



ALEX ARDOIN QUICKEST IN PRACTICE 1 FOR THIS WEEKEND'S ROUND THREE OF THE STAR MAZDA CHAMPIONSHIP AT MILLER MOTORSPORTS PARK



In last year's Star Mazda Championship race weekend at Miller Motorsports Park, Louisiana racer Alex Ardoin brought new meaning to the old country western lament "If it weren't for bad luck, I'd have no luck at all."

His luck was so bad that he didn't qualify and started the race from the last position in the field, 29th. At this point talent took over and he was able to power his way through the field to finish 10th, and it appears that momentum is still with him as he set – by a comfortable margin – the quickest time in this morning's first practice session at the wheel of his #51 JDC Motorsports / Oral & Facial Surgery Center Mazda. The 1:44.642 (104.860 mph) lap is still considerably slower than the record, set in 2008 by series champion John Edwards, of 1:43.650. However, it was more than 8/10ths of a second faster than Sebring winner Adam Christodoulou's best lap of 1:45.478 (104.029) in the #11 JDC Motorsports Mazda. Third

fast was 2008 Star Mazda Championship runner-up Joel Miller, who turned a 1:46.198 (103.324 mph) in the #2 JDC Motorsports / Fader Higher Productions / Mockett / Burns Truck & Trailer Mazda.

"We tested really well here a week and a half ago, so the car was fantastic right from the first lap," said Ardoin. "The JDC crew does an amazing job and the car was even better than I expected. The track is better than I expected, really smooth, though I have noticed there's some sealer down in turns 5 and 6, so that changes how you transition on and off the surface. It's supposed to warm up this weekend, so the next session later this afternoon should give us a better feel for what the track will be like during the race."

On-track activities for drivers in the Star Mazda Championship begins with a pair of 50-minute promoter test sessions on Thursday, May 14, one beginning at 8:00 am and the other at 1:00 pm. A pair of official 45-minute practice sessions will take place on Friday, May 15 at 8:45 am and 1:00 pm. Qualifying to set the grid for the Star Mazda Championship's spectacular, F1-style standing start takes place from 8:35 am - 9:20 am Saturday, May 16, with the 45-minute Round 3 of the 2009 Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear at Miller Motorsports Park during the Larry H. Miller Dealerships Utah Grand Prix Presented by the Grand & Little America Hotels scheduled to get the green light at 6:05 pm Saturday afternoon.

Pos	No.	Name	Best Tm	Best Spd	In Lap	Gap
1	51	Alex Ardoin	1:44.642	104.860	17	
2	11	Adam Christodoulou	1:45.478	104.029	12	0.836
3	2	Joel Miller	1:46.198	103.324	20	0.720
4	19	Caio Lara	1:46.289	103.236	19	0.091
5	13	Michael Furfari	1:46.574	102.959	14	0.285
6	17	Mikael Grenier	1:46.623	102.912	19	0.049
7	3	Peter Dempsey	1:46.658	102.878	15	0.035
8	22	Conor Daly	1:46.921	102.625	19	0.263
9	33	Richard Kent	1:47.160	102.396	16	0.239
10	29	Phil Fogg	1:47.269	102.292	14	0.109
11	91	Michael Guasch	1:47.394	102.173	16	0.125
12	30	Rick Rosin	1:47.540	102.035	7	0.146
13	16	Chris Cumming	1:47.954	101.643	16	0.414
14	48	Kristy Kester	1:48.112	101.495	21	0.158
15	24	J.C. Kester	1:48.526	101.108	21	0.414
16	82	Billy Goshen	1:48.606	101.033	15	0.080
17	71	David Ostella	1:48.812	100.842	16	0.206
18	64	Patrick O'Neil	1:48.814	100.840	13	0.002
19	61	Sean Burstyn	1:48.835	100.821	22	0.021
20	12	Chuck Hulse	1:49.410	100.291	22	0.575
21	72	Jorge Goncalvez	1:49.624	100.095	15	0.214
22	27	Anders Krohn	1:49.741	99.988	4	0.117
23	55	Gerry Kraut	1:50.160	99.608	9	0.419
24	77	Kevin Toledo	1:50.715	99.109	16	0.555
25	86	David House	1:51.045	98.814	14	0.330
26	18	Stan Kohls	1:51.457	98.449	13	0.412
27	20	Gustavo	1:53.751	96.463	11	2.294
28	80	Toshi Deki	1:57.284	93.558	8	3.533
29	23	Walt Bowlin	1:59.025	92.189	13	1.741
30	66	Rusty Mitchell	2:03.119	89.124	3	4.094

