



For **IMMEDIATE**  
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**BMW Team RLL Loses P1 and P3 Qualifying Positions at Road America  
Following Post-Qualifying Inspection.**

**Woodcliff Lake, N.J. – Aug. 3, 2019...** What was thought to be BMW Team RLL's second best qualifying effort of the 2019 IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship season quickly turned to disappointment as both BMW M8 GTE racing cars were disqualified following the post-qualifying technical inspection. Both cars will start from the rear of the class.

Earlier in the day, Tom Blomqvist made the most of his first qualifying session at the classic Road America circuit, driving his No. 25 BMW M8 GTE to the GTLM class pole position for tomorrow's two-hour-and-forty-minute IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship Road Race Showcase. His 2:00.344 minute lap around the beautiful 4.0-mile, 14-turn road course was .319 seconds clear of the eight-car field. He will co-drive tomorrow with Connor De Phillippi. Jesse Krohn qualified the No. 24 BMW M8



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GTE in the third position, posting a 2:00.767 minute lap, only .423 seconds behind his teammate. Krohn will share the No. 24 M8 with John Edwards.

DePhillippi, in sixth place, remains the top-standing BMW driver in GTLM Driver points. Edwards and Krohn stand seventh and Blomqvist, having missed the season-opening Rolex 24 At Daytona, is ninth.

The green flag for the IMSA Road Race Showcase falls at 2:35 p.m. ET (1:35 p.m. local time) tomorrow. The two-hour-and-forty-minute race will be broadcast on NBCSN beginning at 6:00 p.m. ET. Follow us on Twitter @BMWUSARacing for news from the pit box and get live scoring and in-car camera views at IMSA.com.

### **BMW Group In America**

BMW of North America, LLC has been present in the United States since 1975. Rolls-Royce Motor Cars NA, LLC began distributing vehicles in 2003. The BMW Group in the United States has grown to include marketing, sales, and financial service organizations for the BMW brand of motor vehicles, including motorcycles, the MINI brand, and Rolls-Royce Motor Cars; Designworks, a strategic design consultancy based in California; technology offices in Silicon Valley and Chicago, and various other operations throughout the country. BMW Manufacturing Co., LLC in South Carolina is the BMW Group global center of competence for BMW X models and manufactures the X3, X4, X5, X6 and X7 Sports Activity Vehicles. The BMW Group sales organization is represented in the U.S. through networks of 348 BMW passenger car and BMW Sports Activity Vehicle centers, 148 BMW motorcycle retailers, 123 MINI passenger car dealers, and 38 Rolls-Royce Motor Car dealers. BMW (US) Holding Corp., the BMW Group's sales headquarters for North America, is located in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey.

### **Rahal Letterman Lanigan Racing**

BMW's partner, Rahal Letterman Lanigan Racing, based in Hilliard, Ohio and co-owned by three-time IndyCar Champion and 1986 Indianapolis 500 winner Bobby Rahal, former CBS Late Show host David Letterman and Mi-Jack co-owner Mike Lanigan, has been competing for almost three decades. Prior to the start of their 27<sup>th</sup> season of competition in 2018, the



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team had compiled 42 victories, 53 poles, 162 podium finishes, three series championships (1992, 2010, 2011) and claimed an Indianapolis 500 victory (Buddy Rice in 2004). In 2009 the team joined BMW of North America to campaign the new BMW M3 in the American Le Mans Series. The following year the team won both the Manufacturer and Team Championships in the GT category and swept all three GT titles - Manufacturer, Team and Driver – in 2011. In 2012, the team finished second in the Team Championship and third in the Manufacturer Championship and in 2013, the team finished second in the Driver, Team and Manufacturer Championship. Since 2014, BMW Team RLL has competed in the GTLM class of the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship with a two car program and has brought their total to 17 wins, 23 poles and 68 podium finishes as well as a second place finish in the Manufacturer, Team and Driver championships in 2015 and 2017.

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**Journalist note:** Information about BMW Group and its products in the USA is available to journalists on-line at [www.bmwgroupusnews.com](http://www.bmwgroupusnews.com) and [www.press.bmwna.com](http://www.press.bmwna.com).

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