

Porsche GT Team kicks off the sports car world championship with a podium

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05/05/2018 After a gripping race at Spa-Francorchamps, the Porsche GT Team has started into the FIA Sports Car World Endurance Championship (WEC) season with second and fourth place. Kévin Estre and Michael Christensen scored second in the #92 car and narrowly missed out on clinching the maiden WEC victory for the new Porsche 911 RSR.

Their team colleagues, the two former WEC champions Gianmaria Bruni (Italy) and Richard Lietz (Austria), concluded the race in fourth with the #91 Porsche 911 RSR. Over six hours and 148 laps, ten vehicles from five manufacturers battled it out in the GTE-Pro class. Under a cloudless sky and temperatures of 23 degrees Celsius, 63,000 spectators witnessed round one of the 15-month

2018/2019 Super Season.

At the season-opener on the tradition-steeped racetrack in the Ardennes, fans were treated to gripping battles for positions, overtaking manoeuvres and several safety car phases. Taking up the race from third on the grid, Bruni and Lietz moved into the lead of the GTE-Pro class with the Porsche 911 RSR after less than two hours, and only relinquished it shortly before the flag. In the sister car, Estre (France) and Christensen (Denmark) made the most of the turbulent start to advance from fourth into third. After the last pit stop, Christensen as the final driver swept into second place with the Porsche 911 RSR.

The race in the GTE-Am class

Four other Porsche 911 RSR race cars lined up to contest the GTE-Am class. For the Dempsey Proton Racing customer team, Porsche Young Professional Matt Campbell (Australia), Christian Ried (Germany) and Porsche Junior Julien Andlauer (France) secured fourth place with the #77 car. Sixth at the opening round in Spa went to the #88 sister car driven by Khaled Al Qubaisi (United Arab Emirates), Porsche Young Professional Matteo Cairoli (Italy) and Giorgio Roda (Italy). Directly behind them, Alex Davison (Australia), Ben Barker (Great Britain) and Michael Wainwright (Great Britain) took the flag in the 911 RSR of the Gulf Racing customer squad. The newcomer team Project 1 scored ninth place with pilots Patrick Lindsey (USA) and Egidio Perfetti (Norway) as well as Porsche's works driver Jörg Bergmeister from Germany.

#WEC – Podium! The No. 92 #Porsche #911RSR took P2 at #6hSpa. Great job @kevinestre and @ChristensenMK and the #Porsche GT Team @FIAWEC pic.twitter.com/J7FRymERt6

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