

CONOR DALY QUICKEST IN STAR MAZDA CHAMPIONSHIP FRIDAY PRACTICE 1 FOR THIS WEEKEND'S ROUND 11 AT THE GRAND PRIX OF MOSPORT

Mosport International Raceway (August 28, 2009) – As he was in the first of two Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear test sessions held yesterday, it was MAZDASPEED



Motorsports Driver Development Ladder driver Conor Daly who turned the quick time – a 1:14.914 (118.167 mph vs. 1:15.607 (117.084 mph) yesterday – in his #22 Andersen Racing / College Network / Indeck / Cytomax Mazda. 2.459-mile,

"It's a big balls place, that's for sure," said Daly of the fast and tricky 2.459-mile, 10-turn Mosport road circuit. "I was kind of

surprised to see all the accidents yesterday, particularly since it was a Thursday test day, I didn't expect people to be throwing it off the road yet. Fortunately for me I really like it and I've got so many laps here from running the Canadian formula ford championship last year, so that definitely helps. My car is just fantastic this morning, and that makes it easy to do a quick lap. Having confidence in the car is the biggest thing here. If you can't go into turns 1, 2 and 8 with your foot down -- and with a lot of confidence -- then you won't be fast... that's the key to winning here."

Second in the time sheet was yesterday's fastest running in the afternoon, Richard Kent, who turned a lap of 1:15.258 (117.627 mph) in the #33 Andersen Racing / Traka Allied Interior Products Mazda. Third was Joel Miller, with a lap of 1:15.678 (116.975 mph) in his #2 Andersen Racing / Fader Higher Productions / eSoles / Doug Mockett & Co. Mazda. Series championship points leader Peter Dempsey was 4th-fast in his #3 Juncos Racing / The Collection / Motorsport Ireland / Queyside.ie Mazda, turning a lap of 1:15.731 (116.893 mph).

Master Series racer Gerry Kraut improved his time by nearly one second to post a 1:17.635 (114.026 mph) in his #55 JDC Motorsports / Dougherty & Co. / Dougherty Funding LLC Mazda – good for 15th-fast overall. The quickest Expert Series driver (ages 30-44) was Toshihiro Deki,

turning a 17-th fast 1:20.573 (109.868 mph) in his #80 Juncos Racing Mazda – a bit off the pace, but still five seconds faster than his best time of yesterday.

STAR MAZDA FRIDAY PRACTICE 1

Pos N	lo.	Name	Best Tm	Diff	Best Spd	In Lap	Team	Sponsor
1	22	Conor Daly	1:14.914		118.167	14	Andersen Racing	Indeck/Cytomax/Merchant Services/College Network
2	33	Richard Kent	1:15.258	0.344	117.627	14	Andersen Racing	Traka/Allied Interior Products
3	2	Joel Miller	1:15.678	0.764	116.975	13	Andersen Racing	Fader High Productions/eSoles/Doug Mockett & Co
4	3	Peter Dempsey	1:15.731	0.817	116.893	13	Juncos Racing	Hooters / Juncos Racing / Motorsports Ireland
5	72	Jorge Goncalvez	1:15.877	0.963	116.668	15	Aim Autosport	
6	27	Anders Krohn	1:15.885	0.971	116.655	16	Mundill	Trallfa/Colosseum
7	71	David Ostella	1:15.982	1.068	116.507	13	Aim Autosport	GP Global Precast
8	51	Alex Ardoin	1:16.100	1.186	116.326	14	JDC Motorsports	Oral & Facial Surgery Center/Twister Trailer
9	21	Denis Navarro	1:16.195	1.281	116.181	14	Andersen Racing	Navarro Medicines Distribution/Allied
10	11	Adam Christodoulou	1:16.268	1.354	116.070	10	JDC Motorsports	Molecule/AlpineStars/Miller Milling Co
11	66	Rusty Mitchell	1:16.297	1.383	116.026	12	Mitchell Motorsports	Motorola
12	19	Caio Lara	1:16.346	1.432	115.951	13	JDC Motorsports	MLD/ATW/Molecule
13	77	Kevin Toledo	1:16.873	1.959	115.156	13	Eliseo THL Motorsports	
14	13	Michael Furfari	1:17.345	2.431	114.453	15	Mundill	Furfari Paving
15	55	Gerry Kraut	1:17.635	2.721	114.026	13	JDC Motorsports	Doherty and Co./Doherty Funding LLC.
16	91	Michael Guasch	1:17.909	2.995	113.625	17	JDC Motorsports	Molecule
17	80	Toshihiro Deki	1:20.573	5.659	109.868	13	Juncos Racing	
18	23	Walt Bowlin	1:22.800	7.886	106.913	8	Mundill	Hooters/Tampa Bay Jaw Surger

About The Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear

For 2009, the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear (<u>www.starmazda.com</u>) will feature an 11-weekend, 13-race schedule on major race weekends with American Le Mans,

Grand-Am, the Atlantic Championship, NASCAR Nationwide and Craftsman Truck Series. Prize money is \$1.5 million, including a fully-funded drive in the 2010 Atlantic Championship. Drivers 16 and older are welcome to compete and the Star Mazda Championship also features Expert (30 to 44) and Master (45 and older) classes for more mature racers. The Star Mazda Championship features standing starts, wheel-to-wheel racing at 150 mph and budgets a fraction of other top open-wheel ladder series. For drivers interested in competing in the series, detailed information is available at <u>www.starmazda.com/newdriver</u>.

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

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.skipbarber.com

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

Dean Case / Communications Officer / MAZDASPEED Motorsports (310) 318-4582 / E-mail: MAZDASPEED@MazdaUSA.com

