

Leon Köhler celebrates first Carrera Cup win, title decided at finale

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01/11/2020 Loud cheers for Leon Köhler and his T3/HRT Motorsport team: At the Lausitzring on Sunday, the German won his first race in the Porsche Carrera Cup Deutschland.

Round 9

“I’ve been working towards this moment forever. I’m overjoyed. My start wasn’t optimal but after that, I was really fast. With Laurin Heinrich finishing on the podium, it was an outstanding result for our squad,” said Köhler. Scoring second in the action-packed race, Larry ten Voorde (Netherlands/Nebulus Racing by Huber) is now the new championship leader. Third place went to Laurin Heinrich (T3/HRT Motorsport/Deutschland). One title decision has already been made: Thanks to his class win, Carlos Rivas (Luxembourg/Black Falcon Team Textar) has claimed the trophy early in the ProAm class.

At the race on a wet track, all drivers opted for rain tyres. Heinrich made a cracking start in his Porsche 911 GT3 Cup and catapulted from fifth on the grid to the front. Köhler and polesitter ten Voorde slotted in behind him. Köhler immediately put Heinrich under pressure. In lap three, the 21-year-old swept into the lead, pulled clear and brought home a commanding victory. Ten Voorde came out on top of the duel for second place. In the sixth lap, the Huber driver made the most of Heinrich's braking mistake to overtake the rookie. "Unfortunately, I couldn't match Leon Köhler's pace in the race. Still, all in all, it was a successful weekend for me. I'm now leading the championship and I'm heading to the season finale in Oschersleben with a good feeling," concluded ten Voorde.

Heinrich achieved his fifth podium result in the Lausitz. "I knew that Leon Köhler and Larry ten Voorde are very fast despite the slippery track surface. My main priority was to defend third place and I managed that," explained Heinrich. Fourth place went to Rudy van Buren (CarTech Motorsport by Nigrin) – the Dutchman's best result of the season so far. Diego Bertonelli (Italy/Fach Auto Tech) took the chequered flag in fifth ahead of Joey Mawson (Australia/Fach Auto Tech) and Lucas Groeneveld (Netherlands/GP Elite). Bad luck struck Dylan Pereira (Förch Racing), who had to relinquish the championship lead after finishing eighth: In lap three, the Luxembourger slid from the track and rejoined the race at the back of the field.

Big celebrations for the Black Falcon Team Textar squad: With his eighth class win, Carlos Rivas secured the championship title in the ProAm category. At the race on the 4.57-kilometre Lausitzring circuit, he crossed the finish line first ahead of Stefan Rehkopf (Germany/Nebulus Racing by Huber) and Matthias Jeserich (Germany/CarTech Motorsport by Nigrin). "We've been a well-rehearsed team for some years. That was the key to our great success this season. The weather conditions this weekend were hugely challenging because they kept changing during the races," said Rivas.

"A new points' leader, a title decision in the ProAm category and two gripping races – this weekend at the Lausitzring had a lot of offer. I'm particularly thrilled that Leon Köhler, a youngster from our Talent Pool programme, scored his first victory," said Hurui Issak, the Project Manager of the Porsche Carrera Cup Deutschland.

The fight for the championship title will go down-to-the-wire between ten Voorde (191 points) and Pereira (182 points) at the season finale in the Motorsport Arena Oschersleben. Position three in the overall rankings is currently occupied by Heinrich (117 points). This coming weekend (6 to 8 November), each driver can harvest a maximum of 50 points at the doubleheader run as part of the ADAC GT Masters programme. The Carrera Cup will also hold its Experience Day at the event in the German state of Saxony-Anhalt. On November 9, talented youngsters can look behind the scenes of the one-make cup and get the chance to drive the latest cup car.

Overall result Porsche Carrera Cup Deutschland

Result race 9, Porsche Carrera Cup Deutschland

1. Leon Köhler (Germany/T3/HRT Motorsport)
2. Larry ten Voorde (Netherlands/Nebulus Racing by Huber)
3. Laurin Heinrich (Germany/T3/HRT Motorsport)
4. Rudy van Buren (Netherlands/CarTech Motorsport by Nigrin)
5. Diego Bertonelli (Italy/Fach Auto Tech)
6. Joey Mawson (Australia/Fach Auto Tech)
7. Lucas Groeneveld (Netherlands/GP Elite)
8. Dylan Pereira (Luxembourg/Förch Racing)
9. Julian Hanses (Germany/Förch Racing)
10. Kay van Berlo (Netherlands/Nebulus Racing by Huber)

Points standings after 9 of 11 races
Drivers' classification
1. Larry ten Voorde (Netherlands /Nebulus Racing by Huber), 191 points
2. Dylan Pereira (Luxembourg/Förch Racing), 182 points
3. Laurin Heinrich (Germany/T3/HRT Motorsport), 117 points

Round 8

"My race went really well. I feel good in rainy conditions and I've underlined that. My start wasn't great, but I quickly found my rhythm," said ten Voorde (Nebulus Racing by Huber). With his victory, he slashed the gap to the series' leader Pereira (Luxembourg/Förch Racing) to three points

Difficult weather conditions threw challenges at the drivers in their Porsche 911 GT3 Cup: Rain during the morning qualifying made the track slippery and mixed up the grid: At the restart at 2.10 p.m., the rain had stopped but the track stayed damp. As soon as the lights went out, Rudy van Buren (CarTech Motorsport by Nigrin) took centre stage. The Dutchman put in a rocket start, overtook Bertonell (Italy/Fach Auto Tech)i and polesitter ten Voorde and snatched the lead. Ten Voorde, however, took up the chase, passed his compatriot in lap three and brought home his third win of the season. Van Buren lost several positions shortly after the manoeuvre when he slid into the gravel trap. Pereira profited from this: After starting from the sixth grid spot, the Luxembourger charged through the field into second place. "In such conditions, you need complete concentration. After my poor qualifying performance, second place is a superb result for me," said a satisfied Pereira.

Bertonelli and Julian Hanses (Germany/Förch Racing) became locked in a duel for third place. Driving for Fach Auto Tech, the Italian defended his position with a spirited drive and was rewarded with his second podium result in the German Carrera Cup. "I like these wet conditions. Still, such races are really challenging because we don't have ABS or other driving aids. The duel with Julian Hanses was intense but fun," said Bertonelli, whose result made him the best driver from the Porsche Carrera Cup Deutschland Talent Pool. Hanses took the flag in fourth place followed by Laurin Heinrich (Germany/T3/HRT Motorsport), van Buren and Leon Köhler (Germany/T3/HRT Motorsport). Eighth place on the 4.57-kilometre racetrack in Germany's Brandenburg went to Jesse van Kuijk

(Netherlands/Team GP Elite).

In the ProAm classification, Carlos Rivas (Black Falcon Team Textar) beat Matthias Jeserich (Germany/CarTech Motorsport by Nigrin) and Stefan Rehkopf (Germany/Nebulus Racing by Huber). Clinching his seventh class win, the Luxembourger is well on course for the title. With 174 points to his credit, 23-year-old Dylan Pereira leads the overall classification, followed by ten Voorde (171 points) and Heinrich (101 points) in second and third place.

Overall result Porsche Carrera Cup Deutschland

Result race 8, Porsche Carrera Cup Deutschland
1. Larry ten Voorde (Netherlands/Nebulus Racing by Huber)
2. Dylan Pereira (Luxembourg/Förch Racing)
3. Diego Bertonelli (Italy/Fach Auto Tech)
4. Julian Hanses (Germany/Förch Racing)
5. Laurin Heinrich (Germany/T3/HRT Motorsport)
6. Rudy van Buren (Netherlands/CarTech Motorsport by Nigrin)
7. Leon Köhler (Germany/T3/HRT Motorsport)
8. Jesse van Kuijk (Netherlands/Team GP Elite)
9. Jukka Honkavuori (Finland/MRS-GT Racing)
10. Lucas Groeneveld (Netherlands/GP Elite)

Points standings after 8 of 11 races
Drivers' classification
1. Dylan Pereira (Luxembourg/Förch Racing), 174 points
2. Larry ten Voorde (Netherlands /Nebulus Racing by Huber), 171 points
3. Laurin Heinrich (Germany/T3/HRT Motorsport), 101 points

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