



Media Information
DTM
5th September 2020

**Jonathan Aberdein finishes in sixth for BMW at Assen –
Three BMW works drivers in the points.**

- **On the fourth race weekend of the season, the DTM welcomes spectators to the track for the first time.**
- **BMW DTM teams unable to build on the performance in Sunday's race at the Lausitzring.**
- **Jonathan Aberdein in sixth place is best BMW driver – Sheldon van der Linde and Timo Glock also finish in the points.**

Assen. The BMW DTM drivers experienced a difficult sporting Saturday at Assen (NED). At the opener of the fourth race weekend of the DTM season, Jonathan Aberdein (RSA) in the CATL BMW M4 DTM finished in sixth place as the best BMW driver. Sheldon van der Linde (RSA, Shell BMW M4 DTM) and Timo Glock (GER, iQOO BMW M4 DTM) also picked up points for finishing seventh and ninth in a race that was all about tyre management. Robert Kubica (POL) crossed the finish line in tenth place for the privateer BMW customer team ART Grand Prix to secure the first top-ten result of his DTM career.

Lucas Auer (AUT, BMW Bank M4 DTM), who won Sunday's race at the Lausitzring (GER), narrowly missed out on the points in eleventh place. Philipp Eng (AUT, ZF BMW M4 DTM) in 13th finished ahead of Marco Wittmann (GER, Schaeffler BMW M4 DTM). His hopes of a good result came to nothing early on when the rear of his car was hit by a rival, causing him to spin.

After three race weekends without spectators, fans were allowed back into the stands for the first time this season at Assen, creating something of the usual DTM atmosphere.



Reactions to the seventh DTM race of the 2020 season in Assen.

Rudolf Ditttrich (General Manager BMW Motorsport Vehicle Development):

“First off, it was fantastic to finally contest a race weekend together with the DTM fans. They are the heart and soul of the DTM which is why we are pleased that a little bit of normality returned here at Assen. Unfortunately, we were unable to build on our sporting performance from the Lausitzring. Even in qualifying we didn’t have the pace we expected. Then, in the race we were very careful with the tyres to start with after the experiences in the free practice sessions. Now we need to analyse whether we might have been too cautious. Unfortunately, unlike in the course of the season so far, we were unable to make considerable progress in the race. Looking ahead to tomorrow, we need to make sure that we are better in qualifying. Congratulations to Robert Kubica on his first top-ten result and to Robin Frijns on his win.”

Marco Wittmann (#11 Schaeffler BMW M4 DTM, BMW Team RMG, Grid: 10th, Race: 14th, Drivers’ standings: 8th, 40 points):

“After spinning in the opening phase my race was over. My rear wing was damaged, and it was more like I was rolling around the track. It was very disappointing but in general there wasn’t a lot here for BMW today. Now we need to see what we can do better for tomorrow.”

Timo Glock (#16 iQOO BMW M4 DTM, BMW Team RMG, Grid: 14th, Race: 9th, Driver’s standings: 5th, 54 points):

“When you start from that far down the grid it’s difficult to move up at all. The start was really, really good, then we had a duel in turn five, which damaged my car. My splitter at the front was damaged. I had a relatively large amount of understeer in the car. Initially, I was only driving behind, and in the second stint I noticed that the damage at the front was affecting the balance slightly. I tried to keep a bit of distance, protect my tyres and hope that with the high tyre wear that everyone would be having issues by the end. That happened to a few drivers, including some BMW colleagues so at least I was able to come away with two points, but it is disappointing to cross the finish line 30 seconds behind.”

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Lucas Auer (#22 BMW Bank M4 DTM, BMW Team RMR, Grid: 7th, Race: 11th, Drivers' standings: 9th, 35 points):

"That was a hard day overall. Things went well in qualifying, but the race was unfortunately a non-event. Maybe we should have been less strict with the tyre management within BMW. It's definitely a lesson for the race tomorrow."

Philipp Eng (#25 ZF BMW M4 DTM, BMW Team RBM, Grid: 8th, Race: 13th, Drivers' standings: 11th, 20 points):

"Qualifying was really good, and so were the start and the first stint. I feel that we stopped too early. In the second stint I had extreme blistering on the tyres from one lap to the next and just slipped down."

Jonathan Aberdein (#27 CATL BMW M4 DTM, BMW Team RMR, Grid: 9th, Race: 6th, Drivers' standings: 12th, 19 points):

"In sixth place I was the best BMW driver, and it was my best result of the year, but we can't really be pleased with the result, particularly with our deficit to Audi. We need to put our heads together and work hard on closing the gap."

Sheldon van der Linde (#31 Shell BMW M4 DTM, BMW Team RBM, Grid: 11th, Race: 7th, Drivers' standings: 10th, 35 points):

"It looked like a tyre management race. Patience really was the order of the day at the start. It was about protecting the tyres because I knew that we would get going towards the end. I was in P13 and P14 at the start. I made up a lot of places at the end and moved up into P7."

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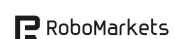
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