



Petit Le Mans presented by MAZDA2
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PORSCHE



Round 9 - Pit Notes *Presented by Porsche*: Page 15

Anthony Davidson (#07-P1 Peugeot 908 HDI FAP) first ALMS pole.

Guy Smith (#16-P2 Lola B09 86/Mazda) second career pole, second this season.

Luis Diaz (#52-LMPC Oreca FLM09) seventh career pole, third in a row.

Jaime Melo (#61-GT2 Ferrari 430 GT) “This is a good start for success tomorrow. I'm really happy to be on pole. We worked really hard on race set-up. I'm a bit surprised to be on pole but that's what we expect from ourselves, to start on the first or second row for the race. I think I switched to the 61 car for this race. I'm pretty happy with this car, we're really comfortable with the set-up and balance. The race is going to be really, really busy. But I'm sharing a car with Mika Salo again and Giancarlo, so I have really good support. We are looking for the championship, team, and manufacturer points, so to have the top 4 spots is really good for Ferrari. Its the last race in America, one more race for these guys.”

Jeroen Bleekemolen (#54-GTC Porsche 911 GT3 Cup) “It was a great qualifying for us. Pretty tight. A lot of cars went out for a 2nd time. I didn't know if the tires would still be good, but they were even better. I improved a bit. We need to do 70% tomorrow to be the class winners for the championship. It should be pretty exciting. We thought if we start out front it will be more easy. You race hard tomorrow, but you don't try to lose it in the first corner. For sure, you have to get through the first couple of hours, if you lay back too much you probably won't finish. This is definitely one of my favorite tracks now in North America. This is my first time. The last corner is fantastic, the first corner as well. I like the eases too. The paddock and the atmosphere here with all the fans is great. This is my first Petit and its amazing.”

Luis Diaz (#52-LMPC Oreca FLM09) “Thanks to the Team, they gave us a great car again. We had a difficult start to the week, we had some problems with all the rain. The rest of the teams had the chance to test last weekend, and we didn't. In the short amount of time, the team did a great job with set-up. So did Ricardo, he gave me a great car. I was concerned about what to expect for qualifying, but it seems the car is really fast and set-up great for the race. We saw how many red flags during the sessions during the week, so I'm expecting some surprises during the race so we'll need to keep our head down and keep focused. This car is really good here with all the fast sectors. The car handles really well, so from turn 1 to turn 5 we are very very quick.”

Anthony Davidson (#07-P1 Peugeot 908 HDI FAP) “It's my first time here since 2003 where I drove a 550 prototype car. I get to go around a bit faster tomorrow. Its a great track to drive here in the Peugeot 908. Its the first time I've ever driven it like that with low fuel and fresh tires on a very nice track. It was the first time I've got to just drive it by the scruff of the neck. The tires came in a bit quickly with it being so hot out so my time was limited. I got a bit of tow coming down the straight so that probably helped a bit. It was great to be fast today, especially after last night, it was the first time I crashed the car like that before too. I probably only had about 20 laps behind my belt here before last night. It was getting dark and I got a bit too far out trying to drive around the outside of a GT car, I got too far into the grass and didn't really know where I was going and drove at speed straight off into the barrier. The guys were up all night last night putting it back together so my hats off and big thanks to them for getting the car sorted out. Silverstone was the last race of the LMS and the first in the ILMC, so to be 1-2 finish there and 1-2 on the grid here in this new championship, we're very committed to winning this. We've been testing a lot with the 908 and set-up. We had a bitter taste left in our mouth after Le Mans so we want to really finish up strong with this ILMC championship. Today was a surprise in qualifying, the track was a bit grippy, since last night there was barely any.”