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### **KASEMETS TAKES POLE AT MILLER MOTORSPORTS IN A LAST LAP SHOOT OUT WITH BONILLA IN THE IMSA LITES PRESENTED BY HANKOOK PERFORMANCE TIRES SERIES**

Tooele, Utah. – May 18 – Tonis Kasemets driver of the #6 Koli Construction/Team Mechanical Parallax Racing DP02 put down a last lap qualifying time of 2: 44.542 to knock out Gerardo Bonilla by 0.423 and set the track record for the IMSA Lites debut at Miller Motorsports Park.

Teams and drivers traveled from as far away as Miami, FL to compete at the Larry H. Miller Dealerships Utah Grand Prix as part of the American Le Mans Series. This is only the second year for the IMSA Lites Presented by Hankook Performance Tires series and the first time they have visited this facility. Miller Motorsports Park features a 24-Turn, 4.5 mile road course which is the largest track in North America. The expansive track is a challenging course for drivers as they have to adjust too few visual track references and long sweeping corners.

Tonis Kasemets driver of the #6 Koli Construction/Team Mechanical Pabst/Parallax Racing Team is coming off a pair of second place finishes and a pole at his IMSA Lites the debut at Sebring International Raceway. Tonis is no stranger to racing as last year he competed in the Champ Car world Series and is looking to compete a full year in IMSA Lites competition. His lap of 2.44.452 would be completed on the last lap of qualifying for the pole for race one. Tonis commented, "This is very precise track and this is my first time to drive here. I only got to practice yesterday so we had to get up to speed quick. I look forward to racing Gerardo because I know he is a clean racer and it should be a fun race". Geraldo Bonnilla driver of the #9 BK Motorsports Mazda/Skip Barber Elan DP02 would set a fast pace with a qualifying time of 2: 44.965 and share the front row with Kasemets for race one. "We new that the fast laps would be at the end of the qualifying session" stated Bonilla. I was on the last lap which was our fast lap and we caught some traffic. I raced here last year with the Star Mazda series and I feel confident that we will be competitive with Tonis". The driver occupying the third spot is no stranger to IMSA competition. Jay Cochran driving the #8 Primetime Race Group Elan DP02 has a racing resume that includes IMSA World Sports Car factory team Ferrari 333 sp, Le Mans 24 hours, and competition in the European Le Mans series driving a Panoz LMP900/EPP. Cochran stated "I have been out of a race car for six years and have some catching up to do. We are happy to be in the 3<sup>rd</sup> place position and look forward to the race.

IMSA Lites two would see driver Robby Card in the #45 Cleveland Cycleworks/Easy Auto PVM Racing entries put his West race car on the pole for L:2 with a time of

2:48.863. Robby finished P2 in race one and won race two at Sebring International Raceway in the first round of IMSA Lites competition. Robby stated, "The track seemed to change half way through the session and was much faster than our practice sessions. Robby will have driver Mark White in the #02 Accumoto Motorsport/Throttle Threads.com West race car behind him in the second place with a time of 2:50.864.

Driver Chris Funk in Lites Three in the #5 K.C. Racing DP06 is coming from back to back wins at the first round in IMSA Lites competition. Chris would put down a time of 2:56.098 during the 30-minute session. "The track was good and I just had to remember to slow down to go fast. This is a great facility and it is a pleasure to race with the American Le Mans Series". Chris stated. Kelly Toombs in the #36 K.C. racing DP06

Drivers will compete Friday May 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. MDT, for the first of two IMSA Lites Presented By Hankook Performance Tires races this weekend at the Larry H Miller Utah Grand Prix.