

HALL OF FAME

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THE

News From The American Le Mans Series - Sebring 2010

Alley



Peugeot

SETTING SIGHTS
ON THE DIESEL
TOP GUN



MICHELIN

A better way forward



This could be the last time, this could be the last time, may be the last time, I don't know.

—Rolling Stones

Having conquered the sports car world in 2009 with victories in the 24 Hours of Le Mans and Petit Le Mans, a pair of the sensational Peugeot 908 FDi FAP cars arrive in Sebring looking to take honors in America's premier sports car event for the first time.

In fact, with new regulations and new cars expected for 2011, this is likely the last chance for glory at Sebring for the current car.

Taking full advantage of the current Le Mans rules to encourage diesels, the turbo-diesel Peugeot and archrival Audi entries have dominated the international scene in recent years with Audi taking the victories at Le Mans in 2007 and 2008 but Peugeot prevailing in 2009.

With Anthony Davidson, Marc Gene and Alex Wurz aboard one car and Sebastien Bourdais, Pedro Lamy and Nic Minassian aboard the other, the Peugeot team is deep in talent and experience.

Here at the Twelve Hours of Sebring, the highly developed Peugeots are favored in a field featuring the rapidly emerging Lola -Judd coupe of Drayson Racing, and the Aston Martin Lola featuring Adrian Fernandez. Sadly, the Audi threat is missing.

A pair of Lolas from American Le Mans Series regulars Autocon Motorsports and Intersport Racing round out the LMP1 field.

The defending ALMS prototype champion Patrón Highcroft entry heads a trio of top-flight LMP2 entries with the Muscle Milk Porsche RS Spyder of Team CytoSport and

the Dyson Racing Lola Mazda, all evenly matched in 2009 and early 2010 testing here.

Run under the more restrictive Le Mans LMP2 class rules here, the three will try to keep the more powerful LMP1 entries in sight while fighting their own ALMS championship battle.

Ironically, Highcroft co-drivers David Brabham and Simon Pagenaud both scored victories aboard Peugeots in 2009 with "Brabs" aboard the Le Mans 24 hour winner for the first time. Marino Franchitti will join them here.

Trans Am legend Greg Pickett leads the Muscle Milk Porsche entry with the impressive Klaus Graf and Porsche ace Sascha Maassen aboard.

Joining Chris Dyson and Guy Smith in the Mazda Lola is ALMS newcomer Andy Meyrick.

Making their Sebring and ALMS competition debut are six identical Chevrolet powered Oreca-Courage prototypes competing in the new LMP Challenge class.

The race marks the return to ALMS competition for Gunnar Jeannette and a new adventure for ALMS veterans Intersport Racing and Joel Feinberg of Primetime Racing. Joining them are ALMS newcomers Genoa Racing, Level 5 Motorsports and PR1/Mathiasen, all successful teams now switching their attention to the ALMS.

The Twelve Hours of Sebring takes on extra importance for the Peugeot, Aston Martin, Drayson and Highcroft squads as they seek to make history in America's premier sport cars race and finalize preparations for the upcoming 24 Hours of Le Mans.



Hall of Fame Calls; Michelin Answers

What will 11 consecutive overall Sebring Twelve Hour race wins and 31 Sebring class wins get you? Well, for Michelin, it gets you inducted into the Sebring Hall of Fame.

This week, Michelin becomes the first tire maker and just fourth company selected for this honor, joining motorsports heavyweights Audi, Ferrari and Porsche. The Sebring Hall of Fame also recognized the launch of the MICHELIN® GREEN X® Challenge at Sebring in 2009.

Previous inductees include: Dan Gurney, Jim Hall, Phil Hill, Mario Andretti, Roger Penske, Bobby Rahal, Hans Stuck and Carroll Shelby. Joining Michelin in the class of 2010 are former Sebring winning drivers Phil Walters, John Morton, Hurley Haywood and Derek Daly, and former official Reginald S. Smith.

Michelin's Sebring race and class victories have come with eight different manufacturer technical partner teams including: Audi, Acura, Porsche, Chevrolet, Ferrari, Aston Martin, Dodge Viper, and BMW (pictured above).

"We are truly honored to be the first tire maker inducted into the Sebring Hall of Fame and we can only thank our technical partners and teams for choosing Michelin," said Nick Shorrock, Director of Michelin Group Motorsport Division.



THE SPEED TALK

by SPEEDtv.com's Marshall Pruett

SOUNDS OF SEBRING

Ever since Audi ushered in the diesel era at Sebring in 2006, the 12 Hour classic has been dominated by the muted, whooshing sounds of the twin-turbo oil-burning powerplants.

From the Audi R10 and R15 to Peugeot's Le Mans-winning 908 HDI FAP, the fastest cars in recent years have been nearly silent, but with Audi sitting out the 2010 edition of the Twelve Hours of Sebring, the head of the prototype field will have a louder, more sonorous appeal.

Peugeot will fill the air with the sounds of two 908s, but sportscar fans will have a full plate of auditory pleasures to choose from.

The favorite 'voice' is expected to come from Aston Martin Racing's stunning Lola, propelled by the English firm's famous V12 engine.

The top prototype class has been lacking in naturally aspirated V12s, and if the popularity of the Sebring-winning BMW V12s were anything to go by, the silky, screaming Lola-Aston will surely be the subject of

many new ringtones after Saturday's endurance classic.

Diversity in sounds continues in the prototype ranks, as Drayson Racing's Lola-Judd V10 will offer its shrill bark, Team Cytosport's Porsche V8 and Patrón Highcroft's HPD V8 will deliver their raspy sounds, and Dyson Racing's angry turbocharged inline-4 Mazda motor will complement the offerings.

With a variety of V8s in GT, the unmistakable wail of Porsche's flat-6 in GTC and GT, and a swarm of Corvette-based V8 engines in the new LMPC class, all 3.7 miles of the Sebring track will be filled with earfuls of delight this weekend.





One of the strongest and most diverse fields in sports car history kicks-off the 2010 American Le Mans Series here at the Twelve Hours of Sebring, but the season-long slugfest will likely rage until the final laps in Road Atlanta's Petit Le Mans in October. Just how strong is the 2010 GT field? Check out these factory backed teams:

Ferrari:

The Houston-based Risi Competizione Ferrari team has won the last five consecutive endurance classics, taking GT2 class wins at the 2008 and 2009 runnings of both the 24 Hours

of Le Mans and Petit Le Mans, and here at Sebring in 2009. The always-exciting Jaime Melo returns to pilot the Risi Ferrari, joined this year by FIA GT champion Gianmaria Bruni, with Pierre Kaffer pitching in for the classics. Boosting Ferrari's hopes for the ALMS GT manufacturer championship, Scott Sharp's new Extreme Speed Motorsports fields a two-car Ferrari team. Sharp, a successful IndyCar, Trans Am and sports car driver and the 2009 ALMS LMP1 class champion with Acura, will co-drive with six-time class winner Johannes van Overbeek, while veteran Guy Cosmo teams with GT3 graduate Ed Brown in the second Ferrari F430.

Porsche:

The 2008 and 2009 ALMS GT2 Series champions from Flying Lizard Motorsports lead the Porsche fleet with a strong two-car lineup including defending driver champions, German Joerg Bergmeister and American star Patrick Long. Bergmeister and Long won six races last year including a record five in a row. Entering their seventh year of American Le Mans Series competition, Flying Lizard Motorsports has never finished outside the top three in the team and driver championships. Backing them up for Porsche points will be the Black Swan, Falken and Vici Racing entries.

Corvette:

Want some American muscle? With a record that includes 70 ALMS GT1 class wins, eight ALMS Manufacturer and Team Championships and six wins at the 24 Hours of Le Mans, Corvette Racing has joined the GT battle. Corvette Racing finished second in its GT2 debut at Mid-Ohio last summer and scored five podium finishes including its first GT2 class win at Mosport International Raceway. With a full off-season to prepare for the upcoming season, the Pratt & Miller squad is poised for another championship run. Johnny O'Connell and Jan Magnussen will pilot the #3 Corvette C6.R while Oliver


MICHELIN
GREEN
CHALLENGE

Here at America's premier sports car race, the Twelve Hours of Sebring, manufacturers and teams will roll to the starting grid with two goals; win the race and win the MICHELIN® GREEN X® Challenge.

A race within the race at each ALMS event, the MICHELIN® GREEN X® Challenge recognizes the Prototype and GT car that delivers the best overall performance, energy efficiency and smallest environmental footprint. The formula, developed as a means to speed the development of new technologies and fuels by the U.S Department Energy, EPA, and SAE International, measures 30 different factors.

The inaugural season of MICHELIN® GREEN X® Challenge competition saw nine different cars, from eight different teams, and five different car manufacturers claim the 20 awards.

Twelve of the MICHELIN® GREEN X® Challenge winners, including the winning Audi and Corvette teams here at Sebring, also won their class on the track at the same event. "Speed and environmental efficiency are not mutually exclusive terms," said Silvia Mammone, Michelin Motorsports manager.

Named for MICHELIN® GREEN X® labeled consumer tires that are optimized for fuel economy by reducing their rolling resistance and weight without compromising other key performance factors such as traction, grip and tread wear. The MICHELIN® GREEN X® Challenge is now a global program including events in Asia, Europe and the 24 Hours of Le Mans.

"Corvette Racing wants to win every race and win every MICHELIN® GREEN X® Challenge. Winning both ends of the race means that we are fast, clean, and efficient and that is what our fans expect," said Corvette Racing's Doug Fehan.

Gavin and Olivier Beretta take the reigns of the #4 Corvette. Antonio Garcia and Emmanuel Collard join in for the endurance races.

BMW:

Want more? With its first ALMS victory at Road America last summer, the BMW Rahal Letterman Racing Team returns for a sophomore season in ALMS with a potent pair of BMW M3's. If you are keeping score, the Rahal Letterman team has an Indy 500 win on its resume and BMW has posted 15 wins in ALMS action. Factory drivers Tommy Milner, Bill Auberlen, Joey Hand and Dirk Müller

are ready to add to those impressive totals.

Jaguar:

Still not enough? A late 2009 American Le Mans Series season entry into the GT2 class mix was Trans Am legend Paul Gentilozzi's Rocketsports Racing Jaguar RSR XKR GT team.

The team made its race debut at the season finale at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca.

A second car is expected and look for the Jags to pounce as the season progresses. Get comfortable, this battle will take more turns than America's premiere sports car race.

“What you have now is a racing tradition of socialism or if Karl Marx were going to do it, it would end up looking about like it does now.”

Dan Gurney on “Spec Racing” in current Indycars. That is certainly not the case here at the Twelve Hours of Sebring.

Dijyano

DID YOU KNOW?



Endurance Racing Experience



The recent news that Emanuele Pirro is joining Drayson Racing for the longer races, including Sebring, brought lots of smiles to the ALMS paddock. Pirro, a former Audi factory driver, has five wins at the 24 Hours of Le Mans and two Sebring wins.

Hybrid Porsche Next?

At the Geneva Motor Show in February, Porsche unveiled a Porsche 911 GT3 R with innovative hybrid drive developed especially for racing. The Porsche 911 GT3 R Hybrid will be tested in long-distance races; the highlight of the test program will be the 24 Hours of Nurburgring, May 15-16...unless of course Porsche decides to try Petit Le Mans at Road Atlanta this fall.



He said what?

Sharing the cockpit of the #8 Drayson Racing Lola Judd with Paul Drayson and Jonny Cocker will be easy for Pirro. The real excitement will be if the always unpredictable Pirro shares a microphone with his team owner whose day job is serving as the distinguished British Minister for Science and Innovation. PR ace Tom Moore will be standing by.

ROAD & TRACK 'IN



The races at Sebring and Le Mans aren't the only things requiring endurance. Tim Considine, one of the most knowledgeable and insightful Le Mans watchers spent two years of research and interviews putting together a great four-page feature on Michelin and endurance racing titled Lessons Learned. You can still catch it at: roadandtrack.com



Trophy time

Highcroft's David Brabham finally was awarded a trophy for his British Formula 3 title win in January - 21 years late. Technical protests originally delayed confirmation of his victory - back in 1989 he was never actually given the trophy.

What was that?

That might be the phrase of the weekend at the Twelve Hours of Sebring as the new Le Mans Prototype Challenge (LMPC) class debuts in ALMS. The identical prototypes are designed to provide competitors with a sophisticated Le Mans Prototype at a cost more affordable to teams. At least six teams have purchased the ORECA-Courage FLM09 prototype and will compete this year alongside the larger and more powerful LMP1 and LMP2 sports cars.

Now Live

Follow a live Michelin Blog from the Twelve Hours of Sebring and all 2010 ALMS events and check out the latest issues of The Alley all season long at www.michelinman.com/motorsports

Sebring Schedule

Thursday, March 18, 2010

8:00 am - 8:30 am	Qualifying Skip Barber National
8:45 am - 9:30 am	Qualifying - Star Mazda
9:45 am - 10:15 am	Qualifying - Prototype Lites
10:30 am - 11:30 am	Practice - ALMS
11:45 am - 12:15 pm	Qualifying - Patrón GT3 Challenge
1:15 pm - 1:45 pm	Prototype Lites Race
2:05 pm - 3:05 pm	Practice - ALMS
3:25 pm - 4:10 pm	Patrón GT3 Race
4:30 pm - 5:00 pm	Skip Barber National Race
5:15 pm - 6:15 pm	Practice/Qualifying - SVRA
7:15 pm - 9:00 pm	Night Practice - ALMS

Friday, March 19, 2010

8:00 am - 8:30 am	Qualifying Skip Barber National
8:50 am - 9:20 am	Prototype Lites Race
9:40 am - 10:40 am	Practice - ALMS
11:00 am - 11:45 am	Patrón GT3 Race
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	ALMS Autograph Session
12:45 pm - 1:30 pm	Star Mazda Race
1:50 pm - 2:15 pm	Qualifying - ALMS (GT2/GTC)
2:25 pm - 2:50 pm	Qualifying - ALMS (P1/P2/LMPC)
3:30 pm - 4:00 pm	Skip Barber National Race
4:20 pm - 5:20 pm	SVRA Races

Saturday, March 20, 2010

8:00 am - 8:25 am	Warm Up - ALMS
10:30 am - 10:30 pm	58th Annual Mobil 1 Twelve Hours of Sebring Presented by Fresh From Florida

2010 Calendar



20 March	Twelve Hours of Sebring, Sebring Fl	SPEED
17 April	Long Beach Grand Prix, CA	SPEED
22 May	Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca, CA	CBS SPORTS
11 July	Miller Motorsports Park, Salt Lake City, UT	SPEED
24 July	Lime Rock Park, Lakeville, CT	SPEED
7 August	Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course, Lexington, OH	CBS SPORTS
22 August	Road America, Elkhart Lake, WI	SPEED
29 August	Mosport International Raceway, Canada	SPEED
2 October	Petit Le Mans, Road Atlanta, GA	SPEED



Sebring's Top 10

Top 10 moments from the past 10 years at America's greatest sports car race, the Twelve Hours of Sebring

- 1** The Great 2007 Finish – legendary last lap GT2 class battle between Jaime Melo from Risi Competizione Ferrari and Joerg Bergmeister of Flying Lizard Motorsports Porsche.
- 2** First Diesel Win 2006 – Audi wins Sebring with its diesel-powered R10 TDI
- 3** Audi vs. BMW Battle 2000 – Audi wins first major international endurance race.
- 4** 50th Anniversary Celebration 2002 – Golden Anniversary of America's greatest sports car race.
- 5** Saleen Upsets Corvette 2001 – Saleen stuns Corvette in GTS class.
- 6** Penske Porsche Breaks Audi Streak 2008 – Penske Porsche takes overall win ending Audi's eight year winning streak.
- 7** Aston Martin Victory 2007 – Aston Martin wins GT1 category, first time in 49 years.
- 8** Fastest Sebring Ever 2009 – New Audi R15TDI wins setting the fastest average speed in Sebring History and all-time distance record.
- 9** Bentley Comes to Sebring 2003 – Bentley made its only North American appearance before winning at Le Mans with its exquisite closed-top coupe (pictured above).
- 10** First MICHELIN® GREEN X® Challenge 2009 - A new era in motorsports as the American Le Mans Series introduces the MICHELIN® GREEN X® Challenge for the first time at Sebring.

FAN Favorites



HPD



1

Brabham/Pagenaud/
Franchitti

Michelin

Patrón Highcroft Racing • HPD ARX-01c

LOLA



37

J. Field/C. Field
Intersport Racing • Lola B06/10

Dunlop

PORSCHE



87

Henzler/Sellers/Pilet
Team Falken Tire • Porsche 911 GT3 RSR

Falken

CHEVROLET



3

4

Magnussen/O'Connell/Garcia
Gavin/Beretta/Collard

Michelin

Corvette Racing • Chevrolet Corvette C6.R

FORD



40

D. Robertson/A. Robertson/
Murry

Dunlop

Robertson Racing, LLC • Ford GT MK7

BMW



90

92

D. Müller//Hand/Priaux
Auberlen/Milner/Werner

Dunlop

BMW Rahal Letterman Racing • BMW E92 M3

PORSCHE



6

Pickett/Graf/Maassen
Muscle Milk Team Cytosport • Porsche RS Spyder

Michelin

PORSCHE



44

45

Law/Neiman/Lietz
Bergmeister/Long/Lieb

Michelin

Flying Lizard Motorsports • Porsche 911 GT3 RSR

FERRARI



01

02

Sharp/van Overbeek/Farnbacher
Brown/Cosmo/Barbosa

Michelin

Extreme Speed Motorsports • Ferrari 430 GT

LOLA



8

Drayson/Cocker/Pirro
Drayson Racing • Lola B09 60

Michelin

FERRARI



61

62

Krohn/Jonsson/van de Poele
Melo/Bruni/Kaffer

Michelin

Risi Competizione • Ferrari 430 GT

PEUGEOT



07

08

Gene/Wurz/Davidson
Lamy/Bourdais/Minassian

Michelin

Team Peugeot Total • Peugeot 908 HDI FAP

MAZDA



16

Dyson/Smith/Meyrick
Dyson Racing • Lola B09 86 Mazda

Dunlop

JAGUAR



75

Gentilozzi/Goossens/
Dalziel

Yokohama

Jaguar RSR • Jaguar XKRS

ASTON MARTIN



009

Buncombe/Primat/
Fernandez

Michelin

Aston Martin Racing • Lola B09 60 Aston Martin