor located in the paddock.
- **Is there an ATM at the track?**
Yes.
- **What about lodging?**
There are over 1,500 hotel rooms in the Highlands County area. See the list elsewhere on this website.
- **Is there a hotel at the track?**
Yes, the Four Points by Sheraton Chateau Elan has 122 rooms and overlooks the famous hairpin turn. Rooms during race week are very limited. For more information call 863-655-6252.
- **Can I have dinner at the track hotel?**
During race week, the hotel facilities are only available to registered guests. Sometimes special events are held at the hotel that are open to the public, but advanced purchase tickets are required.
- **What facilities do you have for handicapped guests?**
An elevator and handicapped accessible restrooms are located in the pit structure. Designated reserved parking for disabled guests are located along the midway and in the paddock.
- **How can I get from the Sebring Airport to the Track?**
The raceway offers a shuttle service between the airport and the raceway entrance.
- **I have heard there is a lot of wild partying at Sebring, is that true?**
Be assured Sebring is a family-friendly environment, and no activity is tolerated that in any way infringes on the enjoyment of the race.
- **I used to go to Sebring in the 1960s and 70s. The facilities were not very good back then. Have they improved?**
Since 1999, new owner Dr. Don Panoz has made millions of dollars in improvements, including the new Pit structure, track hotel, restrooms, and other amenities that have made Sebring one of the finest road racing circuits in North America. If you haven't been to Sebring lately, you will be pleasantly surprised.
- **Are tours available at Sebring International Raceway?**
Tours are offered every Thursday, from January thru April (except race week). Special group tours are available by request. For information call 863-655-1442.
- **Can I also see the American Le Mans Series at Daytona?**
No. The American Le Mans Series does NOT race at Daytona Speedway.
- **What famous drivers have won at Sebring?**
Legends such as Mario Andretti, A.J. Foyt, Dan Gurney, Phil Hill, Stirling Moss, Juan Manuel Fangio, Jim Hall, Al Holbert, Bobby Rahal have won the Sebring 12 hour classic.
- **Have NASCAR drivers competed at Sebring?**
Bill Elliott, Ricky Rudd, Ken Schrader, Terry Labonte, and Joe Nemechek are some of the NASCAR drivers have competed at Sebring. Dale Earnhardt and Dale Earnhardt Jr tested at Sebring. NASCAR legends Curtis Turner, Fireball Roberts, Bobby Allison also raced at Sebring.
- **Are there racing schools at Sebring?**
The Skip Barber Racing School is located at Sebring.
- **How do I become a volunteer at Sebring International Raceway?**
The Sebring International Raceway Advisory Council (SIRAC) is the official volunteer organization. For more information call Barbara Maire at 863-655-1442 x210 or email bmaire@sebringraceway.com.

