

Maxson extends Carrera Cup point lead, Stiak takes first win at Watkins Glen

18/11/2026 Porsche Carrera Cup North America, Watkins Glen, Round 4.

Janne Stiak of ACI Motorsports earned his first Porsche Carrera Cup North America win on Friday at Watkins Glen International and Tyler Maxson of Topp Racing rebounded in race two to earn victory and extend his point lead.

ACI Motorsports stole the show during Friday's 40-minute race, with Stiak joined by teammates Patrick Mulcahy (Solairus Pro-Am class) and Matt Smith (Solairus Masters class) to sweep each class. It's the first time in Porsche Carrera Cup North America history that a single team has claimed all three class trophies. Mulcahy and Smith repeated as winners in race two on Saturday.

Maxson leaves round four of the season with a 37-point lead over Aaron Jeansonne and Callum Hedge, who are tied for second in the Mobil Pro Class. Mulcahy and Marco Cirone hold the Pro-Am and Masters

class point leads, respectively.

Race 1 - Friday, June 26

ACI Motorsports delivered a clean sweep of all three classes in Race 1 at Watkins Glen, as Janne Stiak claimed his first Porsche Carrera Cup North America victory alongside class winners Patrick Mulcahy and Matt Smith.

A turn-one incident just after the green flag slowed the field for the opening stages and rearranged the Masters class battle. Once back underway, the focus turned to the fight for the overall lead.

It wasn't a clear-cut first Carrera Cup North America victory for Janne Stiak, as polesitter and Mobil Pro Class championship leader Tyler Maxson (TOPP Racing) suffered a puncture and was brought to pit lane for a new Pirelli P Zero DHG tire halfway through the 40-minute contest.

While Stiak inherited the lead in his #40 Porsche 911 Cup (Type 992.2), the young German fiercely held off Callum Hedge (JDX Racing) in the closing laps – only winning by 0.458 seconds after a tough battle with the New Zealander.

"I'm a bit lucky that Maxson had an issue on the car, but I'm super happy for me and for the team," the 19-year-old Stiak said. "It was a very difficult start to the season, but I finally got the first win, and I'm very happy."

The results for both Stiak and Hedge was his best finish of the season. Aaron Jeansonne (Kellymoss) completed the podium in third ahead of Jared Thomas (JTR Motorsports Engineering).

Patrick Mulcahy (ACI Motorsports) continued his stunning run of success in the Solairus Aviation Pro-Am Class, collecting his sixth victory of the season to further extend his championship lead. Mulcahy started from pole position and led each lap en route to his win, with contender Josh Conley (Kellymoss) finishing second.

The Solairus Aviation Masters Class was shaken from the start on Friday, as polesitter Scott Blind (Ruckus Racing) spun from the curbing and made contact with his fellow championship contenders in the process. An immediate full-course yellow kept the field behind the safety car for the first 10 minutes of the race, with John Goetz (Kellymoss) initially taking the lead.

Matt Smith (ACI Motorsports) ultimately found his way to the front with 13 minutes remaining as part of a tight-knit, three-way battle. Alain Scalzo (Scalzo Autosport) made a last-lap pass for second place with Goetz holding on for third.

Race 2 - Saturday, June 27

Tyler Maxson led flag-to-flag in his No. 77 Porsche 911 Cup, maintaining his lead during a mid-race restart to earn his fourth win in seven races this season.

“What a car, what a team, these guys are working so hard,” Maxson said. “I felt like we didn't get everything out of the last two races. I think we did that here. We'll focus on the rest of the season, there's still a long way to go. But this is a good turn of fortune."

Janne Stiak (ACI Motorsports) narrowly bested Callum Hedge (JDX Racing) at the finish line by three-tenths to settle the podium. The two dueled all race long to decide second place. Aaron Jeansonne finished fourth while Rookie of the Year leader Cole Kleck finished fifth.

Patrick Mulcahy (ACI Motorsports) continues his runaway season in the Solairus Aviation Pro-Am Class, capturing his seventh win in as many races in 2026. Mulcahy finished 11th overall, but was well ahead of his next closest competitor, Josh Conley (Kellymoss), in second place.

After joining the grid at the Formula 1 Miami Grand Prix, Matt Smith (ACI Motorsports) is a double winner in the Solairus Aviation Masters Class following a pair of victories at Watkins Glen.

Smith started second behind championship leader and ACI Motorsports teammate Marco Cirone but grabbed the top spot early in the 40-minute race.

He held the lead to the finish, barely edging a hard-charging effort from Scott Blind (Ruckus Racing) by 0.101-seconds at the finish line.

Blind started at the back of the field after a time penalty for incident responsibility from Friday's race, but his strong effort earned the 2025 Masters Champion valuable points in his title hunt.

Pro class winners:

Race 1: Janne Stiak, No. 40 ACI Motorsports.

Race 2: Tyler Maxson, No. 77 TOPP Racing

Pro-Am class winners:

Race 1 & 2. Patrick Mulcahy, No. 54 ACI Motorsports.

Masters class winners:

Race 1 & 2. Matt Smith, NO. 74 ACI Motorsports.

On point:

Pro class: Tyler Maxson, No. 77 TOPP Racing.

Pro-Am class: Patrick Mulcahy, No. 54 ACI Motorsports.

Masters class: Marco Cirone, No. 88 ACI Motorsports.

Entrant: Topp Racing.

Highlights

Multiple teams in contention. Though ACI Motorsports' historic sweep of Friday's race made a statement, parity remains evident across Porsche Carrera Cup North America. In addition to ACI Motorsports, JDX Racing earned a pair of overall podiums with Callum Hedge, TOPP Racing earned a victory, and Kellymoss was on the podium on Friday with Aaron Jeansonne.

Finding some footing. Both Hedge and Stiak came to Porsche Carrera Cup North America this season after success in other global Carrera Cup championships. Stiak, a 19-year-old German, won the Carrera Cup Middle East season-long championship and is a race winner in Carrera Cup Germany. Hedge is a Carrera Cup Australia champion and raced junior open-wheel formula championships in the United States before focusing his efforts with JDX Racing. Both are gaining momentum, with Hedge on the podium in five of seven races and Stiak earning a pole in Miami and breaking through for a win at Watkins Glen.

Off to Road America

Round five of Porsche Carrera Cup North America will take place at Road America in conjunction with the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship weekend July 30 to August 1. The Porsche one-make championship will race on Friday and Saturday.

Broadcast. All races can be seen live and are archived on the IMSA and Porsche Motorsport North America YouTube Channels, IMSA TV, Peacock, and the Porsche Motorsport North America social channels on Facebook, LinkedIn, and X. The Porsche Motorsport North America YouTube page can be found at youtube.com/c/PorscheMotorsportNorthAmerica.

Online. Porsche Carrera Cup North America: www.PorscheCarreraCup.us

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