



**CONOR DALY ON POLE FOR RACE 1 OF THE STAR MAZDA CHAMPIONSHIP DOUBLE-HEADER
AT THIS WEEKEND'S MAZDA FORMULA X WEEKEND AT NEW JERSEY MOTORSPORTS PARK**

-- Six Hours of Mazda-Powered Racing Action Live on HDnet --

New Jersey Motorsports Park (June 11, 2009) – After topping both practice sessions on Friday, Conor Daly went on to complete the trifecta with his first pole of the 2009 season. With a lap of 1:15.696 sec. (102.831 mph) in the #22 Andersen Racing / College Network / Indeck /



Cytomax Mazda, the son of racing legend Derek Daly will start from the inside of the front row for tomorrow's first race of the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear double-header in the second annual Mazda Formula X weekend at New Jersey Motorsports Park.

"The beginning of the season has been just OK, but to come here and rebound and get the pole and being fast all day is really good," said Daly, who has one podium and

one top-5 in the first three races of the 2009 season and currently sits seventh in the championship battle. "It feels just great and it's very reassuring for me and the team. This weekend the track seems a bit slower; when the Andersen team and I tested here last week we were really quite a bit faster than what the pole time was. But I'm still pleased as long as everyone else is going a bit slower than me, it's OK. I really like the track and it's been a great weekend so far."

Daly, the son of racing legend and noted motorsports broadcaster Derek Daly, is the 2008 Skip Barber Pro Series champion and won his ride in the 2009 Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear courtesy of the *MAZDASPEED* Motorsports Driver Development Ladder. This unique program, the only one supported by a major automaker, provides champions from karting through the top levels of the sport with sponsorship to move up to the next level.

Staring alongside Daly will be current championship points leader with two pole and two wins so far, Englishman Adam Christodoulou. He proved his versatility by turning the fastest lap in two days of Star Mazda series testing at Iowa Speedway, his first-ever experience on an oval. Coming back to the wooded road courses he is most familiar and comfortable with, his lap of 1:16.037 sec. (102.739 mph) in the #11 JDC Motorsports / Molecule Mazda puts him on the outside of the front row and in position to mount a serious challenge heading into the first turn.

Making a big, and well-deserved, jump up the ladder is the lone Scandinavian driver in the Star Mazda Championship, Anders "The Viking" Krohn." Currently 9th in the championship battle with only one result in the top-6, at VIR, the 2008 FF2000 Champion is starting to run true to

form. His lap of 1:16.082 sec. (102.697 mph) in the #27 Mundill / Trallfa / Colosseum Mazda lines him up third on the starting grid, right behind Daly.

In fourth, on the outside of the second row with a lap of 1:16.197 sec. (102.524 mph) in the #33 Andersen Racing / Traka / Allied Interior Products Mazda, is another name everyone expects to at the sharp end of the grid, Englishman Richard Kent. After winning the final race of the 2008 season from the pole, he returned and qualified on the pole for the 2009 season-opener at Sebring. He finished second there, and missed Round Two at VIR due to a non-racing injury. He returned to battle in Round Three at Miller Motorsports Park, finishing fourth and securing – for the moment – the 8th spot on the championship points list.

Another young driver taking a big step forward this weekend is Vancouver native Taylor Hacquard, now in his second season of Star Mazda Competition. He currently sits 13th in the championship with a best finish so far this season of 12th in Round Three at Miller Motorsports Park. His lap of 1:16.368 sec. (102.346 mph) in the #15 Kester Racing Team 3G / Wolfe Auto Group / Texas World Speedway Mazda puts him fifth on the grid, on the inside of row three.

Rounding out the top-6 is another pleasant surprise; Michael Furfari, the youngest driver in the series. Just 16 years old, he is 11th in the championship with a best finish of 9th in Round 3 at Miller Motorsports Park. He turned the fastest lap in Star Mazda series testing at the Milwaukee Mile and his lap of 1:16.368 sec. (102.294 mph) in the #13 Juncos Racing / Furfari Paving Mazda grids him on the outside of row four for the start of tomorrow's 40-minute race.

The top-qualifying Expert Series driver (ages 30 – 44) is reigning 2008 Expert Series champion Chris Cumming of Vancouver, B.C. He has scored one class win and two class podium finishes in three races so far this year and leads the Expert Series battle. His lap of 1:17.433 sec. (100.887 mph) in the #16 Kester Racing Team 3G / Texas World Speedway / Motul Oil Mazda earns him the 16th spot on the 27-car grid. Lining up just one row behind him is the current Master Series (drivers 45 and older) leader, Californian Mike Guasch, driver of the #91 JDC Motorsports / Molecule Mazda. He has scored class wins in two of three races so far this season and leads the class. His lap of 1:17.685 sec. (100.560 mph) earned him the 20th starting spot on the grid.

The top-14 cars in the field are all within one second of each other, and the competition promises to be fierce in the first of two Star Mazda Championship races this weekend. The Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear is a main race at the multi-event Mazda Formula X returns to New Jersey Motorsports Park this weekend – including Atlantic, Skip Barber, MX-5 and IMSA Lites; also featured Time Attack and Drifting exhibitions, tuner car and audio show. All the weekend's Mazda-powered races will be broadcast live on HDnet. There will be a live three hour broadcast each day from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm EDT. The broadcast team will be led by veteran commentator Rick Benjamin and legendary race-driver Elliott Forbes Robinson. Despite the fact that it's listed on the HDnet schedule at an Atlantic Championship broadcast, with no mention of any of the other races during the weekend, all the wheel-to-wheel Star Mazda Championship action will be covered live on both days. To receive HDNet information via email simply go to www.hd.net/listpage.

It's a double-header weekend for the Star Mazda Championship with races on both Saturday and Sunday. The standing start for Race 1 on Saturday, June 13 will get the green light at 2:00

pm. Qualifying for Race 2 takes place Sunday morning 9:20 – 10:00 am, followed by the race at 2:00 pm.

Pos	No.	Name	Best Tm	Diff	Best Spd	In Lap	Club	Sponsor
1	22	Conor Daly	1:15.969		102.831	23	Andersen Racing	Indeck/Cytomax/Merchant Services/College Network
2	11	Adam Christodoulou	1:16.037	0.068	102.739	19	JDC Motorsports	Molecule
3	27	Anders Krohn	1:16.082	0.113	102.679	12	Team Mundill	Trallfa/Colosseum
4	33	Richard Kent	1:16.197	0.228	102.524	16	Andersen Racing	Traka/Allied Interior Products
5	15	Taylor Hacquard	1:16.329	0.360	102.346	19	Kester Racing with Team 3G	Wolfe Automotive Group/
6	13	Michael Furfari	1:16.368	0.399	102.294	16	Juncos Racing	Furfari Paving
7	51	Alex Ardoin	1:16.385	0.416	102.271	24	JDC Motorsports	Oral & Facial Surgery Center/Twister Trailer
8	17	Mikael Grenier	1:16.417	0.448	102.229	24	Andersen Racing	NAPA Auto Parts/CAA-Quebec/HS Telecomm
9	72	Jorge Goncalvez	1:16.509	0.540	102.106	23	Aim Autosport	
10	21	Denis Navarro	1:16.738	0.769	101.801	22	Andersen Racing	Shock Doctor/Navarro Medicines Distribution
11	2	Joel Miller	1:16.780	0.811	101.745	13	JDC Motorsports	Fader High Productions/soles/Doug Mockett & Co
12	19	Caio Lara	1:16.834	0.865	101.674	14	JDC Motorsports	MLD/ATW/Molecule
13	48	Kristy Kester	1:16.917	0.948	101.564	20	Kester Racing with Team 3G	Texas World Speedway/Motul Oil/K&N Filters +
14	30	Rick Rosin	1:16.931	0.962	101.546	18	Team GDT	FundeSporte/Governo Do ESTADO SANTA Catarina
15	3	Peter Dempsey	1:16.979	1.010	101.482	16	Aim Autosport	Irish Sports Council/Queyside.ie
16	82	Billy Goshen	1:17.004	1.035	101.449	10	Goshen Motorsports	Baker Commodities/GPSTrackit/OTTO
17	71	David Ostella	1:17.164	1.195	101.239	5	Aim Autosport	GP Global Precast
18	66	Rusty Mitchell	1:17.208	1.239	101.181	12	Mitchell Motorsports	Motorola
19	16	Chris Cumming	1:17.433	1.464	100.887	13	Kester Racing with Team 3G	Texas World Speedway/Motul Oil/K&N Filters +
20	91	Michael Guasch	1:17.685	1.716	100.560	22	JDC Motorsports	Molecule
21	77	Kevin Toledo	1:17.886	1.917	100.300	19	Eliseo THL Motorsports	
22	55	Gerry Kraut	1:18.334	2.365	99.727	17	JDC Motorsports	Doherty and Co./Doherty Funding LLC.
23	24	J.C. Kester	1:18.727	2.758	99.229	8	Kester Racing with Team 3G	Texas World Speedway/Motul Oil/K&N Filters +
24	31	Carlos Conde	1:19.174	3.205	98.669	14	American Speed Factory	MIO.TV
25	80	Toshihiro Deki	1:19.453	3.484	98.322	23	Goshen Motorsports	
26	23	Walt Bowlin	1:20.483	4.514	97.064	16	Juncos Racing	Hooters/Tampa Bay Jaw Surgery
27	61	Sean Burstyn			-	0	Juncos Racing	V Collection

For more information on the Star Mazda Championship and its drivers, as well as the Mazda Motorsports ladder system, please visit www.starmazda.com and www.mazdausa.com. For information, interviews and photos, contact Star Mazda Communications Director Peter Frey at (818) 398-5733 or StarMazdaPR@aol.com.

On any given weekend, there are more Mazdas on the road-race tracks of America than any other brand of vehicle. At the track, you'll see MX-5 Miata, RX-8, MAZDA3, MAZDA6, RX-7 and other vintage Mazda models competing, because every Mazda has the Soul of a Sports Car.

For more information on the various Mazda spec series, visit:

www.atlanticchampionship.com www.starmazda.com
www.skipbarber.com www.mx-5cup.com

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