



**PIGOT SWEEPS ALL FOUR SESSIONS OF STAR MAZDA TEST ON F1 CIRCUIT AT IMS –
FOUR DRIVERS, ALL WITH DIFFERENT TEAMS, UNDER THE TRACK RECORD**

Indianapolis Motor Speedway / October 11, 2012 – With temperatures rising in the afternoon session – all the way up to 59 degrees – lap times for drivers participating in the Star Mazda Championship presented



by Goodyear portion of the second annual Chris Griffis Memorial Mazda Road to Indy Open Test on the IMS F1 circuit, were on average half a second slower than in the morning where four drivers – Spencer Pigot, Renan Guerra, Matt Brabham (left) and Kyle Kaiser were under the Star Mazda IMS track record set at this test last year by 2012 series champion Jack Hawksworth.

That said, even on a slipperier track, it was again USF2000 standout Pigot who set the quick time, a 1:25.295, just over 3/10ths quicker than West Coast Formula Car Challenge racer Kaiser. Rounding out the top-5 were South American GT racer Guerra, 2012 USF2000 champion Brabham and Finnish racer Antti Buri, the 2012 UK Formula Ford champion who won his test as part of the Mazda Road to Indy scholarship program.

Without ever-lowering lap times to talk about, it's still worth noting that all of the top-5 drivers were driving for different teams; Team Pelfrey, World Speed Motorsports, Juncos Racing and Andretti Autosport. It seem clear that, despite the seeming dominance of Team Pelfrey and Jack Hawksworth in the 2012 season, Star Mazda's equivalency formula has produced a number of top teams capable of running fast with the right driver at the wheel.

"I can't really talk about my plans for next season in Star Mazda right now, but this was a tremendous learning experience for me and obviously the Andretti Autosport team is an impressive team," says Brabham, who will be joining the Star Mazda Championship grid in 2013 with scholarship funding from the Mazda Road to Indy. "I wasn't expecting the Star Mazda to be so powerful in comparison to my USF2000 car, and the sequential shifting took a bit of getting used to, but I felt comfortable in the car and with some more seat time, I'm sure Spencer, my teammate from last year, and I will take up our head-to-head battle again at the first race."





Star Mazda Session 1 / Wednesday Morning

Pos	PIC No.	Name	Best Tm	Best Speed	In Lap	Diff	Gap
1	1	81 Spencer Pigot	1:27.405	103.546	21		
2	2	77 Shelby Blackstock	1:27.598	103.317	23	0.193	0.193
3	3	2 Renan Guerra	1:28.518	102.244	20	1.113	0.920
4	4	97 Juan Camillo Acosta	1:29.031	101.654	25	1.626	0.513
5	5	83 Luca Orlandi	1:29.477	101.148	27	2.072	0.446
6	6	16 Jose Carlos Sandoval	1:30.450	100.060	27	3.045	0.973
7	7	33 Francisco Cerullo	1:30.497	100.008	21	3.092	0.047
8	8	53 Andres Mendez	1:30.517	99.986	26	3.112	0.020
9	9	22 Julia Vallario	1:33.278	97.026	22	5.873	2.761
10	10	82 Chris Yano	1:33.533	96.762	19	6.128	0.255
11	11	48 Patrick Linn	1:34.486	95.786	23	7.081	0.953

Star Mazda Session 2 / Wednesday Afternoon

Pos	PIC No.	Name	Best Tm	Best Speed	In Lap	Diff	Gap
1	1	81 Spencer Pigot	1:25.603	105.725	25		
2	2	77 Shelby Blackstock	1:26.062	105.161	27	0.459	0.459
3	3	18 Kyle Kaiser	1:26.293	104.880	30	0.690	0.231
4	4	2 Renan Guerra	1:26.423	104.722	34	0.820	0.130
5	5	97 Juan Camillo Acosta	1:26.812	104.253	28	1.209	0.389
6	6	33 Francisco Cerullo	1:27.360	103.599	13	1.757	0.548
7	7	83 Luca Orlandi	1:27.489	103.446	32	1.886	0.129
8	8	16 Jose Carlos Sandoval	1:27.799	103.081	30	2.196	0.310
9	9	53 Andres Mendez	1:28.164	102.654	31	2.561	0.365
10	10	22 Julia Vallario	1:29.345	101.297	34	3.742	1.181
11	11	82 Chris Yano	1:30.194	100.344	28	4.591	0.849
12	12	48 Patrick Linn	1:31.006	99.448	24	5.403	0.812

Session 3 / Thursday Morning

Pos	PIC No.	Name	Best Tm	Best Speed	In Lap	Diff	Gap
1	1	81 Spencer Pigot	1:24.859	106.652	19		
2	2	2 Renan Guerra	1:25.027	106.441	24	0.168	0.168
3	3	77 Matthew Brabham	1:25.119	106.326	14	0.260	0.092
4	4	18 Kyle Kaiser	1:25.380	106.001	25	0.521	0.261
5	5	16 Antti Buri	1:25.688	105.620	29	0.829	0.308
6	6	83 Luca Orlandi	1:26.266	104.913	25	1.407	0.578
7	7	97 Juan Camillo Acosta	1:26.295	104.877	28	1.436	0.029
8	8	22 Julia Vallario	1:26.948	104.090	22	2.089	0.653
9	9	33 Andre Solano	1:27.089	103.921	32	2.230	0.141
10	10	53 Andres Mendez	1:27.237	103.745	29	2.378	0.148
11	11	82 Chris Yano	1:28.853	101.858	27	3.994	1.616
12	12	48 Patrick Linn	1:29.565	101.048	26	4.706	0.712





Star Mazda Session 4 / Thursday Afternoon

Pos	PIC No.	Name	Best Tm	Best Speed	In Lap	Diff	Gap
1	1	81 Spencer Pigot	1:25.295	106.107	24		
2	2	18 Kyle Kaiser	1:25.634	105.687	31	0.339	0.339
3	3	2 Renan Guerra	1:25.658	105.657	30	0.363	0.024
4	4	77 Matthew Brabham	1:25.872	105.394	18	0.577	0.214
5	5	16 Antti Buri	1:25.935	105.317	30	0.640	0.063
6	6	33 Andre Solano	1:26.642	104.457	20	1.347	0.707
7	7	83 Luca Orlandi	1:26.764	104.311	30	1.469	0.122
8	8	22 Julia Vallario	1:26.765	104.309	33	1.470	0.001
9	9	97 Juan Camillo Acosta	1:27.039	103.981	11	1.744	0.274
10	10	53 Andres Mendez	1:27.684	103.216	24	2.389	0.645
11	11	48 Patrick Linn	1:29.144	101.526	31	3.849	1.460
12	12	82 Chris Yano	1:29.628	100.977	26	4.333	0.484

In addition to the rookies getting their first taste of a Star Mazda race car, it was instructive to watch the drivers testing in the Indy Light category. Nine of the twelve drivers are either current Star Mazda competitors or recent graduates of the series. Current driver Zach Veach was waging a battle royal with graduates Peter Dempsey and Mikael Grenier for the top time, with Sage Karam and Gabby Chaves filling out the top-5 in the final session. Martin Scuncio and Diego Ferreria are also current Star Mazda racers, and graduates include David Ostella and Jorge Goncalvez.

With the pot thoroughly stirred for the beginning of next season, there still remains the season finale of the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear to be run. Teams will be packing up and leaving Indianapolis and driving to Road Atlanta where the drivers will perform on one of the biggest stages in all of racing, the Petit Le Mans. On-track action begins with a promoter test day on Tuesday, and the final Star Mazda race of the 2012 season will take place on Friday, Oct. 19, 3:45—4:35 pm. The race will be broadcast as part of the Mazda Motorsports Hour on the Velocity channel in the U.S. and globally on ESPN International. Click [here](#) for information about air dates and times.

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, please contact Star Mazda Communications Director Peter Frey at (818) 398-5733 or StarMazdaPR@aol.com. Follow the series at <http://www.twitter.com/starmazdaseries> <http://www.facebook.com/starmazdaseries> and live timing at <http://starmazda.com/timing>

