



ROUND 12 OF THE STAR MAZDA CHAMPIONSHIP PRESENTED BY GOODYEAR AT THE PETIT LE MANS POWERED BY MAZDA6 – THURSDAY PRACTICE RESULTS



Road Atlanta / Sept. 24 2009 – As he has done in the previous three sessions, Peter 'The Irish Steamroller' Dempsey set the fast time in the final practice session prior to this afternoon's qualifying session to set the grid for Round 12 of the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear at the Petit Le Mans Powered by MAZDA6 at Road Atlanta. His quick time of 1:19.438 in #3 Juncos Racing / The Collection / Motorsport Ireland / Queyside.ie Mazda was well shy of the 1:18.328 track record he set in

qualifying for the pole at last year's race here, but it was still almost 4/10ths of quicker than the 2nd-quickest car in the final session, Richard Kent, who turned a 1:19.810 in the #33 Andersen Racing / Traka Allied Interior Products Mazda.

The top-10 drivers all turned times within 1-second of each other around the 2.54-mile, 12-turn Road Atlanta road course. A merge of the times from the previous two practice sessions will be used to divide the 20-car field into two groups for this afternoon's qualifying session.

Leading the fast group is Dempsey, followed by Conor Daly, who was 4th-fast in this morning's session but 2nd-fast overall with a 1:19.765, set during the Wednesday session in his #22 Andersen Racing / College Network / Indeck / Cytomax Mazda. Richard Kent was 3rd-fast on the merged time sheet, followed by Rusty Mitchell, turning a 1:19.810 in the #66 Mitchell Motorsports / Motorola Mazda. Rounding out the top-5 is Joel Miller with a lap of 1:19.815 in the #2 Andersen Racing / Doug Mockett & Co. / Allied Interior Products Mazda.

"We're working extremely hard, the whole team has pulled itself together to try and give me the best car possible," said Dempsey, winner of four races and three pole positions so far this year. "We had a good session yesterday and were able to pull a little bit of a gap on P2, and this morning the car was just perfect and we were able to get a bit more distance. And I didn't have to push it all the way to do it, which is good because I know I still have a couple of tenths left for qualifying. Hopefully everyone else was pushing it to the limit. But the whole key is to never take your eye off the ball and focus completely on winning the pole and gaining that extra point toward the championship."

Among the Master (45 and older) and Expert (ages 30-44) Series drivers, Gerry Kraut, the co-owner of JDC Motorsports, was 15th-fast in the overall merge with a lap of 1:21.006 in his #55 JDC Motorsports / Dougherty & Co. / Dougherty Funding LLC Mazda. Chris Cumming, the 2008 Expert Series Champion, turned 16th-fast overall lap of 1:21.191 on Lap 11 in his #16 World

Speed Motorsports Mazda. Qualifying to set the grid for the always-exciting Star Mazda 'standing start' will take place from 2:20 – 3:05 pm Thursday, Sept. 24. Immediately afterward, drivers participating in the Racing for Kids program will visit the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Scottish Rite (1001 Johnson Ferry Road NE) at 4:15 pm. The Star Mazda Championship field will take the green light for the 45-minute Round 12 of the 2009 season at 5:30 pm Friday, Sept. 25. Round 13, the season finale, takes place at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca on October 10.

Pos No.	Name	Best Tm	Diff	Best Spd	In Lap	Team	Sponsor
1	3 Peter Dempsey	1:19.438		115.109	9	Juncos Racing	Juncos Racing / The Collection / Motorsports Ireland
2	33 Richard Kent	1:19.810	0.372	114.572	8	Andersen Racing	Traka/Allied Interior Products
3	2 Joel Miller	1:19.815	0.377	114.565	17	Andersen Racing	Allied Interior Products/Doug Mockett & Co
4	22 Conor Daly	1:19.936	0.498	114.392	11	Andersen Racing	Indeck/Cytomax/Merchant Services/College Network
5	27 Anders Krohn	1:19.989	0.551	114.316	16	Mundill	Trallfa/Colosseum
6	30 Rick Rosin	1:20.144	0.706	114.095	5	Team GDT	FundeSporte/Governo Do ESTADO SANTA Catarina
7	66 Rusty Mitchell	1:20.291	0.853	113.886	7	Mitchell Motorsports	Motorola
8	11 Adam Christodoulou	1:20.292	0.854	113.884	7	JDC Motorsports	Molecule/AlpineStars/Miller Milling Co
9	72 Jorge Goncalvez	1:20.340	0.902	113.816	19	Aim Autosport	
10	51 Alex Ardoin	1:20.419	0.981	113.704	17	JDC Motorsports	Oral & Facial Surgery Center/Twister Trailer
11	71 David Ostella	1:20.482	1.044	113.615	18	Aim Autosport	GP Global Precast
12	21 Denis Navarro	1:20.536	1.098	113.539	7	Andersen Racing	Navarro Medicines Distribution/Allied
13	19 Caio Lara	1:20.626	1.188	113.413	12	JDC Motorsports	MLD/ATW/Molecule
14	13 Michael Furfari	1:20.844	1.406	113.107	4	Mundill	Furfari Paving
15	55 Gerry Kraut	1:21.006	1.568	112.881	19	JDC Motorsports	Dougherty and Co./Dougherty Funding LLC.
16	85 Chris Miller	1:21.250	1.812	112.542	10	JDC Motorsports	Miller Milling Company
17	16 Chris Cumming	1:21.523	2.085	112.165	17	World Speed Motorsports	Texas World Speedway/Motul Oil/K&N Filters +
18	77 Kevin Toledo	1:21.710	2.272	111.908	5	Eliseo THL Motorsports	www.Thl.cl/Chile
19	80 Toshihiro Deki	1:22.323	2.885	111.075	12	Juncos Racing	
20	23 Walt Bowlin	1:28.877	9.439	102.884	10	Mundill	Hooters/Tampa Bay Jaw Surgery