



POST-QUALIFYING DRIVER QUOTES

P1. YANG OU (No. 23 Snake Pit Dallara IR-18 Chevrolet): “The decision (to re-qualify on Pole Day) was pretty straightforward for me. The first run, I did a 39.3 on the first lap because of a mistake I did in Turn 3 coming to the green. So I knew there was plenty of time on the table, and I never settle for second on the grid – I am too used to getting poles, I think. Especially because I have the speed, it was a no-brainer for me to go for it. Seems like I just did enough. I was, I think, a little bit conservative on my second attempt, but (I did) just enough – by nine-thousandths of a second per lap.”

On his expectations for qualifying: “I didn’t have any expectations coming into qualifying because I have no idea how to setup this (Dallara) IR-18 (Indy car). It is completely different... If I look at my setup now, 50% of my settings are in the opposite direction of how I used to set up my Dallara DW-12. So I can’t tell you how I made the car fast, because I don’t even understand. I just click and go out and see if it works. We put a lot of effort into the qualifying car this past week, only because I started driving the car around a week-and-a-half ago, so I needed to learn a lot. It was definitely a very big surprise that we managed to get pole today.”

P2. WILSON NETO (No. 407 Interlagos Motorsport Dallara IR-18 Honda): “It was a pretty intense day... it was such a unique experience, trying to put our best qualifying laps together in this format was pretty intense. We definitely feel the pressure and it was pretty fun, but in the end, fortunately for us, I had a bit of luck and it all went well at the end of the day.” On re-qualifying when he was safely in the field: “I decided to take my chances because I knew I had a car that should be at least in the top five. If we were going to be on the front row, of course it would have been under (favorable) race track conditions because it was playing an important role on the lap times tonight. But at least I knew I had a car for the top five. Unfortunately, during the morning I knew I was going to have a tough run because I was 43rd of 45 cars, so I had a track in really bad conditions. But either way, I think if I was able to hit my marks early in the morning, I think I was probably able to be in the front row in the morning.

“Unfortunately I was way too aggressive in Turn 3 on the second lap –I almost spun and hit the wall. That definitely killed my tires and almost killed my run. I did a high time and I was basically in the middle of the field, so I decided to take my chance because for me, it is the same (whether) you are starting P20 or being in the Bump Day (Sunday). It will be pretty much the same, so lets do (a) second attempt and give it all you got to be at least in the front row, and I got a bit of luck to be the second car on track. That is very important because we were able to put in good lap times. But again, Yang Ou was on a completely different level today. Even on a better track condition, I was not able to beat his time. But at least it was close, and it was fun at the same time.”

P3. JOHN HAJEK-DOGGETT (No. 33 Team Talent Dallara IR-18 Honda): “feel like things went about as well as I could have expected them to. The late draw, I was originally not super-duper thrilled about, but it gave me time to have some breakfast and do some practice laps and not feel rushed. When I got out there, I’m not sure what to say, but somehow to my own surprise, I managed to put down a pretty much mistake-free run. I’ve been putting a lot of time into the setup and practice laps, and it certainly paid off today.”

On his plans for race prep: “We will be definitely shifting focus to the race car for sure. I would hope that my current position will be safe through tomorrow – we will keep an eye on things, but for now I will make that bold assumption. Got to shift focus to race testing... we are starting off with the setup we used in the official “500” in May, and I have run a few test laps with it – as have our boys at Team Talent. We are at a decent starting point I think, but definitely planning on grinding out this next week here and hitting a lot of practice sessions; doing a lot of tuning and just trying to get hyper-dialed in for where we need to be for next Sunday.”

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P4. MICHELE COSTANTINI (No. 66 Apex Racing Team with Indy 500 Group Dallara IR-18 Honda): “It was an extremely intense week for me and the team. First run, I got drawn to run 29th in the first session, so I knew even before making my attempt I would've had a lot of time in my pocket after my first attempt. Did my run and there was a lot of time still left in the table, so I decided to go again and managed to get a slot early in a later session during Saturday, went 4th overall and stayed there all day. I feel like this is as close as it could've gotten with our qualifying setup. Yang is just a legend, Wilson had a great setup, especially in the 2nd lap and John HD with Team Talent always had an advantage compared to us in the 4th lap so I'm happy about my run. In terms of preparation for next week it will all be about turning laps in traffic and tuning the race setup to perfection. Considering the high level of the field I'm pretty sure the number of cautions won't be that big, so losing as little time while pitting under green will be key for Sunday.”

P5. HENRY BENNETT (No. 007 Powerslide Motorsports Dallara IR-18 Honda): “We knew we had a great qualifying car so were confident of making the field or something even better, though like many we were worried about having to run on a dirty track as we had a late slot 3 hours into our qualifying session. My preparation up until the session was going well, but trying to maximize my practice time before joining the session together with iRacing deciding not to load a couple of times meant I just made it in time for my earlier than scheduled run. Not the best way to calm the nerves before a qualifying run.

“The run itself was going to plan, hitting most of my marks for the first two laps but I could really feel the track degradation, with my car sliding more than it had in practice. This together with nerves meant my line for the third and fourth laps was less than perfect, missing a couple of turn in points and apexes, but I held it together for a decent average, good enough for p2 I think at the time. Though I knew there was much more speed in the car, I was confident that my time would be safe so decided against risking another run, though I slightly regret not going for it now. P6 overall and P5 (as it stands at the moment) on the grid is great none the less and I like to think of my time as the best on a dirty track. Race preparation has been going well too and we are reasonably confident that we have a fast race car. The next week will just be a matter of getting the practice mileage in so that nothing is left to chance come race day. I also have the lead in the open series points standings to defend at Indy this week which will be great practice for the OW500.”

P6. JEFF DRAKE (No. 4 Team Talent Dallara IR-18 Chevrolet): “My weekend went better than I initially expected. Qualifying at 7 AM had its advantages and disadvantages. While it was good that the track did not have much rubber down, I did not get a practice run in before my qualifying attempt. Thankfully, the speed was good enough for provisional pole until Yang set his time. I felt my qualifying run was decent, but with taking the out lap a bit too slow and hitting the apex late in Turn 2 on my second lap, there was still time to be gained. With the realism of the event, you have to consider whether it is worth the risk of withdrawing your previous time to go faster. Ultimately, I knew I could jump a couple of spots if I hit my laps perfectly, but not enough to capture pole. As the day went on and I saw so many struggle to make the field alone, it was the right decision to be content with P6 and start preparing for race day.

“Looking forward to race day, I believe the key to a decent finish will be maneuverability. In May, being further back in the path only intensified the aero push and made it nearly impossible to make moves after a few laps on the tires. The team wants to make sure we have the grip to compete no matter the track position or tire wear, and I think that is the optimal mindset to have going into next week.”

P7. MARCO AURELIO BRASIL (No. 812 TES Racing Dallara IR-18 Chevrolet): “I was very happy, I led the weekend practice, and in the final qualification (I was) P7. I used a conservative (qualifying) setup to position myself in the top-10, (and) if I couldn't make it (then I would give a second) try. For (the) race we are trying to improve downforce with the help of computational fluid by simulating traffic and car behavior.”

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P8. BRADLEY WALTERS (No. 56 Sadi Sim Autosport Dallara IR-18 Honda): “Though we had good pace in May, coming into the weekend our only priority was getting all six Sadi cars into the field. We knew it was a tall order and pole wasn’t even a consideration. As times started coming in on the first day of Qualifying, I started to think pole might be an option, but as we started putting in official times, and once Yang put in his first blistering run, I kind of came back to earth again. Myself, Music and Adams all put in safe times on Saturday with two more in the field and one looking to bump in. Briant and Downing were able to put in solid, albeit stressful, runs on Sunday to lock in and Plunkett made a great run to bump back into the field, but unfortunately it didn't stand and he found himself outside the top 33... Its a phenomenal filed, but we have mixed emotions; having an overall good showing yet not quite reaching our goal.

“We have work to do yet this week in race preparations. We had a decent baseline car in May and have improved it slightly since, but we still feel we need to improve it. We are giving up some pace, which isn’t a big concern, yet its not as good in traffic as it should be either. This week will be focused on working through a number of different approaches, then running in as much traffic as we can, debriefing on options we are looking at. Long story short, we have some work to do. We expect to have a competitive car. And if you can be competitive for 170 laps, you’ll be in a position to win it in the last 30. That’s the plan.”

P9. CHRISTOPHER DEMERITT (No. 144 Broken Aero with Indy 500 Group Dallara IR-18 Honda): “As expected, things got especially close towards the end of qualifying! Fortunately, I was able to put down a good time on Saturday morning, so I felt pretty safe all weekend after that. Now the focus can go to ironing out the last details on our race setup. Starting on the outside of the third row next should give me good chance for a clean start and start to get in a rhythm. Just need to do lots of drafting practice now until the green flag drops!”

P10. LOGAN SIMMONS (No. 21 Iconic Motorsports Dallara IR-18 Honda): “The run I made (Saturday) was unbelievable; I was so nervous heading into Day 1. The run was made on no sleep and coming into the month if you would've told me that i would outqualify some top split (iRacing Indy) 500 winners and contenders for all these years on iRacing, I wouldn't have believed you. My weekend as a whole made me very confident because for most of the Fast Friday practice, I was running P6 - so I did have confidence this whole week. But this being so pressure-filled and over testing during the week scared me some. This week is about finding the setup in traffic. I am still not confident in it yet, but I’m hoping to find it and go win this race next Sunday.”

P11. JOSHUA CHIN (No. 93 Team Chimera Dallara IR-18 Chevrolet): “Overall qualifying weekend was a success for us as a team. I don't think we really went in with the aim of getting pole but John put a great stab at it and we have a lot of teammates in the field for Sunday. Starting position isn't as big in a race this long and being able to survive is going to be a key to fighting at the finish. Going into Sunday we really just have to get the car good in traffic and over the long runs since it seems like the weather is going to be pretty warm.”

P12. RICK MUSIC (No. 6 Sadi Sim Autosport Dallara IR-18 Honda): “My qualifying weekend was fairly uneventful. Brad and Sadi have good stuff, so I was fortunate enough to put in a decent run on Saturday morning. Sadi should be good in the race, but like always, it comes down to who can deal with traffic for 200 laps.”

P13. LIAM QUINN (No. 44 Team Talent Dallara IR-18 Chevrolet): “I'm pretty happy with how things went as a team - our focus was definitely getting all the guys in and I'm delighted to see things work out for the newer guys in the group like (Rob) Powers. Our consistency in laps 3 and 4 seriously was the key for us as we weren't chasing the car towards the end of runs. The only improvement I think we could've made was going for a second attempt towards the end of Pole Day qualifications when it was clear what the track's speed was; those who took the risk such as Michele or Wilson got handsomely rewarded by doing so and for sure I think we could've filled that Fast 9 up, behind Ou and Wilson. It looks like we've got 8 drivers in the race and that to me is an astounding achievement and something that will be a quality asset in the 500 Mile Race itself!”

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P14. JOE BRANCH (No. 28 Ludicrous Speed Dallara IR-18 Chevrolet): "So I've experienced the drama of hanging around the bubble of these races and I kind of thought I'd find myself there again this weekend. Our team found some speed this week which got us up towards the sharp end of the field. My very first run, the track conditions weren't great and I couldn't get the thing to turn. I made adjustments to my line and knew (that) a new session would mean improved grip. I was having a great run and had thoughts of the front row, (but) I missed the line slightly in (Turn) 2 and over-compensated a bit with the wheel and weight jacker mid corner which caused me to crash. Of course, I would have been in easy if I didn't push the issue. On top of that my graphics (were) glitching the entire run for some reason. I then rebooted my computer and knew I had to go for the third and final run right away because I felt like I knew exactly what I had to do.

"Though nothing is like that moment on your final run, my heart was beating out of my chest and I kept taking deep breaths on every straight away to try and relax. Once I finished the run I was ecstatic to see the time as I knew it would be solidly in. It was a great feeling as I've been on both ends before. I owe it all to my teammates: Yang, Tim, and Niles. We always support each other, and that support comes in different ways over the course of time. Lastly, the race, I will be working to make the car feel great in traffic and stable for an entire fuel run. The field is stacked so the competition will be all over the place and you need to have confidence in your car. I look forward to the challenge!"

P15. ADAM BLOCKER (No. 74 Powerslide Motorsports Dallara IR-18 Honda): "Overall it went pretty smooth. I just did the one guaranteed run and sat on my time because I figured that it would be enough to get in and didn't want to risk not making the field. I definitely had the potential to be in the top 10 qualifiers but ultimately it won't matter too much a few laps into the race. Over the next week, I will be focusing on making sure that my team's race set handles well in heavy traffic over the course of a stint and getting information on different strategic options to make sure I will be prepared for as many situations as possible."

P16. TIM DOYLE (No. 55 Snake Pit Dallara IR-18 Chevrolet): "I was happy just to make the field to be quite honest. I've started almost every Indy 500 mid pack or back and usually start on pit road. My last qualifying effort in the 2019 iRacing Indy 500 was disappointing to say the least. Reaching out to Yang Ou though and reconnecting again on iRacing after a few year hiatus was like instant magic! I can't say enough about the talent and skill of Yang as a sim racer on here, and more importantly as a good friend. He enables me to reach goals I wouldn't think possible. Yang getting pole is typical Yang! He makes it easy while the rest of us can't even come close with the same setup.

"While we had an excellent qualifying effort, we are still a bit behind some others I think in race pace. Fortunately, the iRacing Road series is at Indianapolis this week so it should give us as well as others a lot of practice for setup testing as well as pitting, drafting and race strategy. We'll have a few people helping setup-wise and I plan to do a lot of racing this week to get back into the groove. We'll also have some strategy to plan out to get Joe and I up closer to Yang in the race next week. Looking forward to it!"

P17. DAVID ADAMS (No. 00 Sadi Sim Autosport Dallara IR-18 Honda): "The weekend started off a bit scary with me binning it on the first qual run. I knew the Sadi set has the speed to make the race, but the limit of three attempts was always there in the back of my mind. The second attempt was pulled back a bit, so left a little bit on the table, (and I) really just wanted to get a time on the board and work from there. Luckily, that second attempt was good enough for 15th at the time. The rest of the weekend was just waiting to see what times were being put up, and if I would have to make another run or not. Overall, for me, not a lot of drama since the second run was quick, a little more dramatic for some of the other Sadi guys. It was a pretty good qual weekend and I am really looking forward to the race."

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P18. DYLAN FRECKELTON (No. 313 Independent Dallara IR-18 Honda): “I was really happy with my first run on Saturday, so I didn't feel the need to go out again. In the end it was a bit closer than I'd have liked in the final hours of Bump Day, but that was probably to be expected given the quality of the field, and just qualifying for the race is a massive achievement. I'll have to keep an eye on what pace everyone is running in practice for the race, and I definitely need to do some work on running in traffic, but hopefully I can get somewhere near the pace come Sunday.”

P19. RILEY THOMPSON (No. 58 Total Downforce Racing with Team Talent Dallara IR-18 Chevrolet): “Honestly it was an in-between weekend. Felt great with my lap compared to everyone else, but then it just started drifting compared to everyone else. By that point in testing I wasn't feeling confident with improving so it was more of a day of counting how many people would have the chance to beat me. If I had to go, I think I could have been fine as well since I still had 2 attempts, but it was definitely nail-biting. Over the next week I think most of the pressure is off of our shoulders, so it'll just be taking a breath of relief. I felt confident after how May went and being able to lead some laps, so hopefully I can repeat and make it to the end this time.”

P20. CHRIS STOFER (No. 13 Powerslide Motorsports Dallara IR-18 Chevrolet): “My weekend was very hectic leading up to qualifying. I unexpectedly had to go in to work on Saturday and had to forfeit my draw for qualifying. I wasn't sure if I would even be able to get a time down at all on day one. Ultimately, I made it home in time and was able to jump in session to get my name in. I was really nervous on my first run, having not practiced that day, but felt confident from practicing most of the week. I left a lot out on the track but was able to put down a very consistent run that ultimately held up through day two. I was very relieved when it was all over though.

“Looking forward, I plan on putting a lot of time in to make sure I'm comfortable with the car in traffic. It's a long race and so much can happen. It's going to take a lot of luck along with tons of skill to come out on top. Hopefully I can put myself in a good position at the end to go for the win.”

P21. BRANDON TRAINO (No. 9 Broken Aero with Indy 500 Group Dallara IR-18 Honda): “My weekend went pretty well, all things considered. I was out in Phoenix pitting for NASCAR, so I didn't have much time to practice all week or during Bump Day. So to come out at the end and go P4, I'm extremely happy with my result. The Broken Aero and 15G guys have a really strong piece and we're really happy about the speed. During this week we will go over our race setup with a fine-tooth comb so to speak. We will try to work out any kinks we may have missed or found in May and hopefully come out strong and just as fast.”

P22. ZACHARY CAMPBELL (No. 2 Apex Racing Team with Indy 500 Group Dallara IR-18 Chevrolet): “This weekend was a weird one for sure. We had two completely different days really. We didn't score a good slot in the qualifying draw, and the track had tons of heat in it by the time we went out. So we went out and didn't run great, but I thought it would at least be enough to be in the show. Then I woke up Sunday and realized I was going to have to make another run, which I felt was the best Indy qualifying run of my life. For me, it was unbelievable - I just wish I'd done it Saturday. Over the next week we'll probably all be in the official practice sessions, making sure we get the race set dialed. Most of our guys are outside the top 20, so we have to be really good in traffic to be able to challenge. Despite having wins in May, we're going to really need to get down to business because it's so competitive, you can't afford to leave anything on the table.”

P23. AUSTIN ESPITEE (No. 7 Team Talent Dallara IR-18 Honda): “The weekend went well. Knowing I couldn't make Saturday, I put it all on the line for Sunday - that was also the first time I hopped on iRacing in three months. I joined the session with no practice and when I finished the run, I went ‘woah, that was good.’ Looking at that I'm bummed I didn't (qualify) Saturday because I know I would've been higher up the grid! And I'll prepare for the race by practicing Monday and Tuesday and a bit on Sunday before (the race), hoping that's enough to get me to victory lane!”

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P24. ROB POWERS (No. 47 Kinetic Racing with Team Talent Dallara IR-18 Honda): “My qualifying weekend was quite a rollercoaster of emotion. I had an amazing draw for initial qualifying, and possibly went in a little too confident. (I) made a big mistake, and my initial run was a throwaway. Due to some family obligations, I knew I'd only have one more run Sunday morning to make it in. I went into this run with a much better attitude and put together a great run like I'd been practicing. Excited to be representing Kinetic Racing in the race, and working with Team Talent for this event has been great. The goal for the next week is just to put myself in difficult positions on track so nothing will be a surprise come race day. I've only done one three-wide start before, so hopefully can get a few practice starts as well.”

P26. JOHN DOWNING (No. 20 Sadi Sim Autosport Dallara IR-18 Honda): “Definitely a stress-filled weekend. My first run I screwed up and didn't get the fuel position correct until coming out of (Turn) 4 for the green flag, which killed the first lap and kind of sent me into a panic on the others. The second run was odd because the car was loose the whole run. I wasn't expecting that, so it kind of killed my self-confidence. I figured I wasn't going to make it. Really went to work on improving my line and taking care of the tires to keep that fourth lap time down. I am super excited to make the race. I love that you only get three bites at the apple in qualifying. I certainly felt the pressure on that last run. As for the race, I am kind of an AI Unser Sr. racer. I will take my time moving up. Goal is to be in the top-10 with 100 miles to go and then start racing. The team is going to work really hard on having a good car in traffic. Which is especially important since I have to come from the back.”

P27. DAKOTA DICLENZO (No. 43 Total Downforce Racing with Team Talent Dallara IR-18 Chevrolet): “Well my weekend started off with high hopes of making the field but starting in the back. My teammates were telling me the bubble was going to be a very quick time that I have not hit. My first qualifying run, I hit the rumbles in Turn 4 and just crashed because I knew the time was going to be bad. Watching some of the other qualifying runs after my first attempt, I realized the bubble was going to be something slower than my pace which made me realize I do not need to push as much. My second qualifying attempt was decent until I ran out of fuel on lap 4. I was angry big time, then Sunday morning I just wanted a time - I didn't really focus on how good it was. I guess it was good enough! Preparing for the race, I will definitely be working on my pace as well as keeping a close eye on the other drivers. Especially the ones starting around me.”

P28. MATT PAWELSKI (No. 75 Indy 500 Group with Broken Aero/ART Dallara IR-18 Honda): “I mean having to qualify on the second day is obviously not what I wanted or even expected. It was stressful, which in a way was uniquely fun. I was a little disappointed in my qualifying runs, I made some mistakes that I noticed immediately as I made them, and generally I expect better of myself. But none of that matters now that I made the show, which really just makes me relieved. As for race prep, starting 28th means that I have some thinking to do with my teammates. About 5 of us are packed up in the 20s, so ideally we can work together to get to the front. I just need to work on the car in traffic, I've been struggling in all of my tests and it's a driver issue, not the car. Our setup is incredible so if I can figure out how to move up, I like my chances at a solid run. Otherwise I might have to get creative, but Broken Aero and the guys will help me figure something out.”

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P30. AJ BURTON (No. 57 Indy 500 Group with Broken Aero/ART Dallara IR-18 Honda): “What an exciting weekend it was. Pole Day went well and we ended the day comfortably in the field, but as we all know qualifying at Indy is never straightforward. Sunday morning, I was enjoying watching people try to improve their times. Zac, Michele and I had identified who might be able to go faster and honestly, we felt really optimistic when one of those drivers, Chad, failed to beat our times. However, it's fair to say that by lunch time the nerves were increasing, and Zac and I were incredibly unsure if we should make a second attempt or not. This was compounded in the knowledge that Brandon (Traino) would be showing up later in the day and would put himself right at the top of the timesheets. Ultimately, I saw an opportunity with a free queue and opted to run again. It was a sensible call and I was able to improve my time, settling all the nerves.

“Zac had a fantastic run just after me and it's unfortunate he didn't choose to run twice on Saturday when he had that kind of speed as he could have been in the mix for a front row start. So, come the end of the day we were safely in the field, but actually I find myself starting ten places further back than I would have had I not pulled my time due to the way the starting grid is formed. But I'm not disappointed by that as I'll be starting right next to two of my teammates and we'll be able to work together to hopefully make our way up the field on Sunday.

“Race preparations are going well; we feel that we have a good race car behind us but obviously we'll still be pursuing speed over the coming days. I'm also really looking forward to the Veterans 100 race, and of course, Sunday is going to be a magical day for everyone involved in the event. I can't wait.”

P31. BRENDAN LICHTENBERG (No. 10 Broken Aero Dallara IR-18 Honda): “I feel pleased with how the weekend went overall because after my third and final run I knew I had finally driven to the fullest potential I had. After Saturday qualifications finished, I was uneasy with my original time and knew I'd probably have to withdraw the time in a 'do-or-die' scenario. The next day I was able to get up to speed and I got the best advice from my friend Brandon before the third run: 'Breathe.' After my third run average was likely to make the field I was ecstatic. Our main goal is to continue working on the solid race pace that we already have and further refine traffic settings and continue to log laps. We've come in with a great hand already, but we know other teams have too so there's much work to be done. For me starting on the last row is a challenge, but I've done it before this year, and I consider myself one of the most patient drivers and I hope my result can reflect that.”

P32. HUGO OLSSON (No. 39 Independent Dallara IR-18 Honda): “This week was all about finding the final hundredths to make the field. I thought a lot more people would try to bump me out in the final session, so I tried to improve my time. That did not go so good since I actually got a worse average. That final hour was super intense, and I want to thank Tanner for making this happen. Since this is my first big event, I'm really excited and will try to move up the order during the '500.' I still have to work on my race setup so that will be my main focus next week.”

P33. SILVIO SANCHEZ (No. 407 Corinthians Rally Team Dallara IR-18 Chevrolet): “The weekend was great; I did not expect so many competitors to be at such a high level which made my classification difficult. First step completed, now (the next step) is to prepare a car that takes care of the tires to keep around the leader and try to attack somehow in the end.”

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P34. ANDREW WOOD (No. 32 Team Talent Dallara IR-18 Chevrolet): “It was a tough weekend, for sure. My first run (of the weekend) was a joke, and the second run yesterday, after talking to a bunch of the guys in the paddock, it seemed like it was going to be a pretty good bet that I would be in the show. So I went to sleep a little easy last night, but when I saw the times this morning, I started to shake and quiver a little bit. I knew I had to put a lot of time in today, so I spent a lot of time doing practice qualifying runs and such. And actually, what I was running would have had me easily in the field... The last run I had there seemed okay to me. I took away all of the timing (and scoring) and I just wanted to hit my marks. When I finished the session there, I felt like I was in.

“Just missed it by a couple ticks there, but I gave it my best effort this weekend. I put in a lot of time – much more than I did a few months ago (for the iRacing Indy 500) – and the bright side is that I will be the first reserve in case someone can’t make it next weekend.”

P35. ADAM PLUNKETT (No. 40 Sadi Sim Autosport Dallara IR-18 Honda): “Overall, I was thrilled about the event. It made for an exciting weekend. My first run was too conservative, but I thought it might be safe. It was soon clear, however, that it was not going to be close to quick enough. The problem on Saturday came on the second run, and I had some issue on my end - as though the wrong set loaded or something mechanical in the pedals, perhaps. So, I was left with just one run today, and that came up just short. It came down missing a bit in Turn 2, lap 3, and lost too much time there. Lap 3 should have been sub 2 with that setup, but with that mistake, it was all I could do for attempt three. I will practice as though I will race, however. As an alternate, I still need to be ready, and I need to help the rest of the Sadi guys get prepared even if I have to sit this one out.”

P36. CHAD SIMPSON (No. 42 Last Lap Motorsports Dallara IR-18 Honda): “It sucks to have five cars try to make the field and all of them fail. As a group, we’ve known the weakness of our setup for a long time and we still couldn’t find a way to overcome it. The worst part is now I have to spend a week preparing for a race that I’m probably not even going to be in. We have a lot of work to do as a team to rebuild the setup to be better for next year.”