



10 January 2005

To all Star FM and FM Pro Racers,

Happy New Year! The 2005 series info is included here. The pro car televised series info is first, then the two West series for both standard and pro cars follow. There will be an updated name and logo for the series we have been calling the "North American Championship" for the last few years. The name will now be the "Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear." The new logo is going into use immediately, and the artwork and embroidery program will be available through the website ([www.starmazda.com](http://www.starmazda.com)), through the Series office, or through Star Race Car dealers. Uniform patches are being made and will be available in approximately a month.

For quick access to updates of all kinds, check the "competitor's page" on the web site. All the latest info, especially servicing and compliance stuff, will be posted there regularly. It should serve as a good reference during the season. There is a "free" offer explained there now, from REM surface treatment, for pro series cars. Those who wish to participate can get 10 pairs of change gears for the FTR treated for "free," if you agree to run the REM decals on both sides of your car and cooperate in evaluating the effects of the treatment. Note: REM is legal for pro cars only; standard FM's are prohibited from using it. There is also some useful information about a small internal mod to the FTR diff, to aid in lubrication. This was suggested by Craig Taylor, and approved by Hewland. Drawings are available from us, your dealer, or Craig. The "factory team" has published the set up sheets from the championship winner's car there, as well. We are sure some of you will be interested to compare notes for the various tracks. McDowell's data traces will also be available there soon. Check out info on St Pete. It is going to be a very special event.

There are two CD Rom's available through Star Race Car Dealers. One is a parts list for the Pro FM car; the other is a comprehensive presentation of the Renesis motor and systems, including the Motec ECU. It shows the complete theory of the Renesis, along with procedures for diagnosis. The latest firmware from Motec now permits verification that all of the intake runners are switching around as programmed and all of the solenoids and actuators are behaving correctly. If you did not get the CD, you can order it.

Enclosed you will find the 2005 Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear rules, and the latest supplemental regulations. Also you will find the 2005 schedule has a nice surprise. The location of the June 11<sup>th</sup> race has changed to Montreal with Formula One. More about that further on.

You will find a sign up form for Star Mazda VIP food service, which will take place in a new, larger Series sponsored enclosure. Drivers, crews, and sponsors are invited to participate. Breakfast and lunch will be served to those

with the proper credentials each day Formula Mazda cars are scheduled to be on track. For Sebring, that will be Tuesday through Friday. Cost for catering is \$19 per person, per day. Two sets of armbands will be provided with each entry at no extra charge. Use the form to sign up additional team members.

Food service will include: Continental Breakfast with coffee, cereal, milk, fruit juice, bread, pastries, donuts and fresh fruit. Also included will be a full hot lunch with: two salads, pasta, meat, veggies, and dessert. Cold drinks will be available all day, every day, as long as you are wearing the correct wristband for that particular day. Participants must sign up in advance to get the required wristbands. No meals will be sold at the Series hospitality enclosure. If you are wearing the correct band, you eat and drink "free" all day.

The series registration and medical forms are here. Among other things, we use these to assign permanent car numbers for the year. You can call or email Tony Rodrigues to confirm your number at (818) 686-3350, or [Tony@starmazda.com](mailto:Tony@starmazda.com). IMSA driver and crew license forms can be downloaded from IMSA's website ([www.imsaracing.net](http://www.imsaracing.net)). Do not procrastinate. It is very easy, but you must do it in advance. The event entry form this year lets you pre enter as many races as you wish, as far in advance as you like. This was a common request last year, so we are going to give it a try. There is even a discount if you enter all twelve at once, and you will never have a late fee. Also, there is an official's contact directory included here for easy reference.

Back to racing in Montreal with Formula 1. This will require some special procedures, due to the peculiarities of the Formula 1 format. There will be no testing on Ile Notre Dame, and just two, 40 minute long, open practices. Starting positions will be determined by Championship point standings after Mid Ohio. At that time we will have four races completed, so it should be representative of what you can do. The normal 1 point for winning pole will be awarded to the Series driver with the fastest race lap at Montreal, so the points total will equal the usual number. Watch for the supp regs on this event, Formula 1 is very strict about some things, "only the Series hat may be worn on the podium." "No one may stay overnight in the paddock," and so on. Montreal is a beautiful city and this will certainly be a memorable event.

As we announced at the 2004 awards banquet, all 12 races in 2005 will be one hour broadcasts on speed channel. There will be more opportunities, with the expanded program format, to show features about drivers, teams, and "track facts."

This year there will be some additional contingency and year end awards. Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to all the Series sponsors who help us help you. The people at Mazda and Goodyear have been a pleasure to work with. Bosch, BBS, Motec, VP Fuel, Alcon, and Hawk have all been key contributors to our growth. If you meet any of these people, in the paddock or at any other time, do not miss the chance to say thanks. They make the show happen.

You are reminded that Mazda has generously offered to give access to their employee discount program, or "S" plan, for Star Mazda Racers. If you are thinking about purchasing a new Mazda, this is the best way to do it. You take the certificate to any Mazda dealer, pick out a car, and get the Mazda employee

discount. Several of us have taken advantage of this offer. Just go to the Mazdaspeed link on mazdausa.com. Steve Sanders' staff will help you get the certificate.

The info for the West Series is also attached. Standard FM's, with or without the 4 port conversion, will have their own Series and prizes. Pro FM's will have a Series, running the same places on the same weekends. Star Race Cars will support every event. All of the races are regional. The best 9 results of the 11 scheduled races will count for Series drivers. If anything is not clear after you read the schedule and rules, feel free to call our offices, (818) 686 3350. If you know of any new owners of FMs that may not be on our mailing list, suggest they call or e-mail us, so we can add them on. Based on our telephone traffic, it looks like the West Series will see several new faces this year.

See you at the races!

Sincerely,

Gary E. Rodrigues