



Media Information  
BMW M Motorsport  
20th July 2025

## **GT World Challenge Europe: Team WRT and Valentino Rossi Claim Third Consecutive Victory at Misano.**

- **Alongside Raffaele Marciello, Valentino Rossi wins his home race for the third year in a row after triumphs in 2023 and 2024.**
- **Kelvin van der Linde and Charles Weerts retain their lead in the Sprint Cup drivers' standings.**
- **Podium finishes in the Silver and Bronze classes at the Misano World Circuit.**

**Misano. During the third Sprint weekend of the GT World Challenge Europe powered by AWS, Valentino Rossi (ITA) celebrated another emotional home victory. At the wheel of the Team WRT #46 BMW M4 GT3 EVO, the local hero triumphed alongside Raffaele Marciello (SUI) in Saturday's race in front of numerous euphoric fans in Emilia-Romagna. With this, Rossi secured his third consecutive win at the Misano World Circuit, following his victories in 2023 and 2024. Charles Weerts (BEL) and Kelvin van der Linde (RSA) completed a double podium for BMW M Motorsport by finishing third in Saturday's one-hour sprint on the Adriatic coast.**

On Sunday, the Belgian-South African duo in the #32 BMW M4 GT3 EVO from Team WRT staged a remarkable comeback, defending their lead in the Sprint Cup standings. In a race interrupted for more than two hours by a red flag, van der Linde and Weerts fought their way from 15th on the grid to fifth place, securing valuable points in the championship battle. One day after their victory, Rossi and Marciello were again in the fight for the win. Starting from second, Marciello repeatedly attacked for the lead. However, a drive-through penalty for speeding in the pit lane dropped the #46 BMW M4 GT3 EVO far down the order.

Jens Klingmann (GER) and Al Faisal Al Zubair (OMA) experienced a tough weekend. In the first qualifying session. Klingmann put the #777 BMW M4 GT3



EVO from AlManar Racing by WRT on second place in the Gold category, but a start collision forced Klingmann to retire the car with damage—and also earned a 10-place grid penalty for the second race. Despite starting 35th on Sunday, Al Zubair and Klingmann fought their way into the top 20 and narrowly missed the Gold Cup podium by finishing fourth. Things went better for Gustav Bergström (SWE) and Gilles Stadsbader (BEL). After finishing fourth on Saturday, they manoeuvred the #30 BMW M4 GT3 EVO to third in the Silver Cup, securing a class podium.

In the Bronze category, BMW M works driver Dan Harper and Darren Leung (both GBR) finished second in the Bronze Cup on Saturday. However, on Sunday, the British duo from Paradine Competition had no chance for a podium finish after receiving two penalties—one for the incident that caused the red flag, and one for an unsafe release. Their teammates Maxime Oosten and Mex Jansen (both NED) finished seventh and fifth in the Silver Cup races.

### **Podium shower in the GT4 European Series**

In the GT4 European Series, BMW M Motorsport teams had plenty of reason to celebrate. Borusan Otomotiv Motorsport claimed two podiums in the Silver class at Misano: on Saturday, the #12 BMW M4 GT4 EVO finished third, while on Sunday, the #11 car took second place. In the Am category, CHAZEL Technologie Course won both races with the #317 BMW M4 GT4 EVO. In the first race, Schubert Motorsport completed a BMW 1-2 finish in class with the #97, and the following day, their #98 BMW M4 GT4 EVO secured second place in the Pro-Am category. BMW brand colleagues from Team Continental Racing by Simpson Motorsport rounded off the strong weekend for BMW teams in GT4 with a third-place finish in class. On Saturday, W&D Racing Team also took third in Pro-Am.

### **Comments after the race.**

**Andreas Roos (Head of BMW M Motorsport):** "Congratulations to Team WRT, Valentino Rossi, and Raffaele Marciello for the win at Misano! That's the third year in a row Valentino has triumphed at his home race. He once again proves what a phenomenal racer he has become on four wheels. It's unfortunate



things didn't go ideally for Kelvin van der Linde and Charles Weerts, but thanks to strong races, they still secured valuable championship points with P3 and P5. The title fight is still wide open. Thanks to everyone involved - I'm already looking forward to the next rounds of the GT World Challenge Europe at Magny-Cours."

**Vincent Vosse (Team Principal, WRT):** "It was a positive weekend. Congrats to Valentino and Raffaele for Saturday's win—another success for the team at Misano which further extends our track record here. The #32 completed the double podium, and with fifth place on Sunday, they remain well placed in the championship. The #777 had a tough time in the Gold Cup, unfortunately. But congratulations to the #30 crew for the Silver Cup podium! Overall, we usually take even more points from Misano than we did this time—but let's see what we can do at Magny-Cours."

**Valentino Rossi (Team WRT, #46 BMW M4 GT3 EVO, 1st and 21st):**  
"It was a very good weekend. We won a race, and just having a win on the board changes the whole season. I really enjoyed it, because we were competitive from the beginning. I drove well and kept improving throughout the weekend. Racing with Raffaele is a pleasure - he did an amazing job. The car was also very strong. The penalty on Sunday was really unfortunate - just a small mistake, but after the drive-through, the whole race was gone. Another podium would have been great. Maybe we could even have fought for a second win of the weekend."

**Raffaele Marciello (Team WRT, #46 BMW M4 GT3 EVO, 1st and 21st):**  
"Overall, it was a very good weekend. The win on Saturday - especially sharing it with Valentino in front of the amazing Italian fans - was fantastic. Unfortunately, I made a small mistake entering the pits on Sunday and we got a penalty. That was disappointing, because a second podium would've been a perfect way to finish the weekend."

**Kelvin van der Linde (Team WRT, #32 BMW M4 GT3 EVO, 3rd and 5th):**  
"Mixed feelings after this weekend. We came to Misano with very high expectations, and we weren't quite able to meet them. Still, third and fifth place are important points for the championship. We're still leading the Sprint Cup,



which is a positive. We now head to some circuits that might be a bit tougher for us. Hopefully, we can find some more performance and come back stronger."

**Charles Weerts (Team WRT, #32 BMW M4 GT3 EVO, 3rd and 5th):** "We definitely expected to be stronger. Third and fifth weren't what we were hoping for, especially on a track that usually suits us well - and with the championship entering a crucial stage. Unfortunately, a few unexpected challenges affected our performance. There are areas we need to analyse more closely, but we'll keep pushing."

**Jens Klingmann (AlManar Racing by WRT, #777 BMW M4 GT3 EVO, DNF and 4th in Gold Cup):** "It was a difficult weekend for us. What hurts most is that we actually had a very strong car, but couldn't turn that into results. That makes the disappointment even bigger. On the positive side, we're making progress as a team from race to race, which gives us hope for the rest of the season - even though we've fallen behind in the standings."

**Dan Harper (Paradine Competition, #991 BMW M4 GT3 EVO, 2nd and 8th in Bronze Cup):** "I really enjoyed being back with Darren and Paradine Competition. We always have fun and they give me a fast car. The podium on Saturday was great - and the champagne tasted good too! Unfortunately, the Ferrari ahead of us was too strong, and Darren couldn't make up points in Bronze. On Sunday, Darren was involved in the big crash. The most important thing is that all drivers are okay. That shows how safe our GT3 cars are nowadays. In that sense, it was a very lucky day. From a sporting perspective, we had no chance after the penalties - but the car was fast, and I still got to put in some good laps."

**Media Contact.**

**Andrea Schwab**

Spokesperson BMW M GmbH and BMW M Motorsport

Phone: +49 (0) 151 601 60988

Email: [Andrea.Schwab@bmw.de](mailto:Andrea.Schwab@bmw.de)



**Laura Claesgens**

Press Officer BMW M GmbH and BMW M Motorsport

Phone: +49 (0) 151 601 47299

Email: [laura.claesgens@bmw.de](mailto:laura.claesgens@bmw.de)

**Christophe Koenig**

Head of BMW M GmbH and BMW M Motorsport Communications

Phone: +49 (0) 176 601 56097

Email: [christophe.koenig@bmw.de](mailto:christophe.koenig@bmw.de)

**Media Website.**

[www.press.bmwgroup.com/global](http://www.press.bmwgroup.com/global)

**BMW M Motorsport on the Web.**

Website: [www.bmw-m.com/motorsport](http://www.bmw-m.com/motorsport)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/bmwmotorsport](https://www.facebook.com/bmwmotorsport)

Instagram: [www.instagram.com/bmwmmotorsport](https://www.instagram.com/bmwmmotorsport)

X: [www.twitter.com/bmwmotorsport](https://www.twitter.com/bmwmotorsport)