



Petit Le Mans presented by MAZDA2
Thursday September 30, 2010



Round 9 - Pit Notes *Presented by Porsche*: Page 1

Welcome to SUNNY and DRY (OK...it's drying as we type) Road Atlanta for the 13th annual Petit Le Mans powered by MAZDA 2. The 1,000-mile/10-hour race has been held each year since 1998 at this 12-turn, 2.54-mile circuit and serves as the cornerstone event of the American Le Mans Series presented by Tequila Patrón.

This year's race features the largest field (45 cars) for any Series race in more than seven years. Only once has the event seen more cars on the starting grid – 2002. Petit Le Mans is one of two races in the world where class winners earn automatic invitations to the 24 Hours of Le Mans the following year. The other – Le Mans itself!

Some storylines for the weekend...

- This year's Petit Le Mans powered by MAZDA 2 is the second round of the new Intercontinental Le Mans Cup, a global sports car racing championship from the Automobile Club de l'Ouest – the governing body of the Le Mans 24 Hours. There are three rounds in the 2010 ILMC – Silverstone earlier in September, Petit Le Mans and Zhuhai, China in November. For 2011, the Intercontinental Le Mans Cup will expand to seven events including two in North America – Sebring and Petit Le Mans.
- For the third straight year, diesel prototype powers Audi and Peugeot will do battle at Petit Le Mans. Audi saw its perfect Road Atlanta record (11 straight races) washed away last year by Peugeot and torrential rains that forced the race to end after just 4:49 running. Audi Sport Team Joest will send two Audi R15 Plus factory prototypes against Team Peugeot Total's two Peugeot 908 HDi FAP racers.
- The other marquee entry into Petit Le Mans is Porsche's revolutionary 911 GT3 R Hybrid race car, which will compete unclassified. The car, making its racing debut in North America, collects energy generated under braking and reapplies it at the front wheels via a flywheel, which supports Porsche's combustion engine. This leads to a reduction in fuel consumption and increases the cruising range. Moreover, drivers can manually utilize the stored energy with a boost-paddle on the steering wheel for overtaking. Porsche Motorsport North America will run the car. Reigning Le Mans 24 Hours overall champions Timo Bernhard, Romain Dumas and Mike Rockenfeller (who drove an Audi R15 Plus) will drive the Porsche hybrid.
- For the first time in Series history, class championships in all classes are coming down to the final race of the year. Thirty points go to class winners at Road Atlanta. Of the Series' 17 points championships, only two have been decided – Michelin clinched the tire manufacturer crowns in LMP and GT at Mosport.

At 10:00 am, **green flag**.

Note: There is an issue with timing so live data will be delayed.

At 10:00 am, the air temperature is 70 degrees with a track temperature of 75 degrees under mostly cloudy skies, but lingering rain clouds making brief and unwelcome appearances. The track is damp but drying.

The #5-P2 Radical SR9/IES will not be out for the session. They had a new engine flown in overnight but do not have the proper engine management in place.

At 10:15 am, 20 cars have posted times so far. And there is a light rain falling around the track.