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USF2000 Revises 2011 Schedule

PALMETTO, Fla., Nov. 11 — Officials of the "Cooper Tires Presents the USF2000 National Championship Powered by Mazda" announced today that they have removed a July 30-31 doubleheader at the Autobahn Country Club in Joliet, III. from the series' 2011 schedule.

Dan Andersen, the series' promoter, said he does not anticipate adding another doubleheader to the schedule as a replacement, so the series' 2011 schedule now stands at 12 races over seven events.

"The Autobahn race organizers were unable to obtain enough sponsorship to ensure the event's success, so that date has been dropped from our 2011 schedule," Andersen said.

Tonis Kasemets and Sage Karam won the USF2000 doubleheader there this year.

The USF2000 series is part of both the Road to Indy and the MAZDASPEED Motorsports driver development programs.

The 2011 season opener is on St. Patrick's Day in March when the series supports one of the world's most prestigious endurance sports car races, the Mobil 1 Twelve Hours of Sebring at Sebring, Fla. It closes in September when it is part of

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the Labor Day extravaganza at the brand-new street course event at Baltimore's Inner Harbor.

The USF2000 series appears at traditional road courses, street circuits and ovals so its drivers get experience on all the different types of tracks faced by IZOD IndyCar Series drivers.

The series will support IZOD IndyCar Series events four times. The series will also be part of the historic "Night Before the 500" show at O'Reilly Raceway Park in Indianapolis on May 28, a few hours before the Indianapolis 500 is held a few miles east.

For more information see USF2000.com.

The revised schedule follows:

2011 USF2000 Schedule*

Race 1 Race 2	March 17 March 18	Sebring Int'l Raceway Sebring, Fla.	w/ALMS (12 Hours of Sebring) 3.7-mile road course
Race 3 Race 4	March 26 March 27	Streets of St. Petersburg St. Petersburg, Fla.	w/IndyCar (St. Petersburg GP) 1.8-mile street course
Race 5	May 28	O'Reilly Raceway Park Indianapolis, Ind.	w/USAC Midgets (Night Before the 500) 0.686-mile oval
Race 6	June 18	The Milwaukee Mile West Allis, Wis.	w/IndyCar 1-mile oval
Race 7 Race 8	Aug. 5 Aug. 6	Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course Lexington, Ohio	w/IndyCar/ALMS 2.258-mile road course
Race 9 Race 10	Aug. 19 Aug. 20	Road America Elkhart Lake, Wis.	w/ALMS (Time Warner Showcase) 4.048-mile road course
Race 11 Race 12	Sept. 4 Sept. 4	Streets of Baltimore Baltimore, Md.	w/IndyCar/ALMS (Baltimore Grand Prix) 2-mile street course

^{*} Subject to change

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About Mazda:

On any given weekend there are more Mazdas on the road courses of America than any other brand of vehicle. MX-5 Miata, RX-8, MAZDA3, MAZDA6, RX-7 and other vintage Mazda models are all popular race cars because every Mazda has the soul of a sports car. In fact, the largest road-racing class in the world is Spec Miata. With more than 2,500 first- and second-generation Miatas tearing up America's racetracks, it the most-raced production car in the world. Mazda's involvement in motorsports extends to its relationship with one of the world's premier road courses, Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca in Salinas, Calif., and the Skip Barber Schools for driving and racing.

Celebrating its 40th anniversary in the United States in 2010, Mazda North American Operations is head-quartered in Irvine, Calif. It oversees the sales, marketing, parts business and customer service of Mazda vehicles in the United States, Canada and Mexico through nearly 900 dealers. Operations in Canada are managed by Mazda Canada, Inc., located in Ontario. Operations in Mexico are managed by Mazda Motor de Mexico in Mexico City.

For more information see MazdaUSA.com.

About Cooper Tire & Rubber Company:

Cooper Tire & Rubber Company is a global company that specializes in the design, manufacture, marketing and sales of passenger car and light truck tires and subsidiaries that specialize in medium truck, motorcycle and racing tires. With headquarters in Findlay, Ohio, Cooper Tire has manufacturing, sales, distribution, technical and design facilities within its family of companies located in 10 countries around the world.

For more information visit Cooper Tire's Web site at coopertire.com.

About the Cooper Tires Presents the USF2000 National Championship Powered by Mazda:

Many top drivers in the IZOD IndyCar Series and endurance sports car racing honed their skills in F2000, and the Cooper Tires Presents the USF2000 National Championship Powered by Mazda is an important training ground for rising stars.

Debuting in 2010, it is the revival of the very popular USF2000 series of 1990 through 2006. Sanctioned by the Indy Racing League, it is the first step on its Road to Indy ladder system, preceding Star Mazda and Firestone Indy Lights.

It is also part of the prestigious MAZDASPEED Motorsports driver development program. The top driver in the series' Championship class earns a scholarship package from Mazda valued at \$350,000 to help him or her advance to Star Mazda the following season.

USF2000 races are contested on road courses, street courses and ovals in order to give the series' drivers experience on all the different types of tracks they will face as they proceed up the ladder.

For more information visit USF2000.com.