



IRISHMAN PETER DEMPSEY ON POLE FOR RACE 1 OF THIS WEEKEND'S STAR MAZDA CHAMPIONSHIP DOUBLE-HEADER AT THE HARRAH'S AUTOBAHN GRAND PRIX OF MAZDA

Autobahn Country Club / Joliet, IL (July 25, 2009) – After dominating the Friday pre-race practice sessions, Irishman Peter Dempsey was quick when it counted, in Saturday morning qualifying for Race 1 of a 2-race weekend, putting his #3 Juncos Racing / HOOTERS / Motorsport



Ireland / Queyside.ie Mazda on the pole with a lap of 2:12.465-sec. (96.750 mph). This is his second pole of the year so far; he won from the pole two weeks ago on the Iowa Speedway oval.

"The car was perfect from yesterday; Juncos Racing had a great car for me and my two teammates, so there wasn't much we could really change in the car," said Dempsey, who earned the nickname 'The Irish Steamroller' with four wins last season, including three in a row. "We were happy with it, you just had to try and drive around the conditions, it was very tricky with the rain overnight with big puddles out there. You just had to try and alter your track position and try different lines to get the best out of it. Fortunately, I got one good lap in there toward the end that let me be on pole because before that I think I was back in about sixth or seventh. It would have been a bit of a disappointment after a strong performance in testing to qualify back there, but I was able to pull it out, thank God. It's going to be a real tough race between me and Adam (Christodoulou). The Star Mazda cars are actually performing real well under the track conditions, which made it exciting to drive and an exciting qualifying session. So hopefully the crowd here at Autobahn are going to enjoy that."

Lining up alongside Dempsey on the front row will be Englishman Adam Christodoulou. Second-fast in most of the practice sessions, he also turned the second-fastest time during qualifying in the #11 JDC Motorsports / Molecule Mazda, a lap of 2:12.771-sec. (96.527 mph). Starting third will be 2008 Skip Barber champion and MAZDASPEED Motorsports Driver Development Ladder scholarship winner Conor Daly. He turned a lap of 2:12.837-sec. (96.479 mph) in the #22 Andersen Racing / College Network / Indeck / Cytomax Mazda.

Dempsey and Christodoulou are the only two drivers in the series currently who have each won two races (Dempsey with two different teams and on both a road course and an oval). They are

1-2 in the championship battle with just a matter of nine points separating them. Rounding out the top-5 for the traditional Star Mazda Championship standing start – scheduled for 1:00 pm today – are Joel Miller with a lap of 2:13.020-sec. (96.346 mph) in the #2 Andersen Racing / Fader Higher Productions / eSoles / Doug Mockett & Co. Mazda and Anders Krohn (the Scandanavian racer who won on the Milwaukee oval) with a lap of 2:13.248-sec. (96.182 mph) in the #27 Mundill / Trallfa / Colosseum Mazda.

Pos No.	Name	Best Tm	Diff	Best Spd	In Lap	Team	Sponsor
1	3 Peter Dempsey	2:12.465		96.750	8	Juncos Racing	Hooters / Juncos Racing / Motorsports Ireland
2	11 Adam Christodoulou	2:12.771	0.306	96.527	9	JDC Motorsports	Molecule/AlpineStars/Miller Milling Co
3	22 Conor Daly	2:12.837	0.372	96.479	9	Andersen Racing	Indeck/Cytomax/Merchant Services/College Network
4	2 Joel Miller	2:13.020	0.555	96.346	9	Andersen Racing	Fader High Productions/eSoles/Doug Mockett & Co
5	27 Anders Krohn	2:13.248	0.783	96.182	10	Mundill	Trallfa/Colosseum
6	33 Richard Kent	2:13.389	0.924	96.080	8	Andersen Racing	Traka/Allied Interior Products
7	51 Alex Ardoin	2:13.631	1.166	95.906	10	JDC Motorsports	Oral & Facial Surgery Center/Twister Trailer
8	61 Sean Burstyn	2:14.207	1.742	95.494	10	Juncos Racing	The Collection
9	72 Jorge Goncalvez	2:14.489	2.024	95.294	9	Aim Autosport	
10	71 David Ostella	2:14.618	2.153	95.203	10	Aim Autosport	GP Global Precast
11	66 Rusty Mitchell	2:14.842	2.377	95.045	9	Mitchell Motorsports	Motorola
12	19 Caio Lara	2:15.180	2.715	94.807	9	JDC Motorsports	MLD/ATW/Molecule
13	21 Denis Navarro	2:24.301	11.836	88.814	2	Andersen Racing	Navarro Medicines Distribution/Allied
14	30 Rick Rosin	2:25.977	13.512	87.795	2	Team GDT	FundeSporte/Governo Do ESTADO SANTA Catarina
15	13 Michael Furfari	2:27.717	15.252	86.760	2	Juncos Racing	Furfari Paving
16	57 Robert Kaminsky	2:28.723	16.258	86.174	2	Team Apex	
17	16 Chris Cumming	2:29.615	17.150	85.660	2	World Speed Motorsports	Texas World Speedway/Motul Oil/K&N Filters +
18	55 Gerry Kraut	2:30.693	18.228	85.047	2	JDC Motorsports	Doherty and Co./Doherty Funding LLC.
19	65 Ashley Freiberg	2:30.889	18.424	84.937	2	Team GDT	C+D Supply, AKZO NOBEL, AGA Glass
20	31 Carlos Conde	2:33.780	21.315	83.340	2	ASF	MIO.TV
21	91 Michael Guasch	2:38.760	26.295	80.726	2	JDC Motorsports	Molecule
22	80 Toshihiro Deki	2:42.082	29.617	79.071	2	Goshen Motorsports	
23	77 Kevin Toledo	2:46.128	33.663	77.145	1	Eliseo THL Motorsports	

The green flag for Race #1 (Round 8 of the 2009 season) is scheduled for 1:05 pm Saturday afternoon. Qualifying for Race #2 (Round 9 of the 2009 season), takes place 6:35 – 7:20 pm Saturday night, with Race #2 scheduled to start at 1:00 pm Sunday, July 26. Both races will utilize the always-exciting Star Mazda standing start.

This is a double-header weekend for Star Mazda with 1:00 pm races on both Saturday and Sunday broadcast live on HDnet. Also part of the broadcasts will be the Atlantic Championship Powered by Mazda. Air times are 2-3 pm ET (1–3 pm local) on Saturday 7/25 and 1-4 ET (Noon – 3 pm local) Sunday 7/26. Famed racer Elliott Forbes-Robinson is the on-air analyst.

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.atlantic-championship.com www.starmazda.com
www.skipbarber.com www.mx-5cup.com

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