



PORSCHE

Motorsport News

December 20, 2016

No. 96 /16

Dear Journalist:

Early each week, Porsche Cars North America will provide a weekend summary or pre-race event notes package, covering the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship, Pirelli World Challenge (PWC), the FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC) or other areas of interest from the world of Porsche Motorsport. Please utilize this resource as needed, and do not hesitate to contact us for additional information.

- Porsche Cars North America Motorsports Public Relations Team

Please Note – this will be the last Porsche Motorsport Weekly e-mail for 2016. We wish you a pleasant holiday season and a very Happy New Year.

Porsche Motorsports Weekly Event Notes: Tuesday, December 20, 2016

Porsche Profile

Event Story Lines.

A Rose By Any Other Name. IMSA GTLM Entry Name Change To Porsche GT Team.

With the introduction of the new-for-2017 Porsche 911 RSR, Porsche Motorsport has elected to change the entrant name of the team campaigning the two-car factory effort in the IMSA GT Le Mans (GTLM) class. Effective immediately, the Nos. 911 and 912 will be officially entered under the “Porsche GT Team” banner. The name, which replaces the Porsche North America moniker used since the program’s inception in 2014, brings the IMSA series entrant into line with the naming standard of other Porsche Motorsport entities worldwide.



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Musical Chairs. Porsche Works Drivers Find Their North American Homes.

In 2017, Porsche Motorsport will employ 18 factory drivers, two Young Professionals and three Porsche Juniors. In total, 23 drivers will have a direct affiliation with the German marque's motorsport efforts worldwide. This is in addition to the hundreds of customer drivers competing with the Porsche brand around the world. Seven factory pilots will give their principal focus to North American-based programs; two more have already received their assignments for the Tequila Patrón North American Endurance Cup (TPNAEC) long-distance events.

Four works drivers have been named as the "prime crew" for the two-car Porsche GT Team operation in the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship's GT Le Mans (GTLM) class. The No. 911 Porsche GT Team Porsche 911 RSR will see 2015 IMSA GTLM Champion Patrick Pilet (France) challenging for another title in the United States and Canada-focused series. Pilet has been a factory driver since 2008. Joining the Frenchman is German Dirk Werner. Werner is himself a former GRAND AM GT class champion piloting Porsche 911 Cup cars in 2007 and 2009. Frédéric Makowiecki (France) was an IMSA regular in 2016, winning at the Circuit of the Americas (COTA). In 2017, he will share the No. 911 in the longer TPNAEC events with Pilet and Werner.

The No. 912 will have second-year Porsche factory ace Kévin Estre (France) behind the wheel for the full campaign. Sharing the new 911 RSR will be works driver freshman Laurens Vanthoor. The Belgian was announced as a factory driver in early December but has already joined the operation in testing the 2017 Porsche 911 RSR in its on-track public debut at Daytona International Speedway in mid-December. North American fans will be excited to hear that popular Austrian Richard Lietz will be back in



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IMSA racing as the endurance specialist in the No. 912. Lietz spent 2015 racing in the FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC).

With one full season under its belt, the Porsche 911 GT3 R will again be the choice for Porsche customer programs in IMSA and the Pirelli World Challenge (PWC). The Porsche entrant for categories using the international GT3 regulations was a contender for PWC GT and GTA class championships in 2016 and had one victory in the IMSA GT Daytona (GTD) category.

The IMSA Pro-Am class will see longtime Porsche favorite Jörg Bergmeister return for a second season in the No. 73 Park Place Motorsports Porsche 911 GT3 R co-driving with driver/team principal Patrick Lindsey (Santa Barbara, California). The pairing of the German and American had multiple podiums in the class in 2016.

Longtime Porsche team partner TRG returns to the German sports car manufacturer in 2017 in the IMSA GTD class. The California-based operations, with the bulk of its past success closely tied to Porsche, will be reunited with German Wolf Henzler. The likeable and fast driver was a regular in America with TRG winning the Rolex 24 together in 2010. Henzler has been a factory driver since 2008.

North America's only Porsche factory driver, Patrick Long, has unfinished business in the Pirelli World Challenge. The Manhattan Beach, California-based driver will have his opportunity to pick-up where he left off by returning to Wright Motorsports in a Porsche 911 GT3 R. Long is in pursuit of his second PWC GT Drivers' Championship having taken his first title in America's premier sprint-format sports car series in 2011. He finished second in the category in 2016 narrowly missing the title. A factory driver since



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2004, and a Porsche junior prior to that, Long also joins CORE autosport in the team's new 2017 Porsche 911 GT3 R for the Rolex 24 At Daytona on January 28-29.

The Line-Up. Porsche 2017 Drivers List.

WEC LMP1 Prototype Class Drivers. Porsche 919 Hybrid.
6 Factory Drivers.

No. 1		
Neel Jani	Switzerland	Porsche Team
André Lotterer	Germany	Porsche Team
Nick Tandy	Great Britain	Porsche Team
No. 2		
Earl Bamber	New Zealand	Porsche Team
Timo Bernhard	Germany	Porsche Team
Brendon Hartley	New Zealand	Porsche Team

GT Class Drivers. Porsche 911 RSR and Porsche 911 GT3 R.
12 Factory Drivers.

Jörg Bergmeister	Germany	IMSA, GTD	Park Place Motorsports
Michael Christensen	Denmark	WEC, LMGTE-Pro	
Romain Dumas	France	TBA	
Kévin Estre	France	IMSA, GTLM	Porsche GT Team
Wolf Henzler	Germany	IMSA, GTD	TRG
Richard Lietz	Austria	WEC, LMGTE-Pro	Porsche GT Team
Patrick Long	Manhattan Beach, Calif.	Pirelli World Challenge, GT	Wright Motorsports
Frédéric Makowiecki	France	WEC, LMGTE-Pro	
Sven Müller	Germany	TBA	
Patrick Pilet	France	IMSA, GTLM	Porsche GT Team



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Laurens Vanthoor	Belgium	IMSA, GTLM	Porsche GT Team
Dirk Werner	Germany	IMSA, GTLM	Porsche GT Team

Young Professionals. Porsche 911 GT3 Cup and Porsche 911 GT3 R.
2 Young Professionals Drivers.

Matteo Cairoli	Italy
Mathieu Jaminet	France

Porsche Juniors. Porsche 911 GT3 Cup.
3 Porsche Juniors.

Matt Campbell	Australia	Porsche Mobil1 Supercup
Dennis Olsen	Norway	
Thomas Preining	Austria	

Social Media.

- Porsche Cars North America. @Porsche
- Porsche GT Team. @PorscheNARacing
- Porsche Motorsport – GT Cars. @PorscheRaces
- Porsche Racing – 919 Hybrid. @Porsche_Team

Model Hashtags.

- Porsche 911 RSR. #911RSR
- Porsche 911 GT3 R. #911GT3R
- Porsche 911 GT3 Cup #911Cup
- Porsche 919 Hybrid. #919hybrid



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Event Hashtag.

Series Hashtags.

GT3 Cup Challenge USA. #GT3USA
GT3 Cup Challenge Canada. #GT3CAN

Upcoming Porsche Events.

IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship

Event: ROAR Before the Rolex 24, IMSA Pre-Season Test Session, Daytona International Speedway

Dateline: Daytona Beach, Florida

Date: Friday - Sunday, January 6-8, 2017

Track Length: 3.56-miles, 12-turn

Race Duration: NA

Class: GTLM (Porsche 911 RSR)
GTD (Porsche 911 GT3 R)

Round: NA

Next Round: Rolex 24 at Daytona, Daytona International Speedway, January 28-29, 2017

Porsche Motorsport Video News Releases



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<https://vimeo.com/159661478>

Photography:

<http://press.porsche.com/media/gallery2/v/photos/motorsports/happenings>

Porsche Cars North America Media Site:

<http://press.porsche.com/>

Porsche Cars North America Motorsports Site:

<http://www.porsche.com/usa/eventsandracing/motorsport>

Porsche GT Team Race Team Portal:

porscheusa.com/racing

Porsche Motorsports Media Information:

Current news, images and notes relating to Porsche can be found on our press kit. Please contact Dave Engelman or Tom Moore for the latest Porsche Motorsports media kit.

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