



For Immediate release:

BONILLA BLISTERS THE FIELD FOR THE WIN AT LIME ROCK PARK IN THE IMSA LITES PRESENTED BY HANKOOK PERFORMANCE TIRES SERIES

Lakeville, CT. – July 7 – Gerardo Bonilla, driver of the #9 BK Motorsports Mazda/Skip Barber Elan DP02, was in control from lap one and never looked back. This was an impressive win that would see him wind his way through lap traffic and show skill well beyond his years.

Lime Rock Park and the history of road racing have been intertwined since its inception in 1955. The track celebrates its fiftieth year of racing, which began with the “Little Le Mans” endurance race in 1957. This is only the second year for the IMSA Lites presented by Hankook Performance Tires series and the second time they have visited this facility. Lime Rock Park is a 1.53 mile road course that features elevation changes and sweeping corners.

Gerardo Bonilla, driver of the #9 BK Motorsports Mazda/Skip Barber Elan DP02, would set a fast pace with a qualifying time of 49.544 seconds and share the front row with Kerry Jacobson in the #38 Inspire Motorsports/Hankook Tire DP02 Lites 1 entry for Race One. Bonilla commented, “We had a clean start and everyone was very well behaved. That’s the nature of this series, they always have their heads on well. The first lap is all about being very careful, be smart with the tires and get a good gap. I got lucky because the guys behind me had a problem in the uphill. I saw some grass flying up in my mirrors and I just focused ahead and there was a big gap. The rest of it was just having fun getting around traffic. Everybody did a nice job staying on line so it wasn’t dangerous. It was just a matter of timing the pass.”

“The BK Motorsports guys did such an amazing job and I really appreciate that today,” Bonilla added. “We had a great handling car and these are the best tires Hankook has given us all year. It’s a nice evolution of what we had at the beginning of the year,” explained Bonilla. “I think the tire sustains the grip better and it’s not as sensitive to changes in the weather. It’s great.”

The Lites 1 race for the 2nd through 5th positions would be an incredible battle with drivers changing places almost every lap. Kerry “Cougar” Jacobsen, in the #38 Inspire Motorsports/Hankook Tire DP02 would start along side Bonilla on the front row but would have to retire after only two laps with a front end mechanical issue. This would allow the top four behind Bonilla to put on a show for the fans. Jay Cochran, in the #8 Primetime Race Group/Dewings.com, and teammate Joel Feinberg, in the #7 790 THE TICKET entry, would end up in the 2nd and 3rd positions respectively but not without newcomer Shelby Mershon in the #85 Mershon

Motorsports/Comprent Motorsports entry moving up to 2nd place in the early stages. This was Shelby's first time to compete in an IMSA Lites race.

The Lites 2 race was also great for the fans, with two veterans changing positions throughout the competition. This would be the best L2 battle of the season thus far and would see Mark White, driver of the #02 Accumoto Motorsport/Throttle Threads.com/Duraform, LTD WEST WR1000 entry, capture the win. Mark commented, "This is by far the best race I have had in the series so far. We've had a ton of podiums and this is the first time we have stood on the top step, which is fantastic," he said. "I can't say enough how well the Accumoto team did on the setup and the prep on the car. I want to thank my sponsors Accumoto Motorsport, Throttle Threads.com, Duraform and PerformanceDrink that just came on board. We couldn't have done it without them," Mark continued. "Robby [Card] and I had great race. I think we were together for about seventeen laps, so I hope the crowd enjoyed it as much as we did. "I would like to dedicate this race win to my father. He passed away when we were traveling to this race last year so it means a lot to me to come away with the win."

Robby Card, driver of the #45 PVM Racing Cleveland CycleWorks/Easy Auto entry, would go on to place 2nd with teammate Tom Sedivy, in the #22 PVM Racing WEST WR1000 car, placing 3rd.

The Lites 3 race would see last years' winner of both Lime Rock L3 races Richard Spicer, in the #65 SpiceHagerman Hagerman RacEngineering/Spicer Racing Engines/Summit Computers dominate and capture the top spot on the podium.

"It was a pretty easy race," he said. "I put my head down and had an L1 car tow me around for a few laps. It was flawless. I'm going to go back and pump up my arms for the rest of the afternoon for race two. We should be alright. We'll go back and swap the Hankook tires, fill it with fuel and nut and bolt it. We should be good to go."

There would be a great battle between the other L3 drivers with Chris Funk, driver of the #5 KC Racing entry, capturing the 2nd position and last year's L3 Champion Robert Mumm, in the Mumm Brothers Racing Wilton-Jet Tools and Equipment entry, placing 3rd.

The IMSA Lites Championship presented by Hankook will race later today at 1:30pm in round six of the two race weekend at Lime Rock Park.

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