

With a champion's scholarship available at every level, the Mazda Road to Indy is the place to be for every young driver



Why USF2000?

What do Indy 500 winners Sam Hornish Jr., Buddy Rice and Dan Wheldon, rising stars J.R. Hildebrand and Charlie Kimball, and sports car standouts Memo Gidley, Andy Lally, Bryan Sellers and Dane Cameron have in common? All are graduates of the Cooper Tires USF2000 Championship Powered by Mazda.

Sanctioned by INDYCAR, USF2000 is the first step on the Mazda Road to Indy - a clearly defined path for drivers to reach the IZOD IndyCar Series and Indianapolis 500.

Official development ladder series of INDYCAR

Competitive, affordable pro-series racing with premier events and full marketing, public relations and driver development support

Over \$515,000 in prizes and awards including a full scholarship to advance to Star Mazda

Television coverage on Mazda Motorsports Hour (U.S. and Canada)

International television coverage via ESPN

On and off-track training Mazda Road to Indy Summit program



Cooper Tires USF2000 Championship Powered by Mazda



When it's time to get serious...

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**Where Tomorrow's Stars
Race Today**





The Mazda Road to Indy Summit program provides numerous activities around the Indy 500 including track laps with current INDYCAR stars. Right: One of the series' RACER magazine ads to promote its drivers.

USF2000 Snapshot

The Cooper Tires USF2000 Championship Powered by Mazda boasts a rich history as a continuation of the highly regarded national USF2000 series which ran from 1990 through 2006, launching the careers of many of today's top drivers. It is also part of the prestigious **MAZDASPEED** Motorsports Development Ladder which assists drivers in advancing from the Skip Barber School to USF2000.

Interest in the series is at an all-time high with seven new teams and record 30+ fields in 2012. Competitors have the opportunity to showcase their talent at seven premier venues in support of both the IZOD IndyCar Series and American Le Mans Series.

SCHEDULE

The USF2000 calendar includes a blend of four permanent road courses, two street circuits and one oval event to provide a broad and vital training ground for its rising stars.

- Rounds 1/2.....Sebring International Raceway
- Rounds 3/4.....Streets of St. Petersburg
- Round 5.....Lucas Oil Raceway
- Rounds 6/7.....Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course
- Rounds 8/9/10.....Road America
- Rounds 11/12.....Streets of Baltimore
- Rounds 13/14.....Virginia International Raceway

DRIVERS

USF2000 is open to drivers age 16 and up with 15-year-olds eligible through approval by INDYCAR.



CLASSES and CARS

There are two classes of competition within USF2000 - Championship and National.

Championship Class cars are Van Diemen Elan chassis powered by the Mazda MZR 2-liter powerplant - a four-cylinder, double-overhead-cam, fuel-injected engine generating approximately 170 horsepower and capable of powering cars to speeds of 150 mph. All Mazda MZR engines are prepared and sealed by Elite Engines of West Bend, Wis. (The 2011 championship-winning car ran two years and nearly 7,000 miles without a rebuild.) The cars are low-budget, easy to work on mechanically and offer multiple tuning adjustments with cornering speeds matching the next level Star Mazda car.

National Class cars have slightly less power and offer a cost-effective introductory program with the opportunity to advance to the Championship Class. The cars include Van Diemen chassis conforming to current SCCA Formula Continental class regulations and a Zetec 2-liter powerplant and SCCA Enterprises' Formula Enterprises (FE) cars powered by the Mazda Duratec engine.

TIRES

Thirteen-inch slick and rain tires co-branded COOPER/F2000 as manufactured by Cooper Tires are mandatory in both classes.

BUDGETS

Depending upon the team, testing programs and other inclusions, budgets average between \$200k - \$275k USD.

PRIZEMONEY AND SCHOLARSHIPS

USF2000 will distribute over \$515,000 in prizes and awards in 2012. The winner of the Championship Class will receive a scholarship package from Mazda to advance to Star Mazda competition in 2013 valued at \$375,000. The National Class winner will receive a scholarship to advance to the Championship Class.

TEAMS

USF2000 prides itself on the professionalism of its teams both on the race track and in the paddock. A full team listing with contacts can be found at usf2000.com.



SUMMIT, TESTING AND MORE...

MAZDA ROAD TO INDY SUMMIT

The Mazda Road to Indy Summit and Oval Clinic are three-part educational and promotional programs held during the season with a flurry of activity around the Indianapolis 500 as a prelude to the popular "Night Before the 500" round of competition. The platform not only provides valuable education on a variety of topics including marketing/business, sponsorship, media training, career growth and development, fitness and social media, but also activities such as networking receptions, shop tours and Q&As with IZOD IndyCar Series teams and high-profile autograph sessions and INDYCAR Fan Village activities.

Comprehensive track-specific programs are provided including an introduction to oval racing, competing in large fields and the essentials of street circuit racing. Past instructors have included James Hinchcliffe, Dan Wheldon, Ed Carpenter, Bobby Rahal and Beaux Barfield, INDYCAR's Race Director and former USF2000 competitor.

In addition, the series points leader in May is given the opportunity to pace the Firestone Freedom 100 Indy Lights race on Carburetion Day at the famed Indianapolis Motor Speedway, and the winner of the "Night Before the 500" is introduced and interviewed in front of the Indy 500 crowd only minutes before the start of the race.

TESTING AND COOPER TIRES WINTERFEST

A key goal of USF2000 is to provide its drivers with as much seat time as possible at upcoming venues, and it hosts exclusive tests at Mid-Ohio, Road America and Virginia International Raceway in addition to an oval test day at Lucas Oil Raceway with Star Mazda. The Cooper Tires Winterfest not only allows drivers/teams to have a jumpstart on their seasons but provides valuable track time at premier Florida venues - Sebring International Raceway and Palm Beach International Raceway. The six-race mini-series is held over the course of seven days in February.

OFF-TRACK EXPOSURE

USF2000 is committed to providing as much exposure for its drivers as possible via social media platforms, PR and marketing campaigns and advertising in conjunction with the efforts of series' partners including INDYCAR, Mazda and Cooper Tires as well as networking opportunities.