



## CONOR DALY QUICKEST IN DAY 1 OF STAR MAZDA CHAMPIONSHIP PRACTICE AT MAZDA RACEWAY LAGUNA SECA



Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca, CA – As has become his habit of late, Indianapolis racer Conor Daly set the fastest time during two 40-minute practice sessions as the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear geared up for Round Three of the 2010 season this weekend at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca. Turning a lap of 1:21.395 in his #22 Juncos Racing / INDECK / The College Network / Merchant

Services Ltd. / Tom Lange Co. Mazda, Daly completed something of a hat trick over the past few weeks. Not only did he win Round Two in the Grand Prix of St. Petersburg, meaning he comes to Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca this weekend as the championship points leader, but he also set the quickest time in two days of testing at O'Reilly Raceway Park in preparation for next weekend's Round Four, the 'Night Before the 500.' And in the middle of it all, he managed to graduate from Heritage Christian High School on May 14.

"There a lot going on right now, but I'm learning to take what energy I can from it, and put the rest away in a compartment in my mind and focus on each day at the track," says Daly, who finished 4th in this event last year on his way to a 3rd-place finish in the championship. "The Juncos Racing team is running really smoothly right now, we hit our setups early and I always feel comfortable in the cars they give me. These next two weeks are going to be a dream for me because I'm confident we can do well at this track, and then it's on to the first oval of the season... in my home town, in front of all my family, friends, sponsors and classmates. It's going to be a blast."

Setting the second-fast time, in the first session of the day, was Tristan Vautier who won the season-opener at Sebring driving the #38 Andersen Racing / Moulin TP / Cecibon / Circuit du Laquais Mazda. His 1:21.864 was just under half a second slower, but there's plenty more to come from this quick young Frenchman. Daly and Vautier were the only two drivers to crack the 21s in the first day of practice; third quick was Anders 'The Viking' Krohn, who won on the Milwaukee Mile last year and finished 6th in the championship. Changing teams in the off-

season, he sat on the pole at Sebring, has scored two top-5 finishes and is third in the points battle coming into this weekend. He turned a lap of 1:22.076 driving his #47 Andersen Racing / Norse Cutting & Abandonment / Trallfa / Colosseum Mazda.

Rounding out the top-5 were Quebec racer Mikael Grenier with a lap of 1:22.263 in the #17 Andersen Racing / NAPA Auto Parts / CAA-Quebec/HS Telecom Mazda and Brazilian driver Caio Lara, who set a lap of 1:22.461 in his #19 JDC Motorsports / MLD / ATW Mazda. Connor De Phillippi, the 2009 Skip Barber Pro Series champion and winner of the MAZDASPEED Motorsports Driver Development Scholarship was 7th-fast with a lap of 1:22.665 in the #11 JDC Motorsports / **MAZDASPEED** Motorsports / Skip Barber Mazda. In fact, once you get away from the two quick guys at the top of the time sheet, the next ten cars in the field are separated by just one second.

Pos No.	Name	Overall BestTm	In Session	Sponsor
1	22 Conor Daly	1:21.395	Practice 2	INDECK, The College Network, Merchant Services Ltd., Tom Lang Co.
2	38 Tristan Vautier	1:21.864	Practice 1	Moulin TP, Cecibon, Circuit du Laquais, Fontanel
3	47 Anders Krohn	1:22.076	Practice 2	Norse Cutting and Abandonment, Trallfa Industries, Colosseum
4	17 Mikael Grenier	1:22.263	Practice 2	NAPA Auto Parts, CAA-Quebec, HS Telecom
5	19 Caio Lara	1:22.461	Practice 2	MLD, ATW
6	18 Joao Horto	1:22.641	Practice 2	Wabash Capital Investments
7	11 Connor De Phillippi	1:22.665	Practice 2	Mazdaspeed Motorsports, Skip Barber
8	9 Jorge Goncalvez	1:22.693	Practice 1	Wabash Capital Investments
9	16 David Ostella	1:22.889	Practice 2	GP Global Precast
10	64 Patrick O'Neill	1:23.227	Practice 2	O'Neill Construction
11	66 Rusty Mitchell	1:23.296	Practice 2	Motorola, Petro Comm.
12	85 Chris Miller	1:23.300	Practice 2	Miller Milling, Red Line Oil
13	29 Phil Fogg	1:24.114	Practice 2	
14	25 Tatiana Calderon	1:24.312	Practice 2	Kia Motors
15	65 JW Roberts	1:24.824	Practice 1	General Data Tech
16	28 Juan Piedrahita	1:25.169	Practice 2	Petro Sur, GFK Motors
17	55 Gerry Kraut	1:25.220	Practice 1	Dougherty and Co./Dougherty Funding LLC.
18	15 Frank McCormick	1:25.943	Practice 1	

On-track action at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca continues with morning and afternoon practice sessions on Friday, May 21. Qualifying takes place from 9:20 am to 10:05 am Saturday, May 22 with the 45 minute Round 3 of the 2010 Star Mazda Championship scheduled to take the green light for the Series' traditional standing start at 9:15 am Sunday, May 23.

#### **About Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear**

For 2010, the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear will feature an 11-weekend, 13-race schedule, most on major race weekends with American Le Mans and the Indy Racing League.

Rising stars from around the world will compete for prizes valued at \$1.5 million and benefit from two driver development programs, including the MAZDASPEED Motorsports Driver Development Ladder and the Indy Racing League's 'Road to Indy' program. Series alumni include Indy Car stars Marco Andretti, Graham Rahal and Raphael Matos, rising NASCAR drivers Michael McDowell, Scott Speed and Colin Braun and prototype racers Dane Cameron and Guy Cosmo. 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 more information on the Star Mazda Championship please visit [www.starmazda.com](http://www.starmazda.com). Selected Star Mazda Championship races are broadcast on HDnet and syndicated through a variety of international, national and regional networks. Information on the TV schedule can be found at [www.MazdaRacing.tv](http://www.MazdaRacing.tv). Additional information, including search links and affiliates, can be found at the 'TV Information' link on the Series web site.

---

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).

---

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.usf2000.com](http://www.usf2000.com)

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

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

Dean Case / Communications Officer / MAZDASPEED Motorsports

(310) 318-4582 / E-mail: [MAZDASPEED@MazdaUSA.com](mailto:MAZDASPEED@MazdaUSA.com)

