



Media Information  
BMW M Motorsport  
5<sup>th</sup> August 2024

**IMSA Road America: Class victory and podium for the BMW M4 GT3 – BMW M Team RLL in seventh place.**

- Jesse Krohn and Philipp Eng fight their way up to seventh place in the race after an accident in practice.
- Turner Motorsport celebrates the GTD class victory with the BMW M4 GT3 – Paul Miller Racing finishes second in the GTD-PRO category.
- Spark plug manufacturer Champion is the new Official Partner of BMW M Motorsport in the IMSA series and the DTM.

**Road America. Mixed feelings for the BMW M Motorsport teams after the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship (IMSA series) race at Road America (USA). BMW M Team RLL had a challenging weekend with its two BMW M Hybrid V8s. There was great celebration among the BMW M4 GT3 crews as Turner Motorsport celebrated a class victory in the GTD category. In the GTD PRO, Paul Miller Racing finished in second place.**

For Turner Motorsport, the class victory by BMW M works driver Robby Foley and Patrick Gallagher (both USA) marked the end of a long dry spell. The team, led by team principal Will Turner, had last stood at the top of the IMSA podium in 2022 at Mid-Ohio (USA). For the BMW M4 GT3, it was the eagerly awaited first triumph of the current IMSA season. After their third podium of the season, with a second place at Long Beach (USA) and a third at Laguna Seca (USA), Foley and Gallagher are in a promising position in the GTD drivers' standings. Paul Miller Racing saw an end to a difficult time this season. The podium finish for BMW M works driver Madison Snow and Bryan Sellers (both USA) was the team's first since the third place at the 24 Hours of Daytona (USA) at the start of the season.

BMW M Team RLL's two BMW M Hybrid V8s did not achieve the hoped-for first podium of the season. Philipp Eng (AUT) and Jesse Krohn (FIN) missed qualifying due to an accident in practice but fought their way from the back of the GTP class field to seventh place in the race. Connor De Phillippi (USA) and



Nick Yelloly (GBR) were in contention for podium positions in the first hour of the race, but then Yelloly lost control of the car, slid into the track barrier, and retired. Fortunately, Yelloly was uninjured.

### **BMW M Motorsport welcomes Champion as Official Partner.**

The two BMW M Hybrid V8s in the IMSA series and the BMW M4 GT3 of René Rast (GER) in the DTM now sport a new logo. The traditional spark plug manufacturer Champion Ignition joins the BMW M Motorsport family as an Official Partner, supporting the two prestigious racing programmes in North America and Europe.

"We are excited to welcome Champion Ignition as Official Partner of BMW M Motorsport," said Franciscus van Meel, CEO of BMW M GmbH. "This is a great fit as our brands are united in engineering excellence and technology leadership. We are looking forward to making this a successful collaboration across our motorsport programmes in IMSA and DTM." Ananth Parameswaran, Vice President and General Manager of Champion Ignition, said: "Growing rapidly in the OE space with a commitment to engineering, technology, and customer satisfaction, Champion has become one of the world's largest suppliers of OE spark plugs. This partnership will bring together our brand heritage in racing with our OE pedigree to enhance awareness and build excitement around Champion."

### **Comments after the race:**

**Andreas Roos (Head of BMW M Motorsport):** "Unfortunately, the breakthrough we hoped for with our BMW M Hybrid V8 crews did not happen at Road America, and we were unable to translate the good approaches we showed in practice into corresponding results. That is disappointing. The #24 car managed an improvement from the very back of the GTP starting grid to seventh place after missing qualifying. We lost the sister car from a good position due to an accident. I'm glad that nothing happened to Nick Yelloly. We will continue to work hard to turn things around this season and reward ourselves with good results. Congratulations to Turner Motorsport on the class win and the first success of a BMW M Motorsport team in the current IMSA season. We were close several times and have achieved podium places with the BMW M4 GT3, but it was only now that we made it to the very top of the





podium. Congratulations again to Paul Miller Racing for the second place in the GTD PRO class. I hope we can add more successes in the second half of the season."

**Jesse Krohn (#24 BMW M Hybrid V8, 7th place):** "After missing qualifying, we were obviously on the backfoot and tried a strategy that would move us forward. Unfortunately, the yellow phases came at times when we couldn't benefit from them so in the end, seventh place was the maximum, even though we could show good pace on a clear track."

**Nick Yelloly (#25 BMW M Hybrid V8, DNF):** "There's not much to say about my accident. I went a bit too far on the curb on cold tyres, the underbody hit the curb, and I slid into the tyre barrier. Luckily, I wasn't hurt."

**Robby Foley (#96 BMW M4 GT3, 1st place GTD class):** "What a great day for the entire team! Turner Motorsport is like a second family to me, and I'm incredibly happy to be able to give them all this win. It was a constant up and down in this race, and I never knew if we had the right strategy or not. Luckily, it worked out in the end. We could have had one or two class victories earlier this season. It's all the more beautiful that it has finally worked out now. Thanks to everyone for this fantastic job today."

**Madison Snow (#1 BMW M4 GT3, 2nd place GTD PRO class):** "We stayed strong in this turbulent race, fought until the end, did a good job in all areas, and thus kept ourselves in the leading group. That was crucial for this second place."

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