



MRTI: Tony Cotman in as race director for Indy Lights

By Chris Estrada

After a year away from the post, Tony Cotman has re-assumed the role of race director for the Indy Lights series.

Cotman, the former vice president of competition for INDYCAR and Andersen Promotions' current project manager for the Lights' new 2015 equipment package, served as race director for the series from 2010 to 2012.

The Andersen group also announced several other new hires as it prepares to operate all three Mazda Road to Indy series this season – Lights, Pro Mazda and U.S. Formula 2000.

"I am extremely pleased with the staff we have assembled to lead an invigorated Mazda Road to Indy," group owner/CEO Dan Andersen said in a statement. "What excites me is that not only have we been joined by individuals that bring top-flight credentials to the table but also people that are passionate and committed to the sport and find it personally rewarding to see drivers move up the ladder.

"We are on point with our aggressive schedule and ramp-up to make sure we oversee all three series to the best of our ability this season."

Randy Hembrey, who has served in multiple race directing roles at IMSA, is now on board as the main race director for both Pro Mazda and USF2000. In addition to working as the main director for the Porsche GT3 Cup USA and Canada series and Lamborghini Super Trofeo, he also is an assistant director for the TUDOR United SportsCar Championship.



On the technical side, Butch Winkle has been hired as assistant technical director for Lights and David Caswell will fill the same role for both Pro Mazda and USF2000. Winkle and Caswell will report to main technical director Craig Brooks.

Former American Le Mans Series driver Gerardo Bonilla has returned as primary driver coach for the Andersen group, while TUSC competitor Joel Miller will also serve as a coach when his racing schedule permits. Five-time Indianapolis 500 starter Johnny Unser is back for his fifth year as technical and driver consultant.