TRACK TIME

By: Brant D. Nystrom



First, lets jump into the national racing scene:

The IMSA 12 Hours of Sebring was run March 15, 2014. This is the second event of the season for IMSA's Tudor United Sports Car Championship, the most highly recognized series for road racing in the US. The 12-hours of Sebring, along with the 24-Hours of Daytona, and Petite Le Mans at Road Atlanta make up the North American triple crown of endurance racing.



Porsche 911 RSR at Sebring

As you may recall, Porsche began this season by unveiling its new 911 RSR racecar, based on the new 991 chassis. Additionally, they scored a big win at Daytona with their #911 car (they run two factory sponsored RSRs #911 and #912) to take the lead in the TUSCC series.



Porsche Pit Stop

Flash forward to mid-March. Sebring is notorious for being rough track that takes a toll on racecars. If fact, the track is formed over the remnants of a World War II vintage airbase, and its rough cement seams upset today's highly evolved cars and occasionally yields concrete chunks to the dismay of drivers. Not unexpectedly, the race proved to be complex (especially for the prototype cars) with spins occurring throughout the event, and an uncommonly high degree of attrition.



The Other 911 RSR: Team Falken Motorsports

As for Porsche, they continued to perform at the highest level. This time the positions were switched, with the #912 car winning its class. Overall, Porsche holds down positions 2 and 3 in the series with two race wins to their credit. The new Porsche 911 RSR is proving to be both fast and reliable.



Quality Team Strategy Positions Porsche for the Win

Switching gears from the national racing scene to amateur track events, I want to announce the coming of one my favorite PCA Driver Education weekends, Summer Heat sponsored by the Kentucky Region PCA. This June 6-8 event (along with its counterpart in September) has been a mainstay on our yearly track calendar. This event is special for beginners and instructors alike. Not only is it one of the few PCA events that train new nationally accredited Porsche instructors, but the strong instructor turnout creates some great future track stars.



Treasurer Bob Lovejoy Tearing Up Putnam Park

Summer Heat is held the first weekend of each June at Putnam Park (near the Indianapolis airport). This is a 3-Day event, with day one being reserved for instructors and advanced drivers only. Registration opens April 20 at 9:00 am on www.motorsportreg.com. This event fills up QUICKLY so be sure to register early.



Your Author: Yes I Know, It's Not a Porsche

Blue Grass Motorsport of Louisville, KY sponsors this DE. This is a long-term sponsorship arrangement that provides numerous benefits to the participant. First, the dealer brings a variety of new Porsche vehicles and merchandise to check out. Second, they usually bring two professional drivers from the Porsche Sport Driving School to instruct regional instructors and to offer ride-a-longs to event participants in new Porsche vehicles. Finally, and not least in value, the dealership provides a free dinner social Friday and Saturday evening at the headquarter hotel. The unique social nature of this event (dinners coupled with a collective group of participants that broadly know one another) truly makes this the best event for beginners. There are numerous folks to talk to at length, and most are super-accessible and more than willing to discuss process and/or technique with new drivers.



Blue Grass Motorsport's Spread

I am a huge fan of the KYPCA events, they are top-notch caliber DE's, and I highly recommend them to all drivers, but specifically to the new track participant.

If you have interest in joining us at any upcoming event, or would like more information on PCA DE events and what is required to join-in, please feel free to contact me: brantdnystrom@gmail.com

Brant