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To: All Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear Teams

From: Gary Rodrigues / Star Mazda Championship

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Re: We have been working hard over the last several weeks and months on many projects and questions which we would like to update you on at this time, since the season is approaching rapidly. Full details will be published soon, much of it in the next few days. In the meantime, we are sending this out as a “heads up”, hoping to make the preparations for the 2008 racing season a little smoother for you.

1) Radial tires – Goodyear has been working feverishly to keep their commitment for 2008 and what they have done for preliminary testing has been impressive. To stamp out one rumor, no team has gotten any of the new Goodyears. They do not yet exist in final form.

2) Sebring open test - There will be an “open test” at Sebring with all teams invited to send observers, 28 and 29 January 08. Several variations of the new radial design will be tested in behalf of the Series by two cars and two drivers, staffed and managed by Series personnel and Goodyear engineers. There will be a run group for any Star Mazda cars that want to run (5 hours over the two days). VP fuel will be arranged for all who let us know they intend to run. Arrange for whatever tires you need. The radials will not go into production until after the test on the 29th, so forget trying the new tires just yet. You are welcome to watch, ask questions and make comments, plus test your own car on the Sebring 12 Hour course. Note: all drivers in the test group will need to have 2008 IMSA licenses.

3) New drivetrain parts for standing starts – NONE. There have been hundreds of test launches done with standard parts, as currently supplied on the pro FM. There have been no failures and no indications requiring re-engineering. We have considered clutch options, but there is currently no indication of a need.

4) Wings – Most of you have commented about various problems with consistency in manufacture and availability of the wings we have been using. After considering the options, we have decided to make the wing package we had intended to introduce in 2009 available as an option one year ahead of schedule. The new wing package resolves the questions of consistent quality and construction, as well as availability. No one will be required to use the new wings, so people doing one offs can run the cars as they are. However, the new wings will perform better, so serious competitors are going to want to do the update. Of course, there is a cost. We are working on ways to ease the pain as much as we can. The wings will be available in quantities sufficient to fit every car at Sebring that wants them. Production is scheduled to allow teams to have new sets of the wings on cars by mid February.

5) Fuel and ECU maps – We have a nice update for the ECU map. Nothing radical. We are experimenting with “greener” gasohol fuels. The motor LIKES them. Do not

panic, the improvements are nominal in performance. Prices should not upset anyone. PR opportunities abound. VP can deliver, once we are certain the formula that works best.

6) Sebring race week -- Sebring will have test groups for Monday and Tuesday of race week available for Star Mazda cars. Mazda will again be doing a media training session on Monday, 10 Mar 08, in the early evening. This is for drivers and should be considered mandatory. It is not necessary that others attend the media training session. There will be food and drinks. We will try to do this asap after the on-track sessions conclude that day.

7) Graphic standards -- This year we are instituting a set of graphic standards like most other pro series. Cars, driver suits, crew uniforms, and team rigs will all be required to meet the same minimum standards. The whole presentation of the Series at the track should therefore be a more professional look. Most teams are already 90% in compliance, so we are hoping this will not be unnecessarily traumatic. The standards will be published in the next few days. Where any new decals are needed (like rigs), the Series will be able to supply them. Call Tony in our office, or the parts counter.

We hope your holidays went well and your plans and programs for 2008 are coming together nicely. Please cooperate in getting your information and paperwork in to Peter Frey, Eric McCombs, and our Series office staff as soon as you can. That helps us do a better job promoting and publicizing your efforts. We look forward to seeing you at Sebring.

Regards,
Gary Rodrigues