



For Immediate Release:

COCHRAN STORMS THROUGH FIELD FOR WIN AT 10th ANNIVERSARY OF PETIT LE MANS WEEKEND

Braselton, GA. - October 5 – The 10th Anniversary of the Petit Le Mans is one of the premier events of the American Le Mans series. This marks the first year that the IMSA Lites series has attended the Petit Le Mans weekend, and fans would not be disappointed. Jay Cochran, in the #8 Autohaus Motorsports/Premio/Geisha/Dewings.com Elan DP02 powered by Mazda entry, qualified 11th after a mechanical failure in race one of the weekend. Cochran's luck would improve in race two, as he collected the overall win over series rival Gerardo Bonilla.

For Round 10 of the two race weekend, drivers awoke to a rainy morning with wet track conditions. Drivers had qualified, practiced, and raced under dry conditions up to this point, so the veterans would have a clear advantage. Jay Cochran, driver of the #8 Autohaus Motorsports/Premio/Geisha/Dewings.com Elan DP02 powered by Mazda entry, has a long history of racing a variety of cars under wet conditions. This would definitely work to his advantage.

In discussing races one and two, Cochran stated "It was extremely slippery out there, but starting 11th was a little hairy going into one the first few times...but I knew we had a really good car, and I felt very comfortable. We got caught out yesterday with failure in the gearbox," said Cochran. "This was icing on the cake for us because we knew we were fastest this whole weekend. We got a new team and new sponsors. For me this is a really good place to win again."

Gerardo Bonilla, in the #9 BK Motorsports/Mazda/Skip Barber Elan DP02 entry, finished second after having a disappointing run in the first race of the weekend. Kerry "Cougar" Jacobsen, in the #38 Inspire Motorsports/Hankook Tire USA entry, would finish in third place after winning race one and having an overall strong weekend performance with two podium finishes. Bonilla will retain a 37 point lead over Cochran as they enter the final two-race event at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca.

Lites Two competition would include an intense race between series veterans Mark White, in the #02 Accumoto Motorsports/ThrottleThreads West WR1000 entry, and Robby Card, in the #45 PVM Racing Cleveland Cycle Works/Easy Auto West WR1000 entry. This battle would appear similar to the first race of the weekend; however, White would capture the win. White stated, "I'm really beginning to enjoy this rain stuff. The crew gave me a fantastic rain setup that allowed me to relax and plan some strategy and pick away at Robby (Card)." "Everybody ran pretty 'heads up,'" he continued. "I have to compliment Hankook on their rains (tires). They hold strong. I want to thank my crew and my sponsors, especially Janica Racing for everything they've done for us." White is coming off back-to-back wins in similar

racing conditions at Mosport in the L:2 class. Card would finish in second place after winning the L:2 class in the first race of the weekend. Eric Vassian, in the #25 PVM Racing/PVM Performance West WR1000 entry, finished third in Lites Two competition. The championships point battle in L:2 has tightened, with only 6 points between the leader, Card, and White in second place. The championship will be decided at the last event at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca.

Lites Three competition would be a repeat of the first race of the weekend, with last year's L:3 champion, Robert Mumm, driver of the #10 Mumm Brothers Racing Wilton-Jet Tools & Equipment FSCCA Sports Car entry, winning the race. Richard Spicer, in the #65 SpiceHagerman Hagerman RacEngineering/Summit Computer/Spicer Racing Engines FSCCA Sports Car entry, finished second. Both drivers would change positions throughout the race, providing a great show for the fans.

Robert stated, "We had a great race. Richard Spicer is a really good rain racer, and I've worked my way up over the years to be a better rain racer. It was a great battle. We went back and forth, I was behind at first, caught Richard, got a little gap on him, but he kept coming back at me. But we kept it together, and kept in front of Richard. It was a good battle."

Chris Funk, in the #5 KC Racing FSCCA Sports Car entry, would finish third. Richard Spicer's strong finish moved him up to first place in the overall L:3 points race, with only 6 points separating Spicer and Funk. The points championship will be determined at the next event to be held at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca.

The final two rounds of competition for IMSA Lites Presented by Hankook Performance Tires Championship will be October 21st at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca in Monterey, CA as support for the American Le Mans Series.

For further information, contact Mike Simons at (706) 658-2120 or msimons@imsaracing.net

For Media information, contact Ray Ferreira at ray@motorcine.com