



PRE-RACE PRACTICE FOR ROUNDS 6 & 7 OF THE 2010 STAR MAZDA CHAMPIONSHIP AT NEW JERSEY MOTORSPORTS PARK WRAP UP WITH CONOR DALY IN THE LEAD

New Jersey Motorsports Park (June 25, 2010) – On a day both cooler, if only a bit, and relatively free of kinetic drama, it was the familiar green-and-white #22 Juncos Racing / INDECK / The College Network / Merchant Services Ltd. Mazda of Conor Daly leading the time sheets in both morning and afternoon sessions.



The quick times came in the morning session, with Daly turning a 1:15.204 (103.877 mph), an improvement of 7/10ths on his quick time from Thursday, but still shy of the official lap record of 1:14.744 set in qualifying for Race #2 last year by Englishman Richard Kent, who won from the pole. The track got slower in the afternoon, with Daly slipping to a 1:15.610 (103.320 mph); he was, however, the only car in the 15s in the afternoon, while the top-4 all came in

under the 1:16 mark in the morning.

French racer Tristan Vautier led most of the afternoon session in his #38 Andersen Racing / Moulin TP / Cecibon / Circuit du Laquais Mazda, until Daly pitted for new tires and promptly knocked a second off his lap time. Quick runners during the day included Norwegian driver Anders 'The Viking' Krohn with a 2nd-quick time of 1:15.700 (103.197 mph) in his #47 Andersen Racing / Norse Cutting & Abandonment / Trallfa / Colosseum Mazda and Brazilian Joao Victor Horto, piloting the #18 Team Apex / Wabash Capital Investments Mazda to a 3rd-fast lap of 1:15.792 (103.072 mph). Rounding out the top-5 were Texan Rusty Mitchell with a 1:15.974 (102.825 mph) in his #66 Juncos Racing / Motorola / Petro Communications / HRP Racing Products / Texas Autosports Mazda and Quebec driver Mikael Grenier, just outside the 1:15 mark with a 1:16.164 (102.568 mph) in his #17 Andersen Racing / Slow Cow / April Super Flow / NAPA Auto Parts / HS Telecom / Desharnais Mazda.

Among the Expert Series (ages 30-44) drivers, Californian Patrick O'Neill stepped up his game with a 1:17.220 (101.166 mph) in his #64 JDC Motorsports / O'Neill Construction Mazda, a time good for 12th-fast overall. In the Master Series (45 and older), North Oaks, Minnesota racer Gerry Kraut was 16th-fast with a 1:17.906 (100.275 mph) in the #55 JDC Motorsports / Dougherty & Co. / Dougherty Funding LLC Mazda.

The tale of the race, both races actually, may well be told in qualifying. Both Saturday and Sunday are expected to be brutally hot and humid. Qualifying for both weekend races takes place in the morning, and the race takes place in the afternoon. And the New Jersey Motorsports Park track is, shall we say, not noted for its opportunities to overtake. The Star Mazda Championship races at NJMP last year were not a complete parade – the gods of luck and machines will have their laughs – but it is safe to say that, barring chance, the better you qualify, the better you finish. This could be said of any track, but it is something to consider when figuring the odds. Physical conditioning may well also play a part; even though Star Mazda Championship races are 'only' 45 minutes long, the drivers take a thorough beating during those minutes, and it's likely the strong – and well-hydrated – will prosper.

Pos No.	Name	Best Tm	Best Speed	In Lap	Diff	Sponsor
1	22 Conor Daly	1:15.204	103.877	17		INDECK, The College Network, Merchant Services Ltd., Tom Lang Co.
2	47 Anders Krohn	1:15.700	103.197	22	0.496	Norse Cutting and Abandonment, Trallfa Industries, Colosseum
3	18 Joao Horto	1:15.792	103.072	21	0.588	Wabash Capital Investments
4	66 Rusty Mitchell	1:15.974	102.825	13	0.770	Motorola, Petro Comm.
5	17 Mikael Grenier	1:16.164	102.568	19	0.960	Slow Cow, April Super Flow, NAPA Auto Parts, HS Telecom, Desharnais
6	38 Tristan Vautier	1:16.223	102.489	16	1.019	Moulin TP, Cecibon, Circuit du Laquais, Fontanel
7	9 Jorge Goncalvez	1:16.280	102.412	26	1.076	Wabash Capital Investments
8	11 Connor De Phillippi	1:16.341	102.330	5	1.137	Mazdaspeed Motorsports, Skip Barber
9	16 David Ostella	1:16.811	101.704	21	1.607	GP Global Precast
10	20 Carlos Linares	1:16.914	101.568	21	1.710	IND
11	28 Juan Piedrahita	1:17.029	101.416	18	1.825	Petro Sur, GFK Motors
12	64 Patrick O'Neill	1:17.220	101.166	23	2.016	O'Neill Construction
13	85 Chris Miller	1:17.321	101.033	18	2.117	Miller Milling, Red Line Oil
14	25 Tatiana Calderon	1:17.367	100.973	24	2.163	JAC Motors
15	19 Caio Lara	1:17.416	100.909	4	2.212	MLD/ATW/Molecule
16	55 Gerry Kraut	1:17.906	100.275	14	2.702	Dougherty and Co./Dougherty Funding LLC.
17	81 Nick Andries	1:18.068	100.067	15	2.864	Indy 500/ American Icon Team Pelfrey
18	72 Larry Pegram	1:18.243	99.843	15	3.039	Tampa Bay Jaw Surgery / Foremost Insurance
19	31 Carlos Conde	1:19.073	98.795	14	3.869	Pronto-GMT, Olympus Securities
20	23 Walt Bowlin	1:19.101	98.760	17	3.897	Tampa Bay Jaw Surgery
21	65 J.W. Roberts	1:19.381	98.411	27	4.177	General Data Tech
22	37 Dom Bastien		-	0		Andersen Race Park

All the racing action this weekend at New Jersey Motorsports Park, including the Star Mazda Championship, the Cooper Tires Presents USF2000 National Championship powered by Mazda, Mazda MX-5 Cup, IMSA Prototype Lites and the Patron GT3Challenge, will be broadcast live on HDnet. The pre-race show takes place 12:30 pm – 1:00 pm, and 1:00pm – 4:00 pm will be live coverage of the Playboy Mazda MX 5 Cup, USF2000, and The Star Mazda/Visit Florida Cup. All times are Eastern. Rick Benjamin will call the play-by-play, and a pair of well-known racers, Johnny O'Connell (USF2000 and Star Mazda) and Elliott Forbes-Robinson (Mazda MX-5 Cup) will be the on-air analysts. Todd Lewis will be the pit reporter. In addition to the live broadcast, both Playboy Mazda MX 5 Cup races and one of the two Star Mazda Championship races will be cable syndicated across the USA, Canada and worldwide.

The NJMP weekend is part of the partnership between **MAZDASPEED** and VISIT FLORIDA that includes the 5-weekend, 7-race VISIT FLORIDA Cup, a championship-within-a-championship in which the driver scoring the most points during the five VISIT FLORIDA weekends will win both the VISIT FLORIDA Cup and a personalized Florida dream vacation.

Qualifying for Race #1 takes place from 9:45 am – 10:30 am Saturday, June 26. The traditional Star Mazda standing start gets the green light at 3:00 pm Saturday afternoon. Qualifying for Race #2 is from 9:05 am – 9:50 am Sunday, June 27 with the race start scheduled for 3:05 pm that afternoon.

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. 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. 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 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.usf2000.com

www.skipbarber.com

www.mx-5cup.com

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