

Sights set on a podium finish

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11/11/2014 For the seventh and penultimate round of the 2014 FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC), the Porsche Team is heading to the Kingdom of Bahrain.

On the 5.412 kilometre long Formula One track in Sakhir, the prototypes and sports cars will be driving into the dark for the third time this season. The six-hour race will start at 15:00 hrs local time, sunset is less than two hours later. For the Porsche Team with the two Le Mans Prototype 919 Hybrids, the Bahrain International Circuit is the first venue it will visit where it has had previous experience. Although this is from the early days of testing with the complex hybrid car, the data will still be useful for a baseline preparation. After two pole positions and three podium finishes in six races, the Porsche Team hopes to continue its positive return to racing and targets another podium finish.

“Our first season has hardly given us a breather. First we focussed on Le Mans and now the races with their individual challenges come in quick succession. We are proud that the Porsche 919 Hybrid has been competitive right from the start of the season“, says Fritz Enzinger, Vice President LMP1. For the

upcoming season, the Porsche team has confirmed its pilots: All six LMP1 works drivers – Timo Bernhard, Romain Dumas, Neel Jani, Brendon Hartley, Marc Lieb and Mark Webber – will be driving the Porsche Le Mans Protoypes again in 2015.

GTE-Pro class: the title is now again within striking distance

A week ago in Shanghai, the Porsche Manthey squad celebrated a commanding double victory in the fiercely-contested GTE-Pro class in the fight for the World Cup, and will again field two Porsche 911 RSR in Bahrain. After clinching success in China, the title is now again within striking distance.

Porsche's factory pilots Jörg Bergmeister (Germany) and Richard Lietz (Austria) tackle the race on the 5.407 kilometre Grand Prix circuit at the wheel of the #91 Porsche 911 RSR. Their French works driver colleagues and winners of the Shanghai race, Frédéric Makowiecki and Patrick Pilet, share driving duties in the number 92 cockpit. Two Porsche customer teams contest the GTE-Am class: Proton Competition with Porsche junior Klaus Bachler (Austria) and Prospeed Competition, both fielding the 911 RSR.

Dr. Frank-Steffen Walliser, Porsche Head of Motorsport, is confident ahead of the race: "Bahrain is a circuit that suits us and as always the team and drivers are highly motivated. Fans will be treated quite literally to a heated battle."

More quotes in the corresponding press release (Download, left column).

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