



Media Information
DTM
31st August 2020

Intensive weeks ahead for the BMW DTM teams: Triple-header in Assen and at the Nürburgring.

- **Three DTM events on three back-to-back weekends.**
- **The BMW M4 DTM first lines up in Assen, then twice at the Nürburgring.**
- **Nürburgring races on two different layouts.**

Munich. Three weekends, three events – that is what the BMW DTM teams can look forward to over the coming weeks. A triple-header – rounds four to six of the season – awaits them within the compact 2020 DTM schedule. First up for the BMW M4 DTM is Assen (NED), from 4th to 6th September. That is followed by two events at the Nürburgring (GER / 11th to 13th September and 18th to 20th September).

The legendary “TT Circuit” in Assen hosted the DTM for the first time last year, with BMW DTM driver Marco Wittmann (GER) catching the eye. He took pole position and the race win on the Saturday, before producing an impressive fightback from the back of the grid to finish runner-up and claim a spot on the podium on the Sunday. The lap record for the 4.555-kilometre track is held by BMW DTM driver Philipp Eng (AUT), with a time of 1:27.860 minutes. In Assen, fans will have their first opportunity to watch the races live from the grandstands with 10,000 spectators being permitted at the circuit on each race day.

Following the races in Assen, the BMW DTM teams travel straight to the Nürburgring where, as at the Lausitzring (GER) earlier in the season, they will race on two different layouts. Round five of the 2020 DTM season will be held on the 5.148-kilometre Grand Prix Circuit, with round six taking place one week later on the shorter 3.629-kilometre layout.

Four of the BMW DTM drivers are immediately back in action after the DTM triple-header: The following week, Wittmann, Eng, Lucas Auer (AUT) and Sheldon van der



Linde (RSA) will drive in the 24-hour race on the Nürburgring-Nordschleife (26th to 27th September).

Quotes ahead of the triple-header at Assen and the Nürburgring.

Jens Marquardt (BMW Group Motorsport Director):

“Assen is the first stop in some intensive weeks in the DTM. After the double-header at the Lausitzring, we now have a triple-header for the first time, with three events on three back-to-back weekends in Assen and at the Nürburgring. After the difficult start to the season, the one-two with Lucas Auer and Timo Glock on the second Sunday at the Lausitzring was very important to us all. Despite this, we know that we must continue to work hard to close the gap to Audi – particularly when it comes to qualifying performance. The goal is to start the races from the front of the grid, then to convert that into victories and podiums. We are delighted that spectators will be able to cheer us on from the stands in Assen, for the first time this season. Fans are what make the atmosphere in the DTM so special, and we would like to thank everyone who helped to make this possible.”

Stefan Reinhold (BMW Team RMG Team Principal):

“After the one-two with Lucas Auer and Timo Glock on the second Sunday at the Lausitzring, we go into the triple-header with plenty of momentum. It kicks off in Assen, where Marco Wittmann was very successful last year. After that, we can look forward to our double home outing at the Nürburgring. A triple-header at two different circuits is a challenge in terms of logistics, and our team has some busy and tiring weeks ahead. However, we are ready and aiming to continue where we left off at the Lausitzring.”

Bart Mampaey (BMW Team RBM Team Principal):

“A triple-header at two different racetracks – that is something new for us in the DTM, and an exciting challenge. Logistically we will not have a lot of time to dismantle everything, travel from Assen to the Nürburgring, and then assemble everything again there. Additionally, the team will hardly have chance for a breather between the individual events. However, for us as racers, that is precisely what makes it so appealing. The exciting question is what conditions await us there. Both Assen and the Nürburgring are renowned for unsettled weather. Our goal is to be well-equipped in all conditions with our three drivers, Philipp Eng, Sheldon van der Linde and Jonathan Aberdein. We want to back up Sheldon’s podium at the

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Lausitzring and are working hard to give all three drivers the opportunity to challenge at the front of the field.”

Marco Wittmann (#11 Schaeffler BMW M4 DTM, BMW Team RMG, Drivers’ standings: 6th, 40 points):

“There is obviously great anticipation ahead of the triple-header. It is something special, as we have never had three back-to-back race weekends in the DTM. Assen was my strongest weekend last year, with first and second place, and I took the first ever DTM pole position and DTM victory in Assen. It is a circuit with fast corners – exactly what suits me and what I like. Then we have two home outings for BMW Team RMG, on two different layouts. That is really special, and we have enjoyed home wins there in the past. I hope we can carry the momentum from the Lausitzring, even though the second Sunday did not go so well for me personally. However, it was a success for BMW and we want to back that up in the coming triple-header. Let’s hope for some good results and a lot of points.”

Timo Glock (#16 iQOO BMW M4 DTM, BMW Team RMG, Driver’s standings: 4th, 52 points):

“The triple-header in the DTM is something unique. I am already really looking forward to it, because it means that we will spend a lot of time in the BMW M4 DTM. At the same time, they are three important weekends that will probably be crucial to the direction of the championship. However, I am also looking forward to the challenge of three race weekends on three special tracks. Assen is very quick and challenging, with many high-speed corners. Plus, you never really know what the weather will do there – just like at the Nürburgring. We will race on both layouts there – once on the long one, once on the short one. This will be my first time in a DTM car on the Grand Prix Circuit. I am looking forward to it and am very intrigued to see how we will cope with the three weekends. I hope we can back up the positives from the Lausitzring, be up there in terms of speed, and take another step forward.”

Lucas Auer (#22 BMW Bank M4 DTM, BMW Team RMR, Drivers’ standings: 9th, 35 points):

“I am hugely looking forward to the triple-header, especially after the success at the Lausitzring. Assen will be new territory for me in the DTM, but I think it will be a really cool show. Tyre management will be a challenge again. It is great that we can have fans at the circuit again, and I hope we can give them two spectacular races. The Nürburgring is one of my favourite circuits. We can expect great racing, particularly



on the longer layout. The triple-header will be a challenge, but as a racing driver you would always prefer to be sat in the car, and I can do just that over the next few weeks.”

Philipp Eng (#25 ZF BMW M4 DTM, BMW Team RBM, Drivers’ standings: 11th, 20 points):

“The triple-header will be very exciting. We will be in action a lot, but I am looking forward to the challenge. We prepared very well during the test at the Nürburgring, and we were very good in Assen last year. I am in good spirits, although my last race weekend at the Lausitzring was not so good. I am confident we will put on strong showing.”

Jonathan Aberdein (#27 CATL BMW M4 DTM, BMW Team RMR, Drivers’ standings: 12th, 11 points):

“We just come out of our back-to-back at the Lausitzring where BMW as a whole showed some really good pace and good results, especially on the second weekend with first and second place in race two. So obviously we come into the triple-header with quite some confidence that we can expand on the results from Lausitzring for BMW. I personally am also feeling quite optimistic going into Assen and the two events at the Nürburgring after, showing some strong pace in the dry on the second weekend at the Lausitzring. So I am very much looking forward to it and I think this is the first ever triple-header in DTM so this is also going to be a challenge but I am also very excited.”

Sheldon van der Linde (#31 Shell BMW M4 DTM, BMW Team RBM, Drivers’ standings: 10th, 29 points):

“I think we had two very positive weekends at Lausitzring including my first DTM podium. Unfortunately, we weren’t able to translate our strong performance into results on the second weekend but that does not change my motivation. Now I am fully ready for Assen which is one of my favourite circuits on the calendar along with Spa. From a driving point of view I can’t wait to be back and I can’t wait to have the fans back as well. This is going to be super special and I think this will make us realize how much we missed them and how much they have a role to play in our success. I hope that I will be able to share a few podiums with them, that will be the goal for us. I am looking forward to getting more points, the car is competitive now and we are making progress. I hope that we can keep doing that and race to the podium.”

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Note to editors.

In the 2020 DTM season, our drivers will be available to talk to by means of virtual interviews during race weekends. If you are interested in a virtual interview, please send us an E-mail, specifying your medium, at: weddige@bs-plus.de
We will then send your access data separately.

Feel free to contact us if you have any specific interview requests.

Media Contact.

Ingo Lehbrink
Spokesperson BMW Group Motorsport
Phone: +49 (0)176 – 203 40224
E-mail: ingo.lehbrink@bmw.de

Daniela Tadday
Media Relations Manager BMW M Motorsport
Phone: +49 (0)151 – 601 24 545
E-mail: daniela.tadday@bmw.de

Benjamin Titz
Head of BMW Group Design, Innovations & Motorsports Communications
Phone: +49 (0)179 – 743 80 88
E-mail: benjamin.titz@bmw.de

Media Website.

<http://www.press.bmwgroup.com/global>

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