



## Press Release

**1 August 2021**

Interim report 2, 24-hour race at Spa-Francorchamps (Belgium)

### **Porsche customer team KCMG still on course for a top result**

**Stuttgart.** After an eventful night, Porsche is within striking distance of the leading pack with the 911 GT3 R fielded by the customer team KCMG at the 24-hour race at Spa-Francorchamps. The No. 47 car driven by Maxime Martin, his Belgian compatriot Laurens Vanthoor and Britain's Nick Tandy is currently running in fifth place after 18 hours. After 370 laps on the 7.004-kilometre Grand Prix circuit, the vehicle is just one lap behind the leader. The second best nine-eleven with KCMG drivers Josh Burdon (Australia), Alexandere Imperatori (Switzerland) and Edoardo Liberati (Italy) ranks eleventh.

An unfortunate caution phase around midnight cost the armada of 911 GT3 R the direct contact to the leading vehicles. This was followed by a streak of bad luck, which knocked many of the 500+PS sports cars from Weissach out of contention. At around 3am, the No. 22 entry from GPX Racing had to pit for repairs due to a steering problem. At about 5.30am, the car shared by Earl Bamber (New Zealand) and the works driver Matt Campbell (Australia) and Mathieu Jaminet (France) pulled out.

Over long stretches during the night, Schnabl Engineering's 911 GT3 R took over the role as the leading Porsche and maintained a steady pace among the top ten. Shortly before 4am, however, the car came into contact with another vehicle at the entrance to Eau Rouge, heralding an early end for Michael Christensen (Denmark), Dennis Olsen (Norway) and the French works driver Frédéric Makowiecki.

From that point on, the two KCMG racing cars and Dinamic Motorsport's No. 54 entry held the flag high for Porsche. After a tactically clever technical pit stop under yellow, which is usually used to change the brakes at the front axle, Tandy, Vanthoor and Martin even seemed to be within reach of the leading lap. When the competition got the chance to take a service stop of at least four minutes during a full course yellow shortly before 8am, this hope was dashed.

Dinamic Motorsport withdrew both Porsches from the race before the 16-hour mark. The No. 56 car crewed by Mikkel O. Pedersen (Denmark), Andrea Rizzoli (Italy) and works driver Romain Dumas (France) disappeared from the results list, in part due to several penalties. The sister vehicle shared by Klaus Bachler (Austria), Christian Engelhart (Germany) and Matteo Cairoli (Italy) lost time first due to brake repairs and then with the replacement of the alternator. With no chance for success, this car also retired early.

The final eight hours on the Ardennes rollercoaster presents the best-placed Porsche with an additional challenge: Nick Tandy and Maxime Martin have to complete the remaining laps without the help of the third driver Laurens Vanthoor, who was involved in an accident in the paddock and, as a precaution, was taken to hospital for a closer examination.

### **Live streaming of the event**

Spectators can watch the Spa 24-hour race via a free live stream on the website <http://www.intercontinentalgtchallenge.com>. Live timing is also available here.

### **Comments on the race so far**

**Sebastian Golz (Project Manager Porsche 911 GT3 R):** "Unfortunately, we lost a lot of cars because of accidents and technical problems, and we also kept getting thrown down the field with penalties. That's why we aren't among the leading pack at the moment. Still, on the flip side, our KCMG customer team is doing a fantastic job. Unfortunately, in the caution phase, they weren't able to rejoin the frontrunners as

they'd hoped. But we're not giving up at this point – we still have eight hours of racing ahead of us."

**Nick Tandy (KCMG, Porsche 911 GT3 R #47):** "I drove a triple stint in the night and was able to enjoy the honour of driving from dark to dawn for the first time here at Spa – that was really cool. The other great news: Our Porsche is running like a dream. The track conditions suited us and the boys from KCMG did a really great job in setting up the 911 GT3 R for the race."

**Josh Burdon (KCMG, Porsche 911 GT3 R #18):** "It's really okay. We started on P37 and knew that we had a tough job ahead of us. We managed to make our way up the order to 15<sup>th</sup> relatively quickly. Everything's going very well. Our car is more competitive in the race than it was in the practice sessions. We're currently in tenth or eleventh and there's still a long way to go to the flag. We plan to pull out all stops again in the last few hours."

Full results on [www.total24hours.com/results](http://www.total24hours.com/results).

*Further information, film and photo material in the Porsche Newsroom: [newsroom.porsche.com](http://newsroom.porsche.com). The Twitter channel @PorscheRaces provides live updates from Porsche Motorsport with the latest information and photos from racetracks around the world.*

