

CORVETTE RACING ACTIVITIES REPORT - for September 2nd

ADAC GT MASTERS SERIES

CALLAWAY CORVETTE - AT THE WORLD FAMOUS NURBURGRING, GERMANY!

33 competitors practiced and qualified that is race, that is why the ADAC series makes for GREAT racing;

13-Audi, 6-Mercedes, 6-Porsche, 3-BMW, 3-Lambos, 1-Bentley[VW], 1-Callaway Corvette.

There are 2 One Hour Races, Qualifying and Race 1 on Saturday. Ditto Race 2 Sunday.

PRACTICE SESSION 1 AND 2 - best lap times were 1:28.382, & 1:29.010 respectively, on old, worn, tires.

Reeves wrote regarding the 2 practice sessions.....

On 8/14/2020, 1:12 PM, Reeves Callaway wrote:

Hey Michael,

I just spoke to Ernst. Their strategy is to not try to go fast because they are on old tires. And no changes are able to be felt when working old old tires.

Tomorrow for qualifying will be running a new set. And another new set for the race.

QUALIFYING for Race 1 - the #77 Callaway Corvette qualified 12th with a 1:27.439, 0.526 sec off pole, with new tires.

RACE 1 - 15 minutes complete, no changes to report for Callaway Corvette 12th place.

35 minutes complete, pit window open, Callaway Corvette in the pits at lap 18 for their timed pit stop/driver change.

* Still in the pits, it is way passed their pit exit time. Announcers are reporting mechanical issue with the Callaway Corvette.

* We are at 23 minutes left in the race, lap 23 completed. Callaway Corvette still in the pits. No further report by announcers. Looks like what ever the issue is, it's serious.

* I'm continuing to watch and listen for any kind of update from the announcers, with 15 minutes left in the race, unfortunately no movement of the #77.

* Now 10 minutes left in the race. Ditto.
The Callaway Corvette is out of the race.

*Reeves wrote regarding Race 1.....
On Sat, 15 Aug 2020, 17:01:10 -0700, Reeves Callaway wrote:
Report from Ernst, spending all night in the garage with team. Engine change.
The oil pump drive broke at the pitstop. Probably could have been a lot worse.
Engine ran for a few seconds Without oil pressure. Just one of those things....
Could of happened from debris. At this point it is not analyzed.*

QUALIFYING Race 2 - Callaway Corvette #77 Qualified 4th, but is starting 3rd on the Grid due to a penalty of another competitor.
Based on the effort of an engine change, the new engine looks to be very strong.

RACE 2 - 15 minute update - Callaway holding 4th, being very aggressive trying to pass those in front.

31 minute update - Callaway Corvette pitted at 31 minutes left in race, right in the middle of the Pit Window.
That dropped them to 16th, but only temporarily, as everyone is pitting. Pit stops shuffled everyone.
Leaders got caught behind slower back markers coming out of the pits, some pit violations. Callaway Corvette 5th as a result.

1 minute 30 seconds left in the race - Markus Pommer wheeling the #77 Callaway Corvette made a gallant effort to pick up a spot from 5th to 4th, unfortunately it didn't work out exactly as planned.
It was a challenging weekend for Callaway Corvette; an engine issue in Race 1. Race 2 saw the leaders, including the Callaway Corvette, get caught up behind some slower back markers during pitting, dropping them one spot.

Interesting comment by the announcers...**"the Callaway Corvette engine shakes the ground"** as it drives by! That's a Powerfully Engineered Corvette!

SPECIAL THANKS to Reeves Callaway for keeping us in the loop with updates from Ernst Woehr, General Manager of Callaway Competition GmbH, Leingarten, Germany!

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IMSA SERIES

Road America - a 2 hour 40 minute sprint race.

QUALIFYING @ Rd. America, Pratt&Miller Corvette Racing C8.Rs - it is a very quick 15 minutes.

NO pit stops for tires, fuel, driver changes, suspension adjustments. For the race tomorrow, you start the race with the tires you qualified on.

First 5min. just warming things up, laps in the 2:03s. Between 5-10min stepping things up.....low 2:02s, high 2:01s. Last 5min.....now we're movin'.....

#3 C8.R Taylor - 2:01.390, 2:00.860, 2:00.854 qualified 2nd

#4 C8.R Gavin - 2:01.614, 2:01.009, 2:00.904 qualified 3rd

HOWEVER - #912 Porsche qualified 1st with a 2:00.590.

RACE UPDATE 1 - 2 hours left in race, #3 Corvette just pitted for driver and tire change and fuel. #4 Corvette has an undescribed electric issue, dropping positions. Some areas of the track have rain. It is a large track, 4.04 miles in length. Maybe #3 pitted too soon if they have to go to rain tires.

RACE UPDATE 2 - 1hr 30min left in race, #3 in 2nd place, #4 in last / 6th place.

RACE UPDATE 3 - When the #3 pitted 1/2 hr ago, it was because of tire "degradation" the announcers mentioned, #3 was losing tire traction earlier than expected. Track temp is 115°F.

Update 3.1 - #4 just pitted @ 1Hr 45Min left in race, for driver and tire change and fuel. Oddly, #4 got 5 more laps than the #3.

Maybe that save-fuel strategy also saving tires. I've calculated that the Corvettes are getting around 4 MPG.

RACE UPDATE 4 - #3 Corvette pitted at 40 laps, so their stints are 20 lap intervals. Stopped for tires and fuel only. but they had a pneumatic air lug nut gun jam/issue and that cost them seconds of a longer pit stop.

RACE UPDATE 5 - At 46 laps complete, 55Min left in the race the clouds have opened up, heavy rain, cars going off the track everywhere.

The leading #912 slid off track. Full course YELLOW FLAG due to cars all over the place. Standing water collecting at various points on the track.

As soon as the pits open up everyone will be coming in for wet-tires.

RACE UPDATE 6 - RED FLAG WITH 53 LAPS COMPLETED, 40MIN LEFT IN RACE. PITS ARE RED-FLAG CLOSED!

THE RACE CLOCK HAS BEEN STOPPED AT 30MIN. SO AT THE VERY LEAST WE'LL HAVE 30MIN OF GREEN FLAG RACING LEFT.

RACE UPDATE 7 - OK, IMSA Race Control has given the DRIVERS BACK TO THEIR CARS signal.

The YELLOW FLAG is being shown now, and the race clock has been re-started, rain is still falling, as I'm also watching NBC TV.

THERE IS A LOT OF DEEP STANDING WATER. And cars are rolling! I don't understand this, from a safety aspect!

Looking at the view Tommy has out his front windshield, visibility is ZERO. Most cars are still on slicks!! Pits just opened, 18 min to go.

RACE UPDATE 8 - 8 Min left AND THEY ARE GOING GREEN FLAG! THIS IS STUPID.

FOR DRIVER SAFETY THEY SHOULD CALL THE RACE. IT IS STILL RAINING, IN SOME PLACES VERY HEAVY RAIN.

RACE UPDATE 9 - #24, #25 AND #911 ALL SPUN OFF THE TRACK IN THE CLOSING MINUTES,

CORVETTE #3 TAKES OVER 1ST PLACE BY DEFAULT. CORVETTE #4 COMES IN #4 PLACE.

SECOND straight WIN for the #3, THIRD straight WIN for Corvette Racing Team.

Virginia International Raceway [VIR] - a 2 hour 40 minute sprint race.

QUALIFYING @ VIR, Pratt&Miller Corvette Racing C8.Rs - I don't know who all watches or listens and keeps track of Timing&Scoring, being redundant, but the 15 minutes of Qualifying are intense, and ever changing. Trying to keep track of even only 6 competitors lap times on a lap-by-lap basis is a significant challenge, obviously I concentrate on the 2 Vettes.

The Corvettes were the first cars out on the track, right away as soon as Qualifying started, followed by the Porsches. The BMWs didn't go out on track until 8 minutes left.

With each lap the Corvettes are warming their Michelins, and sharpening their braking, entry, turn-in / exit, accelerate, turn-out points. Ever improving lap times for Corvettes.

#3 C8.R / Jordan Taylor - 1:47.921, 1:44.456, 1:42.928, 1:41.963, 1:41.760, 1:41.228 as a reference only, the #3 C7.R Jan Magnussen Qualified last year with a 1:40.708.

The #3 will be 4th on the starting grid, 0.839 seconds behind the pole winning Porsche #911 ouch I.

#4 C8.R/ Olly Gavin - 1:47.529, 1:44.161, 1:43.307, 1:42.135, 1:41.895, 1:41.662 as a reference only, the #4 C7.R Olly Gavin Qualified last year with a 1:41.578.

The #4 will be 5th on the starting grid, 1.273 seconds behind the pole winning Porsche #911 ouch II.

The Porsches started out fast and continued being fast, ever improving their lap times. Porsche #911 Pole Position, Porsche #912 2nd, #25 BMW 3rd on grid. The Qualifying Results a disappointment, to say the least. Did not expect these C8.R results. Even with the BoP weight changes. Which didn't seem to affect Porsche.

RACE UPDATE 1 - 1 hour left in the race. The #24 BMW has steering box issue, crashed. Crew made repairs, they are 20 laps down.

Earl Bamber in the #912 Porsche was involved in a shunt with another car and their rear defuser needed replacement. He's been in for repairs. They are down 4 laps.

#4 Corvette C8.R Olly Gavin decided to mow some grass at VIR at some point and dropped back considerably. Tommy Milner took over at their pit stop.

Jordan Taylor has acquired 2nd place, behind Porsche #911, but ahead of the #25 BMW. Antonio Garcia will take over at their next pit stop and take it to the end.

RACE UPDATE 2 - 1/2 hour left in the race. I'm not sure on how the leaders are on fuel, whether anyone has to make another stop for a splash.

I think the #3 Corvette can make it to the end. As I'm watching the #3 In-Car-Cam, Antonio is driving as fast and hard as he can.

But as we know from Qualifying, the Porsches are a little quicker. Antonio has lost 3 seconds to the #911 Tandy Porsche over the last half hour, 15 sec - to - 18 sec.

RACE UPDATE 3 - 15 minutes remain in the race. The #911 may have a fuel-to-the-end issue, he has slowed considerably.

#3 Corvette went from 18 seconds behind down to 11 seconds with 18 minutes to go. A yellow flag would make the race very interesting to be sure.

Then, as I'm watching at 17 minutes left, the #911 Porsche came in the pits for a LR

tire, suffered a flat, bad racer luck.

The #3 Corvette takes over 1st place!!!

RACE UPDATE 3 - Uh Oh, announcers are saying - TIRE ISSUE FOR THE #3 CORVETTE STAY TUNED. BAD VIBRATION REAR TIRE.....

[Thankfully it was not a tire issue, but the rear defuser coming loose.]

#3 CORVETTE TOOK OVER 1ST PLACE AND WINS THEIR 3 STRAIGHT RACE!

CORVETTE RACING TEAM WINS THEIR 4TH STRAIGHT RACE.

#25 BMW was 2nd, #911 Porsche was 3rd, **#4 Corvette was 4th**, #912 Porsche was 5th, #24 BMW was 6th.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike