



 **INDYCAR** WEEKEND AUG. 30 - SEPT. 1



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CELEBRITY CHEF PAUL BARTOLOTTA AND WISCONSIN GOVERNOR TONY EVERS NAMED GRAND MARSHALS FOR HY-VEE MILWAUKEE MILE 250s WEEKEND

Wisconsin Luminaries to Serve Honorary Roles for INDYCAR's First Event in Milwaukee Since 2015

WEST ALLIS, Wis. (August 28, 2024) — Two of Wisconsin's trailblazing leaders have been named Grand Marshals for this weekend's much-anticipated return of INDYCAR to the historic Milwaukee Mile at Wisconsin State Fair Park – the Hy-Vee Milwaukee Mile 250s. Renowned local chef and restaurateur Paul Bartolotta will serve as Grand Marshal for the 250-mile NTT INDYCAR SERIES race held on Saturday, August 31 (5:00 pm CT on Peacock) at the Milwaukee Mile, while Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers will be the Grand Marshal for the second series race of the unique doubleheader holiday weekend on Sunday, September 1 (1:30 pm CT on USA Network and Peacock).

Bartolotta and Evers will join representatives from event title sponsor Hy-Vee, along with a popular local youth music ensemble, in official roles for the first INDYCAR event hosted at the legendary one-mile oval since 2015.

On Saturday, Milwaukee celebrity chef and restaurateur Paul Bartolotta will set the table for the first NTT INDYCAR SERIES race of the weekend at the world's oldest operating racetrack. As Grand Marshal for the first Hy-Vee Milwaukee Mile 250s race, Bartolotta will deliver the traditional command of "Drivers, Start Your Engines" prior to the start of the 250-lap race. Bartolotta, a James Beard multiple award-winning chef, owner and co-founder of The Bartolotta Restaurants, helped bring the popular "Top Chef" franchise to Milwaukee. During its 21st season, "Top Chef: Wisconsin" featured segments produced throughout Greater Milwaukee and across the state of Wisconsin. The industry-leading cooking competition reality show aired on Bravo TV. Bartolotta himself has also made numerous television appearances on shows such as "Top Chef," "Iron Chef," "The Today Show," "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" "The Talk" and "Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous."

Serving as Grand Marshal for Sunday's Hy-Vee Milwaukee Mile 250s, Governor Evers will be featured in pre-race ceremonies and he will deliver the command for drivers to start their engines moments before the green flag flies to begin the second NTT INDYCAR SERIES race of the doubleheader weekend. Evers is the 46th Governor of the State of Wisconsin and he worked extensively with INDYCAR and Wisconsin State Fair Park over the last two years to bring back the series back to the Milwaukee Mile. Keenly aware

of INDYCAR's rich history of racing at the venue, Governor Evers has also proudly stated that the state's Executive Residence, where he calls home, features a 1939 poster commemorating the very first open-wheel racing event held at the Milwaukee Mile.

Officials representing Hy-Vee, the growing employee-owned supermarket chain across the Midwest, will literally wave the green flag on the first-ever NTT INDYCAR SERIES doubleheader weekend at the Milwaukee Mile. Hy-Vee Vice President of Sports Marketing, Matt Nickell, will be the Honorary Starter for Saturday's series race as he'll wave the green flag from the starter's stand. Drew Holmes, Hy-Vee Executive Vice President of Merchandising, will have the honor of starting Sunday's 250-lap race as he'll wave the green flag to begin the racing action. Hy-Vee's sponsorship of the Milwaukee Mile race weekend represents the company's latest investment in motorsports. With eight grocery stores currently located throughout Wisconsin, Hy-Vee continues to expand its racing presence, which originally began in 2020 when the company first partnered with Rahal Letterman Lanigan Racing as a team sponsor in the NTT INDYCAR SERIES.

Hy-Vee Milwaukee Mile 250s Weekend will help shine the spotlight on Wisconsin's young musical talent as members from the 56th "Kids From Wisconsin" troupe will perform the National Anthem before the engines are fired before both of this weekend's NTT INDYCAR SERIES races. Since its inception in 1969, Kids From Wisconsin has been attracting gifted individuals between ages 15 and 20 to join this talented cast of musicians and entertainers. The non-profit organization's "Larger than Life" tour will include patriotic performances during the Labor Day Weekend racing festival.

To learn more and to purchase tickets for Hy-Vee Milwaukee Mile 250s Weekend, visit <https://wistatefair.com/wsfp/indycar-weekend-at-the-milwaukee-mile/>.

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Hy-Vee, Inc. is an employee-owned corporation operating more than 550 business units across eight Midwestern states with sales of more than \$13 billion annually. The supermarket chain is synonymous with quality, variety, convenience, healthy lifestyles, culinary expertise and superior customer service. Hy-Vee ranks in the Top 5 Most Trusted Brands and has been named one of America's Top 3 favorite grocery stores. The company's more than 75,000 employees provide "A Helpful Smile in Every Aisle" to customers every day. For additional information, visit www.hy-vee.com.

The Milwaukee Mile and Wisconsin State Fair Park:

The Milwaukee Mile is the oldest continuously operating motor speedway in the world. It was built as a privately owned horse track in 1876 and hosted its first automobile race in 1903. In 1891 the Agricultural Society of Wisconsin purchased a parcel of land, including the track, which became the permanent location of the annual Wisconsin State Fair. Many historic racing moments took place at the Milwaukee Mile, and auto racing icon A.J. Foyt competed in more races at the legendary oval than any other facility. Wisconsin State Fair Park is a year-round entertainment venue hosting hundreds of events and meetings annually throughout the four seasons, including the annual Wisconsin State Fair, presented by UScellular. The Wisconsin State Fair takes place for 11-days each year in early August, and annually welcomes an average of one million visitors to experience the state's largest agriculture showcase as well as a plethora of food, shopping, rides, games and entertainment. The Fair Park is home to the Exposition Center, Tommy G. Thompson Youth Center, Milwaukee Mile Speedway, Wisconsin Products Pavilion, and many other facilities. Visit WiStateFair.com for more details.

INDYCAR is the Indianapolis-based governing body for North America's premier open-wheel auto racing series, the NTT INDYCAR SERIES, and its developmental series, INDY NXT by Firestone. The NTT INDYCAR SERIES features an international field of the world's most versatile drivers – including two-time and reigning series champion Alex Palou, six-time series champion Scott Dixon, two-time series champion and reigning Indy 500 winner Josef Newgarden and four-time Indianapolis 500 winner Helio Castroneves – who compete on superspeedways, short ovals, street circuits and permanent road courses. The 2024 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, 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 INDYCAR and the NTT INDYCAR SERIES, please visit www.indycar.com. For more information on INDY NXT by Firestone, please visit www.indynxt.com.