



## A NEW GAME'S AFOOT – ENGLISHMAN RICHARD KENT SETS NEW LAP RECORD ON WAY TO POLE FOR STAR MAZDA CHAMPIONSHIP RACE 2 AT NEW JERSEY MOTORSPORTS PARK

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



New Jersey Motorsports Park (June 14, 2009) – In a return to the form that saw him shock the field with a pole and win in the final race of the 2008 season and a pole in the 2009 season-opener at Sebring, Englishman Richard Kent smashed the existing Star Mazda Championship lap record at New Jersey Motorsports Park by more than 4/10ths of a second in the #33 Andersen Racing / Traka / Lafarge N.A. / Allied Interior Products Mazda.

Despite a broken foot that sees him hobbling around the pits in a walking cast, Kent eclipsed the lap record of 1:15.167 sec. set last year by eventual series champion John Edwards; Kent turned a 1:14.744 sec. (104.517 mph) to claim the pole for this afternoon's Race 2 of the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear double-header at the second-annual Mazda Formula X event at New Jersey Motorsports Park. He qualified 4th and finished 8th in Race 1 on Saturday.

"It's a nice change from yesterday," said Kent. "The weather today is cooler and a bit more misty, much like European weather, so that was a big help to us. The Andersen Racing team did a great job working on the car overnight and it looks like the weather will hold for the rest of the day, with I'm happy about. But there are several fast guys buried deep in the field and it should be an interesting race."

Lining up beside him on the front row for the standing start of this afternoon's Star Mazda Championship Race 2 will be Louisiana racer Alex Ardoin with a lap of 1:14.749 sec. (104.510 mph) in the #51 JDC Motorsports / Oral & Facial Surgery Center / Twister Trailer Mazda. He qualified 7th for yesterday's race but only completed nine laps and finished 25th. Ardoin, who won the 2007 Star Mazda season-ender at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca, finished 4th in the 2008 championship and is currently 4th in the 2009 points battle.

Starting third on the grid will be current championship leader Englishman Adam Christodoulou, who qualified on the front row and finished second in Saturday's race. He turned a lap of 1:14.910 sec. (104.285 mph) in the #11 JDC Motorsports / Molecule Mazda. Filling out the second row will be American Joel Miller, the 2008 MAZDASPEED Motorsports Driver Development Ladder winner with a lap of 1:14.972 sec. (104.119 mph) in the #2 JDC

Motorsports / Fader Higher Productions / eSoles / Doug Mockett & Co. Mazda. He finished 2nd and 4th in this event last year.

Saturday's pole sitter and race winner, Conor Daly, the 2009 MAZDASPEED ladder driver, found himself with a loose (oversteering) car during Sunday morning qualifying and will line up 9th on the grid with a lap of 1:15.102 sec. (104.019 mph) in the #22 Andersen Racing / College Network / Indeck / Cytomax Mazda.

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.

The top-qualifying Expert Series driver (ages 30 – 44) is reigning 2008 Expert Series champion Chris Cumming of Vancouver, B.C. and winner of the Expert Series class on Saturday. He has scored two class win and two class podiums finishes in three races so far this year and leads the Expert Series battle. His lap of 1:16.219 sec. (102.494 mph) in the #16 Kester Racing Team 3G / Texas World Speedway / Motul Oil Mazda earns him the 19th spot on the 26-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. His bid for another in-class victory in Saturday's race was thwarted when he spun and was hit from behind by another car while trying to re-enter the track. He has scored class wins in two of three races so far this season and leads the class. His lap of 1:16.367 sec. (102.295 mph) earned him the 21st starting spot on the grid.

The top-16 cars in the field are all within one second of each other, and the competition promises to be fierce in the second of two Star Mazda Championship races this weekend; the race is schedule to get the green light at 2:00 pm EDT.

Pos	No.	Name	Best Tm	Diff	Best Spd	In Lap	Club	Sponsor
1	33	Richard Kent	1:14.744		104.517	9	Andersen Racing	Traka/Allied Interior Products
2	51	Alex Ardoin	1:14.749	0.005	104.510	11	JDC Motorsports	Oral & Facial Surgery Center/Twister Trailer
3	11	Adam Christodoulou	1:14.910	0.166	104.285	5	JDC Motorsports	Molecule
4	2	Joel Miller	1:14.972	0.228	104.199	13	JDC Motorsports	Fader High Productions/esoles/Doug Mockett & Co
5	17	Mikael Grenier	1:14.970	0.226	104.202	10	Andersen Racing	NAPA Auto Parts/CAA-Quebec/HS Telecomm
6	3	Peter Dempsey	1:14.989	0.245	104.175	12	Aim Autosport	Irish Sports Council/Queyside.ie
7	27	Anders Krohn	1:15.023	0.279	104.128	11	Team Mundill	Trallfa/Colosseum
8	19	Caio Lara	1:15.023	0.279	104.128	12	JDC Motorsports	MLD/ATW/Molecule
9	22	Conor Daly	1:15.102	0.358	104.019	12	Andersen Racing	Indeck/Cytomax/Merchant Services/College Network
10	13	Michael Furfari	1:15.298	0.554	103.748	10	Juncos Racing	Furfari Paving
11	21	Denis Navarro	1:15.486	0.742	103.489	6	Andersen	Shock Doctor/Navarro Medicines

12	82	Billy Goshen	1:15.634	0.890	103.287	11	Racing Goshen Motorsports	Distribution Baker Commodities/GPSTrackit/OTTO
13	15	Taylor Hacquard	1:15.670	0.926	103.238	11	Kester Racing with Team 3G	Wolfe Automotive Group/
14	66	Rusty Mitchell	1:15.706	0.962	103.189	11	Mitchell Motorsports	Motorola
15	72	Jorge Goncalvez	1:15.735	0.991	103.149	9	Aim Autosport	
16	71	David Ostella	1:15.742	0.998	103.140	11	Aim Autosport	GP Global Precast
17	48	Kristy Kester	1:15.784	1.040	103.082	11	Kester Racing with Team 3G	Texas World Speedway/Motul Oil/K&N Filters +
18	30	Rick Rosin	1:15.996	1.252	102.795	11	Team GDT	FundeSporte/Governo Do ESTADO SANTA Catarina
19	16	Chris Cumming	1:16.219	1.475	102.494	11	Kester Racing with Team 3G	Texas World Speedway/Motul Oil/K&N Filters +
20	24	J.C. Kester	1:16.265	1.521	102.432	8	Kester Racing with Team 3G	Texas World Speedway/Motul Oil/K&N Filters +
21	91	Michael Guasch	1:16.367	1.623	102.295	10	JDC Motorsports	Molecule
22	61	Sean Burstyn	1:16.524	1.780	102.086	7	Juncos Racing	V Collection
23	77	Kevin Toledo	1:16.855	2.111	101.646	6	Eliseo THL Motorsports	
24	80	Toshihiro Deki	1:17.916	3.172	100.262	12	Goshen Motorsports	
25	31	Carlos Conde	1:18.241	3.497	99.845	9	American Speed Factory	MIO.TV
26	23	Walt Bowlin	1:20.884	6.140	96.583	8	Juncos Racing	Hooters/Tampa Bay Jaw Surgery

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](http://www.hd.net/listpage).

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

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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](http://www.atlanticchampionship.com)

[www.starmazda.com](http://www.starmazda.com)

[www.skipbarber.com](http://www.skipbarber.com)

[www.mx-5cup.com](http://www.mx-5cup.com)

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