



Firestone

GRAND PRIX OF ST. PETERSBURG

PRESENTED BY **RP FUNDING**

FACT SHEET / General Information

ABOUT THE EVENT

WHAT	The 21 st Annual Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg presented by RP Funding returns to the downtown streets and waterfront as the season-opening event for the NTT INDYCAR SERIES for the 15 th time. Five racing series featuring open-wheel action and sports car racing will take the green flag.
WHEN	February 28 - March 2, 2025
WHERE	Held on a temporary waterfront street course that includes a combination of adjacent downtown streets circling Pioneer Park, the Duke Energy Center for the Arts (Mahaffey Theater), The Dali Museum and extending onto the runway of Albert Whitted Airport, and borders Tampa Bay and picturesque St. Petersburg Harbor and Marina.
RACES	8 total races NTT INDYCAR SERIES INDY NXT by Firestone <i>Plus, doubleheader features for the following:</i> USF Pro 2000 Presented by Continental Tire USF2000 Presented by Continental Tire Whelen Mazda MX-5 Cup presented by Michelin
OWNERS	Kim Green and Kevin Savoree of Green Savoree Racing Promotions
TRACK	1.8-mile, 14-turn temporary street course
INDYCAR	Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg presented by RP Funding is the first of 17 rounds of the 2024 NTT INDYCAR SERIES schedule.
FLORIDA	Only NTT INDYCAR SERIES race held in Florida.
SPONSORS	Firestone has been the title sponsor of this event since 2014. RP Funding joined as the event's very first presenting sponsor in 2022.
SPECIAL EVENTS	<p><u>5K Run on the Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg Track:</u> Thursday, February 27 - runners and walkers will have the unique opportunity to "race on track." Register at gpstpete5k.com. 5K starts at 5:00 p.m. ET on Bayshore Drive NE adjacent to North Straub Park. All proceeds benefit the Police Athletic League of St. Petersburg (PAL). Since 2017, \$333,265 has been donated to PAL via contributions from the Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg and proceeds from this 5K. In 2024, race owners Kim Green and Kevin Savoree were awarded the Ed Schatzman Circle of Excellence Award for their commitment to PAL's mission of empowering local youth.</p> <p><u>INDYCAR Party in the Park:</u> Thursday, February 27 - Free community event in North</p>

Straub Park from 4-7 p.m. ET. Opportunity for fans to see race cars up close from all series, get driver autographs and more.

**TV /
STREAMING**

NTT INDYCAR SERIES: Sunday, March 2 – Live race coverage nationally on FOX starting at 12 noon ET airing locally on WTVT FOX 13 Tampa Bay. Practice and qualifying sessions air live on FS1 or FS2.

INDY NXT: Race broadcast live on FS1. Practice and qualifying sessions air live on FS1 or FS2.

USF Pro 2000 and USF2000: Global live streaming can be found on the series' respective websites usfpro2000.com and usf2000.com.

Mazda MX-5 Cup: Global live streaming at IMSA.com/tvlive.

VOLUNTEERS Nearly 500 volunteers in 15 specialty areas contribute to the success of the event.

ON-TRACK PROGRAMMING

The **NTT INDYCAR SERIES** is North America's premier open-wheel auto racing series. It features an international field of the world's most versatile drivers – including three-time and reigning back-to-back series champion Alex Palou, two-time series champion Will Power, six-time series champion Scott Dixon and two-time series champion and reigning back-to-back Indianapolis 500 winner Josef Newgarden – who compete on superspeedways, short ovals, street circuits and permanent road courses. The 2025 season consists of 17 races in the United States and Canada and is highlighted by the historic Indianapolis 500 presented by Gainbridge. The NTT INDYCAR SERIES, INDYCAR, INDY NXT by Firestone, the Indianapolis Motor Speedway and IMS Productions are owned by Penske Corporation, a global transportation, automotive and motorsports leader. For more information on the NTT INDYCAR SERIES, please visit www.indycar.com.

INDY NXT by Firestone is the developmental series of INDYCAR as it advances drivers and team personnel to compete in the NTT INDYCAR SERIES and the Indianapolis 500 presented by Gainbridge. INDY NXT by Firestone, formerly known as Indy Lights, focuses on the next generation of open-wheel racers and is the premier proving ground for young talent and innovative technologies. The 2025 season consists of 14 races in the United States. Past series champions include INDYCAR SERIES champions Tony Kanaan, Scott Dixon, Josef Newgarden, Paul Tracy and Cristiano da Matta. The NTT INDYCAR SERIES, INDY NXT by Firestone, the Indianapolis Motor Speedway and IMS Productions are owned by Penske Corporation, a global transportation, automotive and motorsports leader. For more information on INDY NXT by Firestone, please visit www.indynxt.com. For more information on INDYCAR and the NTT INDYCAR SERIES, please visit www.indycar.com.

USF Pro 2000 Presented by Continental Tire (formerly Indy Pro 2000) has served as a vital step on the career path of many of today's top drivers. It is the third official step on the USF Pro Championships ladder. The series is sanctioned by USAC and owned and operated by Andersen Promotions. The 2025 USF Pro 2000 champion will receive a scholarship valued at \$546,500 to advance to INDY NXT in 2026.

Six of the past seven USF Pro 2000 champions have made it to the top level of INDYCAR with 2023 champion Myles Rowe set to continue to hone his skills in INDY NXT with ABEL Motorsports with Force Indy. In total, the USF Pro Championships Presented by Continental Tire will distribute over \$1.43M in prize money and awards.

USF2000 Championship Presented by Continental Tire debuted in 2010 and is a continuation of the highly regarded USF2000 series which ran from 1990 through 2006, launching the careers of many of today's top drivers. The series is the second official step on the USF Pro Championships Presented by Continental Tire ladder - a clearly defined path to reach the top echelons of the sport. In addition to providing a vital training ground for rising stars, the 2025 USF2000 champion will receive a scholarship valued at \$405,040 to advance to USF Pro 2000 in 2026. Graduates include Kyle Kirkwood, Christian Rasmussen, Myles Rowe and reigning champion Max Garcia.

The Whelen Mazda MX-5 Cup presented by Michelin is the signature spec series for Mazda Motorsports. The MX-5 Cup champion earns a \$250,000 scholarship at season's end. MX-5 Cup has been sanctioned by IMSA since 2021. Each of the series' seven event weekends – run as a companion to either WeatherTech Championship or IndyCar events – features a pair of 45-minute races.

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FACT SHEET / History

HISTORY

2025 The Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg presented by RP Funding will be the 21st annual running for INDYCAR racing on the streets of downtown St. Petersburg. This is the 15th time the race will serve as the NTT INDYCAR SERIES season-opening event.

BEGINNING The inaugural Grand Prix of St. Petersburg was in 2005 and won by the late Dan Wheldon, two-time Indianapolis 500 champion and local resident. A Champ Car World Series race was run on the circuit in 2003. No race was held in 2004.

TITLE Title sponsorship partners for the event have included:

SPONSOR Firestone 2014 to present
Honda 2005 to 2013

PAST The winners of the Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg include:

INDYCAR WINNERS

2024	*Pato O'Ward, Arrow McLaren
2023	Marcus Ericsson, Chip Ganassi Racing
2022	Scott McLaughlin, Team Penske
2021	Colton Herta, Andretti Autosport
2020	Josef Newgarden, Team Penske
2019	Josef Newgarden, Team Penske
2018	Sebastien Bourdais, Dale Coyne Racing with Vasser-Sullivan
2017	Sebastien Bourdais, Dale Coyne Racing
2016	Juan Pablo Montoya, Team Penske
2015	Juan Pablo Montoya, Team Penske
2014	Will Power, Team Penske
2013	James Hinchcliffe, Andretti Autosport
2012	Helio Castroneves, Team Penske
2011	Dario Franchitti, Target Chip Ganassi Racing
2010	Will Power, Team Penske
2009	Ryan Briscoe, Team Penske
2008	Graham Rahal, Newman/Haas/Lanigan Racing
2007	Helio Castroneves, Team Penske
2006	Helio Castroneves, Team Penske
2005	Dan Wheldon, Andretti Green Racing
2004	No race held
2003	<i>Paul Tracy, Forsythe Racing (Champ Car World Series sanctioned event)</i>

**Pato O'Ward was awarded the victory after Team Penske's Josef Newgarden was disqualified for violating INDYCAR's "Push to Pass" parameters.*

REPEAT WINNERS Helio Castroneves (three wins: 2006, 2007 and 2012), Will Power (two wins: 2010 and 2014), Juan Pablo Montoya (two wins: 2015 and 2016), Sebastien Bourdais (two wins: 2017 and 2018), and Josef Newgarden (2019 and 2020) are the repeat winners on the streets of St. Petersburg.

TEAM WINS Team Penske has the most wins on the streets of St. Petersburg, having won 11 races in the history of the event.

FASTEST RACE At a 100-lap race distance, the fastest race was set by Scott McLaughlin on February 27, 2022, with a time of 1:51.27.3466 (96.899 mph). *(Race was shortened from 110 laps to 100 in 2020.)*

FASTEST QUAL. LAP The fastest qualifying lap time registered on the streets of St. Petersburg was on March 9, 2024 by Felix Rosenqvist with a time of 59.2706 (109.329 mph).

FASTEST RACE LAP The fastest race lap was set by Kyffin Simpson, on March 10, 2024, with a time of 1:00:8779 (106.443 mph).

HISTORIC FIRSTS

Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg presented by RP Funding has had the privilege to see a number of “firsts” take place on its track. Among them are the following:

- 2025** FOX Sports will broadcast its first race as the exclusive U.S. television partner for the NTT INDYCAR SERIES with all other INDYCAR sessions airing on FS1 or FS2
- 2025** NTT INDYCAR SERIES will race with Honda and Chevrolet designed hybrid power units for the first time on the streets of St. Petersburg. This technology - initially introduced in the middle of the 2024 season - offers additional power (+120 horsepower) and enhanced overtake capability (“Push to Pass”)
- 2024** IMSA VP Racing SportsCar Challenge competed on the streets of St. Petersburg for the first time; it also marked the first ever race for the series on a street course
- 2023** First race of IndyCar’s development series as INDY NXT by Firestone; Series uses Firestone tires exclusively for the first time since 2013
- 2022** Trackside electronic EM Motorsports Marshalling System utilized by NTT INDYCAR SERIES for the first time
- 2022** NTT INDYCAR SERIES driver Scott McLaughlin wins his first race with the series
- 2020** Site of the NTT INDYCAR SERIES season finale for the first time in its history where a new INDYCAR champion was crowned
- 2019** NBC Sports broadcasts its first race as the exclusive U.S. television partner for the NTT INDYCAR SERIES
- 2018** New aerodynamic body kit for the Indy car debuts into INDYCAR competition
- 2018** New chassis debuts for Pro Mazda series (now known as USF Pro 2000 Presented by Continental Tire)

- 2017** Sebastien Bourdais is first IndyCar driver at St. Petersburg to go from last to first to victory while also leading the most race laps
- 2017** Colton Herta becomes youngest driver in Indy Lights history to win a race
- 2015** Street/road course aero kits for the Verizon IndyCar Series make its competition debut
- 2015** The new Dallara chassis for Indy Lights makes its debut
- 2013** Verizon IndyCar Series driver James Hinchcliffe wins his first race with the series
- 2012** The new Verizon IndyCar Series Dallara chassis – known as the DW12 – makes its debut, racing for the first time at St. Petersburg
- 2012** Engine manufacturer competition is reintroduced with Honda, Chevrolet and Lotus fielding entries
- 2011** First street/road course to see double-file restarts in the Verizon IndyCar Series
- 2009** Graham Rahal is the youngest driver in IndyCar history to qualify on pole position
- 2008** Graham Rahal wins his first IndyCar race, becoming the youngest driver in IndyCar history to win a race
- 2007** The first event to feature both IndyCar and American LeMans Series (now known as the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship) races
- 2005** First event to feature an Indy Lights double-header weekend
- 2005** First non-oval event for the IndyCar Series

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FACT SHEET / Track Build

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BUILD THE FIRESTONE GRAND PRIX OF ST. PETERSBURG RACE TRACK?

The Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg presented by RP Funding is run on a 1.8-mile, 14-turn temporary waterfront circuit that includes a combination of adjacent downtown streets circling Pioneer Park, the Duke Energy Center for the Arts (Mahaffey Theater), The Dali Museum and extending onto the runway of Albert Whitted Airport, and borders Tampa Bay and the picturesque St. Petersburg Harbor and Marina.

START DATE	February 10, 2025
END DATE	March 8, 2025
RACE DATES	February 28 - March 2, 2025
INSTALLATION/ TEARDOWN	In 2025, the track build team will complete installation and teardown in 27 days, matching an event record. Track construction will take 18 days. Teardown and removal from the site will be completed within one week after the event ends.
CONCRETE	18,000 feet of steel-reinforced concrete block (each 12' in length) resulting in 20 million pounds of concrete being moved and nearly 2,000 blocks placed into position; with six (6) concrete blocks per load, Stepp's Towing hauls over 400 loads of concrete block during construction on flatbed trailers
FENCING	25,000 feet of chain-link spectator fencing lining the track; 18,000 feet of panel fencing (1,500 total panels) securing the steel-reinforced concrete barrier blocks
TIRE WALL	More than 12,000 tires - wrapped with 1,500 feet of 40-inch wide, half-inch reinforced rubber belt - are used to build the track's tire wall safety system.
TRACK WIDTH	Minimum track width is 26 feet; maximum track width is 63 feet
FRONT STRAIGHT	A front straight that is 2,350 feet or 4/10th of a mile long
BRIDGES	Five total bridges; four are pedestrian traffic bridges into the infield
GRANDSTAND	Multiple grandstands
PADDOCKS	Five race car paddocks
THE CREW	Approximately 300 workers will contribute to the construction project

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FACT SHEET / Fast Facts

NOTES OF INTEREST ABOUT THE RACE

Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg presented by RP Funding celebrates its 21st annual running, Feb. 28 - March 2, 2025. This event also serves as the NTT INDYCAR SERIES' season-opening event for the 15th time in its history.

This will be the 21st race event to take place on the temporary street circuit running on Bayshore Dr. and circling Pioneer Park, the Duke Energy Center for the Arts (Mahaffey Theater), The Dali Museum, extending onto the runway at Albert Whitted Airport, and bordering Tampa Bay and picturesque St. Petersburg Harbor and Marina. The former Champ Car World Series, which merged with INDYCAR in 2008, promoted a race on the same course layout in 2003.

The SCCA Trans-Am Series held the first racing events in St. Petersburg, 1985-1990 and 1996-1997.

Eight (8) races will take the green flag in 2025, highlighted by the NTT INDYCAR SERIES, the top open-wheel development series INDY NXT by Firestone, plus doubleheader features from USF Pro 2000 Presented by Continental Tire, USF2000 Presented by Continental Tire and Whelen Mazda MX-5 Cup presented by Michelin.

The 100-lap NTT INDYCAR SERIES race is set to take the green flag just before 12:30 p.m. ET on Sunday, March 2, with FOX, INDYCAR's new television partner, providing live national broadcast coverage (locally on FOX 13 Tampa Bay) starting at 12 noon ET.

The Honda and Chevrolet engines powering NTT INDYCAR CAR SERIES cars are equipped with a hybrid power unit (introduced in the middle of the 2024 season at Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course) which will be utilized for the first time on the St. Petersburg circuit offering additional power (+120 horsepower) and enhanced overtake capability ("Push to Pass").

Helio Castroneves is the winningest driver on the streets of St. Petersburg. He won three times (2006, 2007, and 2012) and became the first driver with back-to-back wins. Juan Pablo Montoya started a streak of back-to-back winners with victories in 2015 and 2016; St. Petersburg's own Sebastien Bourdais claimed wins in 2017 and 2018; then Josef Newgarden accomplished the feat again in 2019 and 2020.

The back-to-back streak of race winners ended in 2022 when Team Penske's Scott McLaughlin won, earning his first career series victory and setting the track record for fastest 100-lap race in the process. Marcus Ericsson took the checkered flag in 2023 for Chip Ganassi Racing after passing Pato O'Ward late in the race on Lap 97. In 2024, O'Ward claimed victory after Josef Newgarden, the original race winner, was disqualified by INDYCAR officials for improper use of the "push-to-pass" overtake boost technology.

Team Penske is the winningest team on the streets of St. Petersburg with 11 victories (Helio Castroneves in 2006, 2007 and 2012; Ryan Briscoe in 2009; Will Power in 2010 and 2014; Juan Pablo Montoya in 2015 and 2016; Josef Newgarden in 2019 and 2020; and Scott McLaughlin in 2022). Team Penske's Will Power also tops the list with nine pole positions all-time.

At the time of his achievement, Graham Rahal was the youngest driver to win an NTT INDYCAR SERIES race by securing the victory in the 2008 Grand Prix of St. Petersburg at the age of 19 years and 93 days old. Rahal was also the youngest NTT INDYCAR SERIES driver to win the pole position in qualifying at 20

years and 90 days old in 2009, also accomplished on the temporary St. Petersburg track. Colton Herta topped both marks in 2019 at Circuit of The Americas in Austin, Texas, at 18 years and 359 days old to win a race and 19 years and 83 days old to claim a pole position.

The official track record for fastest lap on the streets of St. Petersburg is 59.2706 (109.329 mph) set by Felix Rosenqvist during qualifying on March 9, 2024.

At a 100-lap race distance, the fastest race was set by Scott McLaughlin on February 27, 2022, with a time of 1:51.27.3466 (96.899 mph). *(Race was shortened from 110 laps to 100 in 2020 and remains the same length for 2025.)*

The fastest race lap was set by Kyffin Simpson, on March 10, 2024, with a time of 1:00:8779 (106.443 mph).

The winner at St. Petersburg has gone on to win the NTT INDYCAR SERIES championship five times: Paul Tracy (2003), Dan Wheldon (2005), Dario Franchitti (2011), Will Power (2014) and Josef Newgarden (2019).

According to an economic study conducted on behalf of Visit St. Pete/Clearwater, the 2023 race generated an economic impact of approximately \$61 million, and the 2024 race drew an even larger crowd. Event attendance records have been surpassed in the past three successive events (2022, 2023 and 2024).

Florida is a strong television market for the NTT INDYCAR SERIES. For the entire 2024 season, these DMAs ranked in the top 25 for average viewership ratings:

- Ft. Myers-Naples
- Orlando-Daytona Beach-Melbourne
- Tampa-St. Petersburg

What does it take to build a race track?

- The famous Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg 1.8-mile, 14-turn waterfront circuit is assembled by approximately 300 workers, and will be completed in just 18 days in 2025, matching an event record.
- The process has become more efficient each year, with tear-down and removal expected to be completed within one week in 2025.
- 18,000 feet of steel-reinforced concrete block resulting in 20 million pounds of concrete being moved; additionally, 18,000 feet of panel fencing are erected holding the blocks into place.
- 25,000 feet of chain-link spectator fencing erected.
- Over 12,000 tires are used in the construction of the course for the track's safety wall system.

Did you know?

- If you drive an Indy car at its average race speed of 102 mph across the 4.1-mile Sunshine Skyway Bridge spanning Tampa Bay, your right rear street course tire would rotate 2,953 times during the two-minute, 25-second drive. That's roughly 18 revolutions per second!

Community Kickoff Events

Thursday, Feb. 27: 5K Run on the Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg Track

Runners and walkers will have the unique opportunity to "race on track" during the 2025 Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg presented by RP Funding weekend. Online registration is available at gpstpete5k.com. The 5K starts at 5 p.m. ET on Bayshore Drive NE adjacent to North Straub Park, and all

proceeds benefit the Police Athletic League of St. Petersburg (PAL). Since 2017, \$333,265 has been donated to PAL via contributions from the Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg and proceeds from this 5K.

Thursday, Feb. 27: INDYCAR Party in the Park

The 5K Run will coincide with the INDYCAR Party in the Park community event which is open to all and free to enter. The party will take place in North Straub Park from 4-7 p.m. ET and provide fans the opportunity to see race cars up close, get driver autographs and more. After completing the 5K, participants are encouraged to join the gathering as top finishers will be recognized on the INDYCAR Party in the Park stage.

Dan Wheldon Way and Victory Circle Monuments

On March 7, 2012, the City of St. Petersburg dedicated and renamed a roadway to honor race car driver and city resident Dan Wheldon, who lost his life in a racing accident at the end of the 2011 INDYCAR season in Las Vegas. He was the first Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg winner and a two-time Indianapolis 500 champion. To memorialize the life and legacy of Dan Wheldon aka "Lionheart" and capture the rich history of INDYCAR racing in St. Petersburg, a collaborative venture between INDYCAR, Green Savoree Racing Promotions and the City of St. Petersburg was born. The result of that collaboration is the Dan Wheldon and Victory Circle Monuments located at Bayshore Dr. and Albert Whitted Park (outside Turn 10 on the Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg race circuit and positioned just southwest of Dan Wheldon Way) which was unveiled and dedicated on March 21, 2013. Each year's winner has the honor of permanently placing an engraved plaque bearing his name on the monument as an annual tradition of the Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg presented by RP Funding in Dan Wheldon's memory. A third wall will be constructed and added to the monument in 2025 to make space for recent and future race winner plaques to be added, including victories by Scott McLaughlin in 2022, Marcus Ericsson in 2023 and Pato O'Ward in 2024.

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