



Day One
Sunday, November 3, 2019
Opening Day of Practice

Welcome to the inaugural Open-Wheels.com 500 Mile Race presented by Mitchell Transmissions. These Daily Trackside Reports are compiled for the media's use, as well as for official record-keeping for Open-Wheels Motorsports Sanctioning. Tanner Watkins, president of the Open-Wheels.com 500 Mile Race, is here to assist you and answer your questions during the month of November.

This is the first edition of the Open-Wheels.com 500 Mile Race Daily Trackside Report, but the tradition of these reports comes via the Indianapolis 500. The Daily Trackside Report was first distributed at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway in 1967, and this year's event featured the 53rd edition of the "DTR." As mentioned on the first page of the 1967 Daily Trackside Report, "This press information has been compiled as an added source of your information in your coverage of the '500.' It is our sincere wish that it will be of assistance in your assignment."

Timing and scoring links may be found by visiting the official media site for this event (<http://open-wheels.com/ow500-media/>) where up-to-the-second lap times and speeds will be posted. Notes and items of interest will appear on these pages daily during the month.

Feature stories, reports, driver quotes and notes, and photos will be posted on the Open-Wheels.com 500 Mile Race Media Site, <http://Open-Wheels.com/ow500-media/>. More detailed information, including media advisories and audio/video clippings, are also posted to the media site. Updates will also be provided on Twitter via @Open_Wheels. Media information will also be distributed via the official Open-Wheels.com 500 Mile Race Discord server. Contact Open-Wheels Motorsports Sanctioning (Media@Open-Wheels.com) to be added to the Discord server.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE (All Times Eastern)

10:00 AM	Optional Drivers Meeting
1:00 PM	Welcome Press Conference
3:00 PM-3:00 AM	Open-Wheels.com 500 Mile Race Practice
8:00 PM	<i>Today at the 500 presented by Thru Kaiser's Visor Airing</i>

Continued on next page...

2019 Open-Wheels.com 500 Mile Race
Daily Trackside Report
November 3-17, 2019



ENTRY UPDATES

- Danyyil Moysa's car name has been changed from Independent to EVO SR Honda, and his team has been changed from Independent to EVO SR. Moysa remains the driver of the No. 12 Dallara IR-18 Chevrolet.
- Carter McCue, driver of the No. 27 Screenmobile/Driven2SaveLives/Open-Wheels.com Watkins Motorsports Group Dallara IR-18 Chevrolet, is not eligible to participate in today's practice due to safety rating restrictions.
- Lluç Ibañez, driver of the No. 60 MRW/AutosVelilla/ILSR.com Fritosport Dallara IR-18 Chevrolet, will not be eligible to participate in today's practice until he accepts the Open-Wheels Motorsports Sanctioning league invitation on iRacing.
- Tommy Gossett, driver of the No. 80 VPR/GTR Simulators/K&M Graphics Outlaw Motorsports Dallara IR-18 Chevrolet, will not be eligible to participate in today's practice until he accepts the Open-Wheels Motorsports Sanctioning league invitation on iRacing

On Sunday morning, Open-Wheels.com 500 Mile Race president Tanner Watkins was joined by Michele Costantini, driver of the No. 66 Apex Racing Team with Indy 500 Group Dallara IR-18 Honda), to talk about the first day of the inaugural event – and the road to get here.

“To have today finally arrive and reach Opening Day for the inaugural Open-Wheels 500 Mile Race this is a big milestone for us,” said Watkins, who is also the owner and editor of Open-Wheels.com. “We are happy to have all of our drivers - 104 drivers in total – and all of our preferred sponsors and partners. To have everybody who's played a part in the event to this point to make it here today, it's a very special day for us so I am very proud of that.”

Watkins continued by noting the immense talent on this year's entry list – which contains 104 drivers. “It's an absolutely fantastic group of drivers on this year's entry list. I think we've got 10 former iRacing Indy 500 winners in the field, which is just a remarkable show of talent and past success with drivers on this year's entry list.

“We've got six drivers with win in the iRacing Indianapolis 500 broadcasted race - we call those ‘feature’ wins in my month of May guide for the iRacing Indy 500. So yeah we've got overall 45 guys with top split iRacing Indy 500 experience and starts under the belt, not to mention the winners. And we've also got a really good crop of rookie drivers... It's something unique to our race that you don't get all the time in these kind of one-off events. So I'm very excited about that.”

Costantini, searching for his first breakthrough win at a major 500-mile race on iRacing, was upbeat about the event and how impressed he has been with its professionalism in its first year.

2019 Open-Wheels.com 500 Mile Race
Daily Trackside Report
November 3-17, 2019



“Tanner and Open-Wheels.com have made an incredible job with this race,” Costantini stated. “The level of professionalism I've seen in the scheduling of this event, I've probably never seen anywhere else in iRacing in any sim racing event that I've taken part in. So that of course plays a big role in my decision of taking part in this race.

“Also, how the race is so similar to real life, of course, because as you said previously the iRacing Indy 500 is a little bit different to this one. The qualifying format is different, and the start as Tanner mentioned earlier. So yeah those are all big parts of my decision of why I've decided to take part in this race.”

The Apex Racing Team with Indy 500 Group driver continued by describing his continued alliance with Indy 500 Group – one of the most powerful teams in the iRacing IndyCar paddock currently.

“We started working together - these three teams - for the iRacing Indy 500 this year, and we've actually been a very good group,” noted the Italian driver. “I would say we got along pretty well quite quickly, and the results have also really shown in the iRacing Indy 500 as well. I think we had four out of the top five cars in that race - the broadcasted feature race - so that was a pretty good result for the team. We've also shown pretty good results in some of the other IndyCar leagues. So I would say all of the guys have really got along well in the team and that's just positive for this race. Hopefully we can do as well in this race as well.”

As for practice preparation? Costantini was looking forward to do a bit of race trim running to get a feel of his car in traffic – something that will certainly play out over the next two weeks in practice.

“Today's practice will probably be more concentrated about race pace and running in traffic. Because, of course, in practice sessions you really want to try the car out in traffic as you have a lot of cars around. That's the best chance to try and get the feel for the car in traffic, of course. And about the race, a good result for the team I would say would probably be.”

And for an expectation out of this year's race for Costantini?

“Well of course our aim is to put the car in victory lane, of course. So basically that is the that is the goal, but a good showing (would) maybe be two cars in the top-five if the performances is good enough.”

Continued on next page...

2019 Open-Wheels.com 500 Mile Race
Daily Trackside Report
November 3-17, 2019



OPEN-WHEELS.COM 500 MILE RACE PRACTICE

3:00 PM – **GREEN.** The Speedway is open for practice for all entrants.

3:04 PM – Peter Bennett is the first driver to hit the track in his No. 8 TeamEVO SR Honda Dallara IR-18. Bennett hails from the United Kingdom & Ireland club and drives for Team EVO SR. In Indianapolis 500 history, the best finish for the “First On Track” driver since 1984 is second place – twice. Marco Andretti finished runner-up to Sam Hornish Jr. in 2006, and Helio Castroneves was second to Ryan Hunter-Reay in 2014, both after being the first on track.

3:19 PM – Danyyil Moysa (No. 12 EVO SR Dallara IR-18 Honda) posts the fastest lap speed of the session at 229.767mph (39.170s).

3:24 PM – Silvio Roberto Sanchez (No. 407 Corinthians Rally Team Dallara IR-18 Chevrolet) posts the fastest lap of the session at 229.943mph (39.140s).

3:36 PM – A total of 18 drivers have brought their cars to pit lane with 15 posting a lap time. A total of 229 laps have been turned in the session.

3:38 PM – Thales Toledo (No. 77 Independent Dallara IR-18 Honda) goes quickest of the session with a lap of 231.089mph (38.946s).

5:31 PM – A total of 26 drivers have set times thus far with 28 drivers taking their cars to pit lane. 1,268 laps have been turned in the session’s first two-and-a-half hours, and 24 drivers have broken the 40-second lap time barrier. Thales Toledo (38.946s) and Silvio Roberto Sanchez (38.952s) are the fastest two drivers – both from Brazil – and Wilson Neto has the quickest 15-lap average (40.244s) who is also from Brazil.

5:33 PM – Firestone reports that the track temperature is 115 degrees Fahrenheit, up from 114 degrees Fahrenheit at the start of the session. The ambient temperature is 78 degrees Fahrenheit under partly cloudy skies.

5:40 PM – Dylan Freckelton (No. 313 Independent Dallara IR-18 Honda) has the quickest five-lap average at a speed of 228.705mph (39.352s).

5:54 PM – Christopher Demeritt (No. 144 Broken Aero with Indy 500 Group Dallara IR-18 Honda) posts the quickest time of the day with a lap at 231.935mph (38.804s).

6:19 PM – Zachary Campbell (No. 2 Apex Racing Team/SDK Gaming/Simputers PC Systems Dallara IR-18 Honda) sets the new quickest time of the day with a lap at 233.433mph (38.555s).

Continued on next page...

2019 Open-Wheels.com 500 Mile Race
Daily Trackside Report
November 3-17, 2019



- 6:25 PM – 30 drivers have posted times in the session thus far, and 32 cars are at the Speedway. A total of 27 entries have run a lap quicker than 40 seconds, and five have logged laps quicker than 39 seconds. 1,553 laps have been completed across all competitors to this point.
- 6:55 PM – Hugo Olsson (No. 39 Independent Dallara IR-18 Honda) has logged the most laps of any driver to this point with a total of 207 circuits completed. Olsson, who belongs to the Scandinavia club, is 17th-quickest with a best lap of 229.066mph (39.290s).
- 7:16 PM – Marco Aurelio Brasil (No. 812 TES Racing Dallara IR-18 Chevrolet) climbs to eighth-quickest with a best lap of 229.879mph (39.151s). Brasil is the reigning iRacing Indianapolis 500 pole sitter and drives for TES Racing.
- 7:31 PM – A total of 37 cars are at the Speedway, and 34 drivers have set times. 1,841 laps have been turned through the session's first four-and-a-half hours. Firestone reports that the track temperature is 115 degrees Fahrenheit, and the ambient temperature is 78 degrees Fahrenheit under partly cloudy skies.
- 7:36 PM – John Watkins (No. 88 Watkins Motorsports Group Dallara IR-18 Chevrolet) makes his first laps of practice. Watkins is the father of Open-Wheels.com 500 Mile Race president Tanner Watkins, and hails from Grants Pass, Oregon.
- 8:00 PM – The first airing of *Today at the 500 presented by Thru Kaiser's Visor* is held, featuring guests Matt Pawelski, Jeremy Davis, Wilson Neto and Tyson Landis.
- 9:07 PM – A total of 38 drivers have posted times in practice thus far, with 35 drivers inside the 40-second mark. Six drivers have run laps quicker than 39 seconds, and there are three Brazilian drivers in the first six spots – continuing their success from May and the iRacing Indianapolis 500.
- 9:56 PM – Marco Aurelio Brasil (No. 812 TES Racing Dallara IR-18 Chevrolet) posts the fastest time of practice with a lap at 233.669mph (38.516s). This is the last lap Marco would run on Opening Day, 97 laps in total.
- 10:35 PM – With just under four and ½ hours remaining in practice, 40 drivers have placed laps in today's session and 41 cars are at the Speedway. 36 drivers have run laps under 40 seconds, and six drivers have run laps less than 39 seconds. Wilson Neto has run the most laps in the session with 249 to his name, and there have been a total of 2,050 laps completed across all drivers today. For the first time since the opening moments of practice, there are no drivers on the track.

Continued on next page...

2019 Open-Wheels.com 500 Mile Race
Daily Trackside Report
November 3-17, 2019



12:00 AM – Three hours remain in practice, and the top five remains unchanged. Marco Aurelio Brasil (38.516s) leads Zachary Campbell, Christopher Demeritt, AJ Burton, and Thales Toledo in the top five.

3:00 AM – Practice has concluded for Opening Day at the Open-Wheels.com 500 Mile Race. Marco Aurelio Brasil was the quickest driver with a best lap speed of 233.669mph (38.516s). Only 423 laps were turned in the session's final four and ½ hours. Club Brazil finished with three drivers inside the first six positions, and Wilson Neto ran the most laps throughout practice with 249 circuits completed.

A total of 40 cars were on-track today, and 42 cars are at the Speedway in total. The two drivers who were present for practice but did not reach the track were Michele Costantini (No. 66 Apex Racing Team/SDK Gaming/VRS Dallara IR-18 Honda) and Michael Chinn (No. 35 Flying Solo Racing Dallara IR-18 Chevrolet). Chinn brought a Dallara IR-05 to pit lane but did not make any laps.

All drivers to record times in Sunday's session piloted a Dallara IR-18 chassis. There were zero yellow flag periods. The high today was 78 degrees Fahrenheit and the track temperature began the session at 112 degrees Fahrenheit, ending the session at 115 degrees Fahrenheit. Winds were out of the North at 2 mph.

Cars on the track today (in order of speed): #812 Marco Aurelio Brasil, #2 Zachary Campbell, #144 Christopher Demeritt, #57 AJ Burton, #77 Thales Toledo, #407 Silvio Roberto Sanchez, #33 John Hajek-Doggett, #12 Danyyil Moysa, #421 Wilson Neto, #46 Jeffrey Stanton, #44 Liam Quinn, #42 Chad Simpson, #51 Borja Bueno, #39 Hugo Olsson, #75 Matt Pawelski, #21 Logan Simmons, #98 Pierre Bourdon, #40 Adam Plunkett, #8 Peter Bennett, #37 Nate S Stewart, #313 Dylan Freckelton, #72 Hugo Hernandez Gutierrez, #31 Tyson Landis, #20 John Downing, #43 Dakota DiCienzo, #5 Oliver Silva Barrera, #54 Payton Gries, #91 Ernie Williams Jr., #88 John Watkins, #4 Jeff Drake, #888 Andrew Roos, #19 Craig Hawkins, #7 Blade Whitt, #25 Ray Kingsbury, #58 Riley Thompson, #56 Bradley Walters, #48 Nick Autorina, #86 Raul Alvarez, #13 Chris Stofer, and #11 Alex Cain.

FASTEST TIMES/SPEEDS OF THE DAY

Pos.	Car	Name	Team	Time	Speed (mph)
1.	812	Marco Aurelio Brasil	TES Racing	38.516s	233.669mph
2.	2	Zachary Campbell	Apex Racing Team w/ Indy 500 Group	38.555	233.433
3.	144	Christopher Demeritt	Broken Aero w/ Indy 500 Group	38.593	233.203
4.	57	AJ Burton	Indy 500 Group w/ Broken Aero/ART	38.818	231.851
5.	77	Thales Toledo	Independent	38.946	231.089
6.	407	Silvio Roberto Sanchez	Corinthians Rally Team	38.952	231.054
7.	33	John Hajek-Doggett	Team Talent	39.011	230.704
8.	12	Danyyil Moysa	EVO SR	39.104	230.155
9.	421	Wilson Neto	Interlagos Motorsport	39.123	230.044
10.	46	Jeffrey Stanton	JSRacing with BIG EVIL, Farlow & JSRL	39.154	229.862



POST-PRACTICE DRIVER QUOTES

P1. MARCO AURELIO BRASIL (No. 812 TES Racing Dallara IR-18 Chevrolet): "(It was a) good night. We worked a lot on the mileage accumulation and adjustments to qualify with rubber, because (in qualifying) the track will vary a lot so we used (practice) to work (on) several adjustments. We know that we have the best car for classification, as I (earned) pole in the iRacing Indianapolis 500 this year and have the Indianapolis track record. So it is evolve and improve. I'm sure we'll fight for pole position with Wilson Neto and Silvio Sanchez."

P2. ZACHARY CAMPBELL (No. 2 Apex Racing Team w/ Indy 500 Group Dallara IR-18 Chevrolet): "Feels great to have this kind of speed right out of the gate. Obviously at the open test the whole I5G group had great speed, and for us to be 2-3-4 after all is said and done is great and all, but you know as well as I do that practice speeds only indicate so much. We spent about 10 laps or so just trying to dial one-lap pace into it before we went back to race trim for the rest. Me, Chris, AJ, and Matt got a few fuel runs in and learned a lot about how the car will behave in the race. There are a few things that we'll need to take back and debrief on, but personally I feel (Sunday) was a success, and I hope we can build on that for the rest of the month."

P3. CHRISTOPHER DEMERITT (No. 144 Broken Aero w/ Indy 500 Group Dallara IR-18 Honda): "The fastest recorded time of the session is always a fun standing to go after, but often times they become draft-assisted qualifying runs so you don't get much information from them at all. P3 is always a good place to end the session, but my focus has shifted towards practicing unassisted qualifying runs and running a full fuel run in the draft to get ready for the race. After Zac and I had some fun going for fastest time, we did some long race runs together to get a handle on what the car felt like behind each other, which will be really important during the race (as long as I don't get bumped). So overall feeling pretty good but plenty more practicing is in my future."

P4. AJ BURTON (No. 57 Indy 500 Group w/ Broken Aero/ART Dallara IR-18 Honda): "It was an exciting session to start the month off. We knew the car had a lot of speed from previous year's running but Opening Day was all about getting back into the groove at IMS after several months away, and I think we achieved that. I was able to run some race sims with my I5G teammates Zac, Chris and Matt which were a lot of fun, and all of us were able to post times towards the top of the timesheets as a bonus. Hopefully we'll continue to be fast for the whole month."

P5. THALES TOLEDO (No. 77 Independent Dallara IR-18 Honda): "(Sunday) practice was good. As a rookie, and unexperienced in this kind of event, I have to test some stuff to try to put me in the (field of) 33 – which I think it will be pretty hard, considering the level of the drivers. For a possible race, the car handles pretty well in the dirty air and is pretty safe, just hope that (it is) fast enough."

P7. JOHN HAJEK-DOGGETT (No. 33 Team Talent Dallara IR-18 Honda): "Had a pretty big tow on that lap, so not too meaningful in the grand scheme of things. Nonetheless, it's great to see Team Talent represented in the top-10 yesterday, and we're going to keep working towards being up there on Saturday as well!"

P8. DANYIIL MOYSA (No. 12 EVO SR Dallara IR-18 Honda): "As a rookie, I am placing a lot of effort into this event. Competing against the best drivers and teams that spend a lot of their time just for this event puts me under a lot of pressure, but I am looking forward to the qualifying day to hopefully be one of the top 33 drivers."

P9. WILSON NETO (No. 421 Interlagos Motorsport Dallara IR-18 Honda): "My first official practice was pretty good. I did everything I was planning on testing, especially the race setup. Qualifying tests didn't go quite as good as expected, I will have to work this week to find out what can I do to improve my 4-laps average. At the end of the session, it was fun towing Marco to get him the fastest lap. Qualifying laps with a huge draft doesn't count much, but it's always fun to push the car to its limits."

Continued on next page...

2019 Open-Wheels.com 500 Mile Race
Daily Trackside Report
November 3-17, 2019



P10. JEFFREY STANTON (No. 46 JSRacing with BIG EVIL, Farlow & JSRL Dallara IR-18 Chevrolet): "Just trying to learn more things for qualifying, primarily. Hopefully I can find the right target to hit as my car has been everywhere but onto it. It was really cool to hit a 39.15 despite the slipstream on the front straight, however."

TUESDAY'S SCHEDULE (All Times Eastern)

3:00 PM-3:00 AM Open-Wheels.com 500 Mile Race Practice

8:00 PM *Today at the 500 presented by Thru Kaiser's Visor* Airing