



BMW Motorsport News – Issue 37/15
4th October 2015

BMW Sports Trophy Team Schubert wins ADAC GT Masters Team title – Alex Zanardi to drive the BMW M4 DTM Race Taxi in Hockenheim.

Whether in the DTM, the United SportsCar Championship, or countless other championships: week after week BMW teams and drivers around the world do battle for points, victories and titles. Away from the track too, members of the large BMW Motorsport family around the world are also creating headlines. The “BMW Motorsport News” allows us to regularly summarise all the action for you in a compact and informative manner. This way, you are always up to speed.

ADAC GT Masters: Team Schubert wins Team Championship.

BMW Sports Trophy Team Schubert has won the Team Championship in the ADAC GT Masters for the first time in the team's history. After narrowly missing out on two titles, a fourth place and a third place for Dominik Baumann (AT) and BMW DTM driver Bruno Spengler (CA) on the final race weekend of the season at the Hockenheimring (DE) proved enough to catch and pass the Zakspeed team, who had come into the final weekend with a twelve-point lead. At the same time Dominik Baumann was unable to reel in Sebastian Asch (DE) and Luca Ludwig (DE) in the Drivers' Championship, despite fighting hard and producing a magnificent comeback on his birthday. In the end, the 23-year-old, who arrived at Hockenheim trailing the leaders by 31 points, came up just 13 points short with a season total of 186 points. Baumann's regular partner Jens Klingmann (DE), whose outing for BMW Team RLL in the United SportsCar Championship (USCC) in Road Atlanta (US) meant he was unable to start in Hockenheim and was replaced by Spengler, ended the year in third place with 156 points.

DTM: Zanardi to drive the BMW M4 DTM Race Taxi at the finale in Hockenheim.

BMW works driver Alessandro Zanardi (IT) is set for a return to the racetrack: he will drive the BMW M4 DTM Race Taxi at the finale of the DTM season in Hockenheim (DE) on 17th and 18th October. Last Friday, Zanardi took his place in the cockpit at the roll-out, which took place at the BMW plant in Dingolfing (DE). He and the BMW Motorsport engineers tested the modifications made to allow the double leg amputee to drive the Race Taxi. Zanardi's artificial leg is attached to the brake pedal using a special extension, while the Italian accelerates by means of a special ring on the steering wheel. He changes gear in the usual manner, using shift paddles. “I am really looking forward to Hockenheim,” said Zanardi. “It is great that I will have another opportunity this year to sit in a racing car. It may only be a Race Taxi, but it is still a thoroughbred DTM racing car. I feel like a kid with a new toy! I drove guests in a WTCC racing car a few years ago, and it was great fun to see how impressed they were by the performance of the car. It is nice to now have the opportunity to convey the fascination of a DTM car to guests out on the racetrack, and to give them a fantastic experience.” Ahead of the roll-out, Zanardi met staff at the BMW plant in Dingolfing at an autograph session. He now heads straight to the USA: this Saturday (10th October) he will take part in the endurance triathlon on Hawaii (US) for the second time.



VLN: Podium for Walkenhorst Motorsport.

The eighth round of the VLN Endurance Championship on the Nürburgring-Nordschleife (DE) was a huge success for Walkenhorst Motorsport. Michela Cerruti (IT), Felipe Fernández Laser (DE) and BMW Motorsport Junior Jesse Krohn (FI) came home third overall at the end of the four-hour race in the number 36 BMW Z4 GT3. This was good enough for second place in the SP9 class, behind the winning Audi. In total, the BMW teams claimed seven class victories. One of these came courtesy of Stefan van Campenhoudt (BE) in the V4 class. Driving a BMW 325i, he was the best in his class for the sixth time this year and now has a good chance of claiming the overall VLN title with two races remaining this season.

BMW M235i Racing Cup: Title race coming to a head.

The second season of the BMW M235i Racing Cup, which is held within the VLN Endurance Championship at the Nürburgring (DE), is heading towards a nail-biting finale. Two races before the end of the season, the two leading pairs are separated by just six points. Michele Di Martino (DE) and Moritz Oberheim (DE) of the TKS-Motorsport team won the class by 1:13.421 minutes on Saturday to make up ground on leaders Ralf Schall (DE) and Mario Merten (DE). The Bonk Motorsport duo finished runner-up this time. Third place went to Norbert Fischer (DE) and Christian Konnerth (DE) of Pixum Team Adrenalin Motorsport. In total, 21 BMW M235i Racings were in action.

BMW Motorsport Juniors line up at the 12 Hours of Brno.

Next weekend sees the BMW Motorsport Juniors come together for their second endurance race of the season. Having already taken part in the 24 Hours of Zolder (BE), they now line up in the BMW M235i Racing at the 12 Hours of Brno (CZ). For Victor Bouveng (SE) and Trent Hindman (US), this will be the second outing together within the Juniors programme. The third driver this time will be Nick Cassidy (NZ), who was missing in Belgium due to a clash of commitments. Instead, he was given the opportunity to test the new BMW M6 GT3 in Miramas (FR) a few weeks ago. The fourth BMW Motorsport Junior in the class of 2015, Louis Delétraz (CH), will sit this one out. He will focus on the season finale in the Eurocup Formula Renault 2.0, which takes place one week after the race in Brno, and in which he is still in contention for the title.

USCC: BMW Team RLL finishes second and fourth at Road Atlanta.

At the United SportsCar Championship (USCC) season finale, which was called off two hours short of its scheduled ten hours due to bad weather conditions, John Edwards (US), Lucas Luhr (DE) and Jens Klingmann (DE) finished second in the GTLM class with the number 24 BMW Z4 GTLM. It was also P2 in the overall classification for the BMW trio. Car number 25, driven by Bill Auberlen (US), Dirk Werner (DE) and Augusto Farfus (BR), came fourth in the GTLM category. Porsche's Nick Tandy (GB), Patrick Pilet (FR) and Richard Lietz (AT) secured victory at Road Atlanta (US). This meant that the BMW drivers narrowly missed out on the drivers', team and manufacturer titles. Werner and Auberlen had been just three points behind the leaders going into the race. By winning at Petit Le Mans, Pilet won the 2015 drivers' title, Werner/Auberlen finished second with 305 points – ten points behind the Frenchman. Edwards and Luhr concluded the season in fifth overall with 291 points. BMW Team RLL and BMW also finished second behind Porsche in the team and manufacturer classifications. In the GTD class, Michael Marsal (US),



Markus Palttala (FI), Andy Priaulx (GB) and Billy Johnson (US) finished 11th in the #94 BMW Z4 GTD run by the Turner Motorsport team.

CTSCC: Freiberg and Hindman win at Road Atlanta.

It was a great way of finishing the 2015 Continental Tire SportsCar Challenge season for Fall-Line Motorsports drivers Ashley Freiberg (US) and Trent Hindman (US) at Road Atlanta (US): At the wheel of the number 46 BMW M3 it was BMW Motorsport Junior Hindman who crossed the line in first place after 77 gripping laps on Friday. Despite tricky conditions in the wet, the BMW pairing kept cool throughout the race, finishing 1.194 seconds ahead of the second-placed car. It was their first GS class win of the season. In the GS drivers' standings, Freiberg/Hindman finished the season in eighth. In the Street Tuner category, Terry Borcheller (US) and Mike LaMarra (US) were the best-placed BMW drivers, coming third in their number 23 Burton Racing BMW 128i.

Blancpain Sprint Series: BMW Sports Trophy Team Brazil narrowly misses out on podium.

The penultimate race weekend of the season in the Blancpain Sprint Series in Misano (IT) saw BMW Sports Trophy Team Brazil perform strongly, but narrowly miss out on the podium. Atila Abreu (BR) and Valdeno Brito (BR), at the wheel of the number 77 BMW Z4 GT3, finished fourth in both the qualifying race on Saturday and Sunday's main race. Their team-mates Cacá Bueno (BR) and Sergio Jiménez (BR) came home sixth in the number 0 car. The season finale will take place next weekend in Zandvoort (NL).

GT4 European Series: Liesette Braams marks her comeback with a podium.

BMW Sports Trophy participant Liesette Braams (NL) made an emotional return to the GT4 European Series at the race weekend in Misano (IT). Braams, who was making her first regular appearance since completing treatment for cancer, lined up alongside Frans Verschuur (NL) in a BMW M3 GT4 run by the Las Moras Racing team. She finished second in the amateur class in race one to make an immediate return to the podium. Simon Knap (NL) and Rob Severs (NL), at the wheel of the BMW M3 GT4 run by Racing Team Holland by Ekris Motorsport, also finished second in the PRO class.

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