



Media Information

IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship

28th June 2017

BMW Team RLL carries momentum of double-podium finish at COTA to Watkins Glen and Canada.

- **Two race weekends in a row for BMW Team RLL.**
- **BMW Team RLL has used the Le Mans break to continue testing.**
- **BMW brings fireworks to begin the second half of the 2017 IMSA season.**

Munich. Two of North America's most challenging race tracks will face BMW Team RLL on back-to-back weekends as the second half of the 2017 IMSA WeatherTech Championship begins. With both events providing bookends to the July 4th holiday - the Sahlen's Six Hours of the Glen, on July 2nd, at Watkins Glen International (USA) and the Mobil 1 SportsCar Grand Prix, on July 9th, at Canadian Tire Motorsport Park (CAN) - BMW Team RLL has liveried both BMW M6 GTLM racing cars in a special holiday fireworks theme.

BMW Team RLL has used the traditional Le Mans break in the schedule to continue testing and continue the improvement the team has made with the BMW M6 GTLM. A pole position and a double podium finish in the last round at the Circuit of the Americas (USA) was a season's-best result.

Last season, BMW Team RLL scored a third place finish at Watkins Glen with the number 25 BMW M6 GTLM driven by Bill Auberlen (USA) and Dirk Werner (GER). The duo followed that result with a team-best fourth place finish at CTMP. With four races completed in the 2017 IMSA season, Auberlen and Alexander Sims (GBR) stand fourth in GTLM driver points. Teammates John Edwards (USA) and Martin Tomczyk (GER) are ninth. BMW stands fourth in GTLM Manufacturer points, only four points from third.

The Sahlen's Six Hours of The Glen takes the green flag at 10:10 a.m. ET Sunday, July 2.





Bobby Rahal (Team Principal, BMW Team RLL): “As we saw at COTA, this car seems to like long, fast circuits with fast corners and certainly Watkins Glen is all that. I'm optimistic about our pace and not just in qualifying, also in the race. I like six hour races and particularly Watkins Glen is historic for six hour races so I'm excited about going there. After Austin we have to feel optimistic about where we are, performance wise. It's just a matter of not making mistakes. I think we can be right in the thick of it. At CTMP we have always had reasonably good results in qualifying but in the races have somewhat fallen off a bit but I don't think that is going to be as much of an issue this year given our performance. The nature of the track is in our wheel house and assuming things remain the same we should be competitive.”

Bill Auberlen (No. 25 BMW M6 GTLM): “We did a fair amount of testing before COTA. When the green flag dropped we were looking much better. We finished P2 and I'm hoping we are starting our roll for the bid to win again. Heading to Watkins Glen, Mosport (CTMP), and Road America hopefully benefits the BMW M6 GTLM. We are very close in the championship points so all we need to do now is stand on the podium consistently.”

Alexander Sims (No. 25 BMW M6 GTLM): “This year is getting better and better for us in the number 25 car so I am really looking forward to going to Watkins Glen and then Mosport. Watkins Glen should suit the BMW and the test we did a month or so ago went well, what a place it is to drive! Mosport will be new for me so I will just keep an open view and see how the weekend goes to do the very best job I can.”

John Edwards (No. 24 BMW M6 GTLM): “It's been a long break from racing in GTLM so we are all eager to get back to business! Last year we had good speed at Watkins Glen and Mosport as these high speed tracks really focus on the strong points of our car. This year, we've been far more competitive at tracks where we had struggled with the car last year, including a double podium at our last race at COTA. I am confident we can carry that momentum into the back-to-back weekends at two of the fastest tracks we race.”

Martin Tomczyk (No. 24 BMW M6 GTLM): “So far Watkins Glen is one of my favorite race tracks in the States. We went testing and it felt very promising for the upcoming race. The track layout fits our BMW M6 GTLM nicely. You never know what will happen in the race, but we should be competitive. I've never been





to Mosport (CTMP) and I will have to adapt quickly. With just one week in between the races it will be tough for the team and drivers.”

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