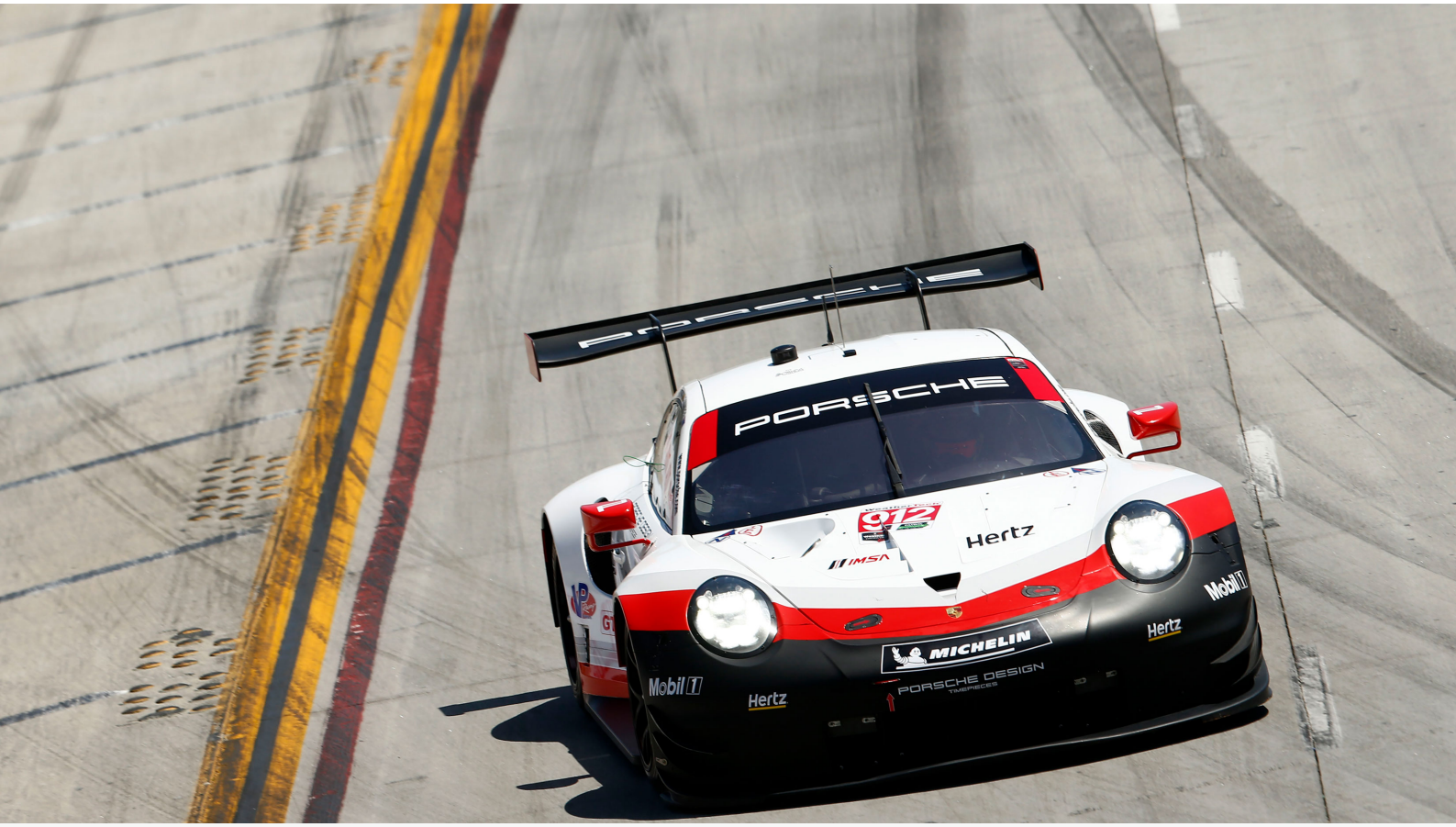


Strong performance of the 911 RSR goes unrewarded

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15/04/2018 After the Porsche 911 RSR celebrated its first win of the IMSA SportsCar Championship season at the 12 Hours of Sebring, the situation at Long Beach looked just as promising for a long time.

At the shortest race of the year on the narrow street circuit in California, Earl Bamber (New Zealand) dominated the field until 22 minutes before the end of the 100-minute sprint – only to have to park the race car from Weissach, which he shared with Laurens Vanthoor (Belgium), in the pits with a broken suspension. At the wheel of the second 911 RSR fielded by the Porsche GT Team, the Sebring winners Patrick Pilet (France) and Nick Tandy (Great Britain) secured sixth place in the GTLM class ahead of their teammates.

To the picture-postcard backdrop of sun, sea and palms, which makes Long Beach Monte Carlo of the USA, the 911 RSR took off from the front grid row for the first time this season. Laurens Vanthoor used

this advantage to promptly snatch the lead in lap one. He fended off his pursuers repeated attacks to hold on to his spot. After 38 minutes he handed the #912 Porsche 911 RSR off to Earl Bamber during a safety car phase. The New Zealander rejoined the race as second behind a BMW that had pitted earlier, and immediately closed the gap to the leader. Putting in an inspired overtaking manoeuvre, he recaptured the lead and even managed to pull clear from the rest of the strong GTLM field before a damaged suspension forced him into retirement. In the #911 Porsche 911 RSR, Patrick Pilet and Nick Tandy never really regained their stride in the race due to various incidents after their first pit stop.

This race is a real thriller: To constantly push the limits with total commitments at #bubbagp in the streets of Long Beach is a huge challenge for the drivers and guarantees some action-packed racing. Drivers can't afford to make the slightest mistake on the narrow circuit, otherwise they end up hitting the wall, says Porsche's @piletpatrick #porsche #porschenews #porschenewsroom #porsche911 #911 #911RSR #sportscar #championship #motorsport #racing #racinglife #instacar #car #racecar #racetrack #sport #sports #adrenaline #porscheraces #porschelife #porschepix #longbeach #california #usa #IMSA

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