

Petit Le Mans: Fifth place for the 911 RSR

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02/10/2016 At Petit Le Mans on the storied Road Atlanta racetrack, a difficult season for Porsche in the IMSA SportsCar Championship has come to an end. The race at a glance.

After a sensational overall victory for the Porsche North America works team at the prestigious ten-hour race in 2015, which earned Porsche the championship titles for manufacturers, drivers and teams, the Porsche 911 RSR missed out on a podium result at its last works-entry race.

In the GTLM class, which with five manufacturers is the most strongly represented, the fastest 911 RSR helmed by Earl Bamber (New Zealand), Frédéric Makowiecki (France) and Michael Christensen (Denmark) finished fifth. In the sister 911 RSR, the defending IMSA GT champion Patrick Pilet (France), Nick Tandy (Great Britain) and Richard Lietz (Austria) were running in a promising third with four hours to go. After completing 223 laps on the demanding 4.087-kilometre circuit in the US state of Georgia,

the 911 RSR became entangled in a collision with a sports prototype and was thrown out of contention.

911 RSR the most successful GT race car of recent years

However, while the farewell performance did not run according to plan, this did not diminish the impressive successes of the 911 RSR. Since its debut in 2013, this race car has contested a total of 73 races in the WEC Sports Car World Endurance Championship, the IMSA SportsCar Championship in the USA and Canada as well as the European Le Mans Series and secured 21 victories and eight championship titles. Some of these victories were secured at the most illustrious long distance classics such as Le Mans, Daytona, Sebring, Watkins Glen and Petit Le Mans, making the 911 RSR, which is based on the seventh generation of the iconic 911 sports car, the most successful GT race car of recent years. Its successor will also celebrate its race debut in the USA at the Daytona 24-hour classic on January 28/29, 2017.

In the GTD class, in which customer teams field the Porsche 911 GT3 R, Park Place Motorsports scored second place with drivers Jörg Bergmeister (Germany) as well as the Americans Patrick Lindsey and Matthew McMurry. For the 911 GT3 R, which notched up its first win in the IMSA SportsCar Championship at Laguna Seca, this was its sixth podium result in its maiden race season.

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