



PORSCHE

Press Release

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Nürburgring 24 Hours, Qualifying

Porsche sets fastest qualifying time at the Eifel classic

Stuttgart. The #911 Porsche 911 GT3 R has staked a claim at the Nürburgring 24-hour race. Driving for the Manthey-Racing team, Laurens Vanthoor lapped the 25.378-kilometre combination of the Nordschleife and Grand Prix racetrack in 8:14.503 minutes. With this stunning lap, the Belgian was over three seconds faster than the second qualifier. Vanthoor shares the cockpit of the 500-hp 911 with Earl Bamber (NZ), Romain Dumas (F) and Kévin Estre (F).

In addition to the fastest nine-eleven, six other 911 GT3 R will tackle the individual time trial for the best 30. In the Top 30 Qualifying, the final grid positions will be determined for the 24-hour classic at the Nürburgring.

With more than 200,000 spectators expected, the Nürburgring 24-hour race is regarded as one of the largest motorsport events in the world. At the Eifel classic, more than 500 drivers in 148 cars will take off into the race on Saturday at 15.30 hours. With 43 vehicles lining up, Porsche is the most strongly represented marque at the Nürburgring 24 Hours.

Comments from the qualifying

Dr Frank-Steffen Walliser (Vice President Motorsport and GT Cars): “The feedback from our GT3 R teams is uniformly positive. The balance of the cars and tyres fits. Towards the end, Laurens got a free and flawless run and claimed a well-deserved P1. We’re feeling very good as we head into the Top 30 qualifying, where

the cards will again be completely reshuffled.”

Laurens Vanthoor (Porsche 911 GT3 R #911), Manthey-Racing: “We found an ideal vehicle setup for today’s conditions. Everything came together perfectly for my lap: I had a clear run and I didn’t make one mistake. Position one in qualifying is good, but it’s the Top 30 Qualifying that counts. I have a good feeling and I hope that I can repeat the lap I’ve just done.”

Frédéric Makowiecki (Porsche 911 GT3 R #912), Manthey-Racing: “We couldn’t drive decent times because of the many code 60 phases. But our car is very fast and is setup specifically for the race.”

Dennis Olsen (Porsche 911 GT3 R #12), Manthey-Racing: “We looked good but we need to be even faster. The field is very tight and I wasn’t able to push as hard as I wanted due to the heavy traffic.”

Matteo Cairoli (Porsche 911 GT3 R #17), KÜS Team75 Bernhard: “My pace was at times very fast, but I was constantly hampered by slower cars. Under these circumstances, eighth in qualifying is very good.”

Sven Müller (Porsche 911 GT3 R #44), Falken Motorsports: “During my stint, I again tried to final an optimal setup for the car. Competing at the Nürburgring is a lot of fun. The atmosphere here is fantastic, the fans are having a great time and it’ll be a super weekend with our fast car.”

Mathieu Jaminet (Porsche 911 GT3 R #31), Frikadelli Racing Team: “I set out with a full fuel tank to test the tyres under race conditions. The wear was minimal and the car’s performance was very good. I’m feeling very optimistic.”

The schedule:

Friday, 11 May

19:00 – 19:40 hrs: Top 30 Qualifying

Saturday, 12 May

09:10 – 10:10 hrs: Warm-up

15:30 hrs: Start Nürburgring 24 Hours

Please note: Press releases and photos are available to download on <http://presse.porsche.de>. The Twitter channel @PorscheRaces provides live updates with the latest information and photos from race tracks around the world. Porsche Communication provides more content with an innovative service for journalists, bloggers and online multipliers under www.newsroom.porsche.com.

