



DTM – Races 5 & 6 – Norisring (DE) – Race 6 – Reactions

Reactions to the third race weekend of the 2015 DTM season.

Norisring (DE), 28th June 2015. First pole and first podium in 2015: for Bruno Spengler (CA) of BMW Team MTEK in particular, the sixth round of the DTM season at the Norisring (DE) was a great success. After several enthralling battles, BMW Team RMG driver Maxime Martin (BE) took a point away from Nürnberg (DE) by finishing tenth.

In tricky weather conditions on Saturday, four BMW M4 DTM cars had finished in the points. Spengler was the best-placed BMW driver on that day, too, by finishing fifth.

Read here what BMW Motorsport Director Jens Marquardt and the eight BMW DTM drivers had to say after the race at the Norisring.

Jens Marquardt (BMW Motorsport Director): “After Saturday’s rain roulette, this race was easier to predict. The Norisring is quite a special track, where experienced drivers can really step up their game. This is precisely what Bruno Spengler did in qualifying, as his pole lap was absolutely perfect. In the race, Bruno showed real fighting spirit, attacking at the right time and, deservedly, achieved his first podium of the season for us. Our 2012 DTM champion performed very strongly today. Maxime Martin also gave no quarter and made it into the points. In our current situation, these are precisely the qualities we must show to get back to where we want to be. After the first two difficult race weekends, this was a small step in the right direction. If things stay as they are, I am convinced that we can improve slowly but surely. Congratulations to Mercedes, who have been successful in Nürnberg for years now.”

Bruno Spengler (BMW Team MTEK, Sun: 3rd place, Sat: 5th place): “I’m really happy to have finished third, however, I am also a little disappointed as I would, of course, liked to have won the race. Both Mercedes were unbeatable today. I dropped down to fifth, but I fought back and the battle for third with Mattias Ekström was a lot of fun. He actually made a small mistake, which meant I could overtake him in the last few metres. Thank you to my team. We pitted at exactly the right time. Hitting the pit stop window correctly was difficult today. It’s also due to the great strategy that I managed to get onto the podium today.”

Maxime Martin (BMW Team RMG, Sun: 10th place, Sat: DNF): “Scoring this one point was a really tough battle. I had quite large problems with the brakes throughout the race. It’s a shame that I was unable to show the same pace as the leaders, as Bruno did. Congratulations to him for making the podium. We need to work hard so we can be more competitive on all tracks.”

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Martin Tomczyk (BMW Team Schnitzer, Sun: 11th place, Sat: 6th place):

"It was a modest performance today in qualifying, but in the race I was able to make up ten good places. Unfortunately, that's all I could manage but we can build from this race. We must see to it that we are better in qualifying at Zandvoort. Then we can aim to score points again. This must be our target."

António Félix da Costa (BMW Team Schnitzer, Sun: 12th place, Sat: 12th place):

"Our poor grid position put us in a difficult position from the outset, but I had a very good start and was able to make up a lot of places in the first laps. I could have scored points today but, unfortunately, we had a problem in the pit stop which set us back. That's a shame. All in all, it was nice to see that BMW has taken a step in the right direction here and that pace during the race was good."

Marco Wittmann (BMW Team RMG, Sun: 13th place, Sat: 9th place):

"Unfortunately, my home event was a little sobering for me. The two points on Saturday were valuable, but starting from 22nd on Sunday it was clear that it would be difficult to score any more. I actually had good race pace but was constantly tangled up in battles. We now need to work out why we weren't able to put in times as fast as Bruno Spengler's. Congratulations to him on his third place today. In two weeks' time, in Zandvoort, we'll be back."

Tom Blomqvist (BMW Team RBM, Sun: 16th place, Sat: DNF): "It was quite a hard race. I went really wide in turn one and was at the back of the field from the outset. I was also wrestling with my brakes, but I did finish the race, which is a positive I can draw from the weekend."

Timo Glock (BMW Team MTEK, Sun: DNF, Sat: 13th place): "It was a difficult weekend for us. To cap it all off, I was involved in yet another accident at the start on Sunday. I was hit from behind and then collided with another car. This is why my race was over prematurely. It's a shame, because I would have liked to have seen whether we could have performed better in dry conditions. I never really felt comfortable inside the car during the whole weekend. We need to work out why this was, with a view to the next race."

Augusto Farfus (BMW Team RBM, Sun: DNF, Sat: 8th place): "I had a very short outing on Sunday. As I was turning in at the end of the start-finish straight I was hit massively in the side. My car was so heavily damaged that I had to pull into the pits and retire. I'm very disappointed that my race was over in just a few short seconds. My team and I were very confident at the start, and we had the feeling that we could have driven a good race. The retirement hurts even more, but when the car is damaged there's not much else you can do. I'm hoping for more luck in Zandvoort."

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DTM standings.

Drivers' Championship.

1. Jamie Green (81 points), 2. Mattias Ekström (70), 3. Pascal Wehrlein (67), 4. Edoardo Mortara (58), 5. Robert Wickens (57), 6. Christian Vietoris (36), 7. Gary Paffett (36), 8. Miguel Molina (27), 9. Bruno Spengler (27), 10. Paul di Resta (23), 11. Mike Rockenfeller (21), 12. Martin Tomczyk (20), 13. Maxime Martin (17), 14. Timo Scheider (16), 15. Marco Wittmann (14), 16. Daniel Juncadella (14), 17. Nico Müller (10), 18. Timo Glock (5), 19. Augusto Farfus (5), 20. Lucas Auer (2).

Team Championship.

1. gooix/Original-Teile Mercedes-AMG (103 points), 2. Audi Sport Team Abt Sportsline (97), 3. Audi Sport Team Rosberg (91 points), 4. SILBERPFEIL Energy Mercedes-AMG (80), 5. Audi Sport Team Abt (58), 6. EURONICS/BWT Mercedes-AMG (38), 7. Audi Sport Team Phoenix (37), 8. BMW Team MTEK (32), 9. BMW Team RMG (31), 10. BMW Team Schnitzer (20), 11. PETRONAS Mercedes-AMG (14), 12. BMW Team RBM (5).

Manufacturers' Championship.

1. Audi (283 points), 2. Mercedes-Benz (235), 3. BMW (88).

Statistics for the BMW DTM drivers.

Driver	WIT	MAR	TOM	DAC	FAR	BLO	SPE	GLO
Nationality	DE	BE	DE	PT	BR	UK	CA	DE
Number	1	36	77	13	18	31	7	16
Age	25	29	33	23	31	21	31	33
DTM debut	2013	2014	2001	2014	2012	2015	2005	2013
Team	RMG	RMG	Schnitzer	Schnitzer	RBM	RBM	MTEK	MTEK
Races	26	26	147	16	36	6	109	26
Wins	4	1	7	-	4	-	14	1
Podiums	6	1	28	-	9	-	39	3
Poles	4	1	8	-	3	-	16	-
Fastest laps	5	-	8	-	1	-	14	-
Points	219	64	469	5	229	-	611	78

2015 race calendar.

1st-3rd May – Hockenheim (DE), 29th-31st May – Lausitzring (DE), **26th-28th June – Norisring (DE)**, 10th-12th July – Zandvoort (NL), 31st July-2nd August – Spielberg (AT), 28th-30th August – Moscow (RU), 11th-13th September – Oschersleben (DE), 25th-27th September – Nürburgring (DE), 16th-18th October – Hockenheim (DE).

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**More information:**

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