



Porsche Penske Motorsport heads to Road America as championship leaders

30/07/2024 Porsche Penske Motorsport has put at least one Porsche 963 on the podium at every round of this year's IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship. The works team is now determined to continue this success streak at the upcoming two-hour, 40-minute race at Road America. In the eighth race of the season, the team again fields two 685 HP hybrid prototypes in the top GTP class. The Proton Competition and JDC-Miller MotorSports customer squads will run two more Porsche 963 in the class. Three partner teams will contest the two GTD classes with one Porsche 911 GT3 R race car each.

Atlanta. Porsche Penske Motorsport returns to Road America with great memories. In 2023, the factory team clinched a green-to-checkered flag victory on the picturesque racetrack in Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin. Expectations are high as the team heads to round eight of the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship season. Porsche currently leads the manufacturers' championship in the top GTP class. In the team standings, Porsche Penske Motorsport's No. 7 crew occupies the top spot. Factory drivers Dane Cameron of Huntersville, North Carolina and Felipe Nasr from Brazil rank first in the drivers'

championship, with their Porsche colleagues Nick Tandy (Great Britain) and Mathieu Jaminet (France) in third place. AO Racing heads to the August 4 race as the top team in the GTD Pro class with Laurin Heinrich (Germany) leading the driver rankings in the class which Porsche tops the manufacturer standings.

"We have great memories of last year," reflected Urs Kuratle, Director Factory Motorsport LMDh. "In July 2023, we took a commanding lights-to-flag win at Road America. That was the second victory for the Porsche 963 and the first for the No. 7 crew. We're eager to repeat such a result. We're now turning onto the home straight of the season and leading all classifications with three races still to go. We want to hold our position and extend our lead over the competition with another win. After our recent victory in Watkins Glen, the whole team is in high spirits."

"In 2023, Road America represented an important turning point in our development as a team. We now want to continue this upward trajectory that has allowed us to lead the championship since the start of the season," explains Jonathan Diuguid, Managing Director Porsche Penske Motorsport. "With three races left on the 2024 calendar, the team is focused on maintaining the level of performance and execution that we have displayed to date. The competition is still fierce, and our competitors are pushing us. After a well-deserved summer break, we're excited to get back to the racetrack and battle it out to the end of the season."

The Proton Competition customer squad returns to the venue of its GTP debut. In 2023, the German outfit fielded a Porsche 963 in the IMSA series for the first time at Road America. Next weekend, Porsche works driver Gianmaria Bruni from Italy will share the cockpit of the No. 5 car with 24-year-old Dutchman Bent Viscaal. Richard Westbrook from Great Britain and Tijmen van der Helm from the Netherlands will take turns at the wheel of the identical No. 85 entry from JDC-Miller MotorSports.

In the GTD Pro category, the AO Racing customer team with the former Porsche Junior Laurin Heinrich from Germany is determined to take another step in the bid of the title. After winning Laguna Seca and Detroit, the team now tackles Road America with its pink No. 77 Porsche 911 GT3 R dubbed "Roxy". AO Racing's drivers currently rank first in the GTD-Pro drivers' championship with Porsche leading the manufacturers' championship. Former Porsche one-make champion Julien Andlauer (France) joins the team for Road America. In the GTD class, MDK Motorsports and Wright Motorsports will each field Porsche 911 GT3 R race cars in the pro-am style class for GT3 cars. Anders Fjordbach (Denmark) and Kerong Li (China) will continue their class campaign gathering momentum each round. Likewise, while not a full-season entrant, Wright Motorsports returns to the class with Adam Adelson (Los Angeles, California) and Adam Skeer (San Diego, California) having enjoyed podium success earlier in the year.

The race

Road America near Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin is a favorite among many drivers. The 4.048-mile (6.515-km) circuit featuring 14 turns blends perfectly into the parklike landscape. The undulating course offers several overtaking opportunities and daunting sections such as "the Kink", an extremely fast right-

handler with minimal run-off zones. The venue, known as “North America’s National Park of Speed”, was opened in 1955. Porsche holds the record for most overall wins for a manufacturer with 21 victories.

For the 2023 season, the track was resurfaced, which further increased the already high average speeds of over 133 mph (2022 DPi class qualifying). In last year’s qualifying session, Porsche “works” driver Matt Campbell (Australia) lapped the circuit with an average nearing 135 mph to cover the four-mile circuit. This makes Road America the second fastest track on the IMSA calendar after Daytona International Speedway’s oval and infield combination.

Live stream of the race:

The race can be watched live on the Peacock streaming service starting at 2:00 p.m. EDT/11:00 a.m. PDT. IMSA Radio will also cover most sessions live at IMSA.TV.

Mathieu Jaminet, Driver, No. 6 Porsche Penske Motorsport Porsche 963:

“We’ve had more than a month off since the last race in Watkins Glen so it’s high time we got back into the car. We want to continue our success streak in the IMSA championship. I particularly enjoy coming to Road America, the track’s great fun. There’s a lot of slower traffic to overtake so tactics play a key role. If we get through unscathed, we can achieve a good result. We want to keep the team on track for the title.”

Felipe Nasr, Driver, No. 7 Porsche Penske Motorsport Porsche 963:

“After the long summer break in the IMSA series, I’m thrilled to be finally racing again at Road America. The venue is one of my absolute favorites. The circuit features wonderfully fast and flowing corners. In 2023, we clinched our first victory there with our number 7 car. Dane Cameron and I are always focused on maximizing our chances. We’ll stick to this approach. Consistency is the most important factor in the fight for the championship.”

Gianmaria Bruni, Driver, No. 5 Proton Competition Porsche 963:

“Racing at Road America is always a highlight because everyone loves the track layout. The course is a big challenge, especially in a fast prototype. However, I’m holding my expectations for the race in check because, unlike many other teams, our team has never tested there. Our priority is to make up for this drawback. It’ll be tough.”

Richard Westbrook, Driver, No. 85 JDC-Miller MotorSports Porsche 963:

“Road America is the closest racetrack to our team headquarters in Minneapolis, which makes it JDC-Miller MotorSports’ home race. We’re expecting huge support from fans and many of our sponsors will be there, too. This fantastic track has a bit of everything: fast and challenging corners like the ‘Carousel’ or ‘Kink’ as well as long straights and narrow passages. We performed very strongly there with our Porsche 963 last year and I expect us to be up the front again this year. We’re aiming for a top result.”

Laurin Heinrich, Driver, No. 77 AO Racing Porsche 911 GT3 R:

“Elkhart Lake is a completely new track for me – just like Canada’s Mosport, which was exclusively for GT racing. I’m super excited because heaps of drivers rave about the track. We’ve consistently made the

most of our chances recently and extended our championship lead. We've built a small advantage, but this doesn't mean much in the IMSA series due to the points system. It's close. Everyone in the team is full on the gas at all times!"

An overview of the drivers and teams

GTP class (Porsche 963)

Proton Competition No. 5: Gianmaria Bruni (Italy) / Bent Viscaal (Netherlands)

Porsche Penske Motorsport No. 6: Mathieu Jaminet (France) / Nick Tandy (UK)

Porsche Penske Motorsport No. 7: Dane Cameron (USA) / Felipe Nasr (Brazil)

JDC-Miller MotorSports No. 85: Tijmen van der Helm (Netherlands) / Richard Westbrook (UK)

GTD-Pro class (Porsche 911 GT3 R)

AO Racing No. 77: Laurin Heinrich (Germany) / Julien Andlauer (France)

GTD class (Porsche 911 GT3 R)

MDK Motorsports (No. 86): Anders Fjordbach (Denmark) / Kerong Li (China)

Wright Motorsports (No. 120): Adam Adelson (USA) / Elliott Skeer (USA)

The schedule (local time)

Friday, August 2

1:55 – 3:25 p.m.: Free practice 1

Saturday, August 3

9:55 – 11:25 a.m.: Free practice 2

4:20 – 4:35 p.m.: Qualifying GTD-Pro / GTD

5:10 – 5:25 p.m.: Qualifying GTP

Sunday, August 4

2:10 – 4:50 p.m.: Race

MEDIA ENQUIRIES



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Image Sublines

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Title: Jonathan Diuguid, Managing Director Porsche Penske Motorsport, Road America, USA, 2024, Porsche AG

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