

Victoria Day Speedfest

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: (Bowmanville, Ontario) May 22, 2013 – The Victoria Day Speedfest weekend at the Canadian Tire Motorsport Park and the ten race Porsche Ultra 94 GT3 Cup Challenge Canada by Michelin 2013 season got underway with the first two races being held on the Saturday and Sunday respectively. The field was made up of seventeen GT3 Cup cars in two classes, Platinum and Gold competing in two 45 minute races, around the 3.957 km course. With speeds in excess of 150 mph and average lap speeds as high as 108 mph there was no tolerance for imprecision in either car or driver.

One extra challenge for these two races was the introduction of a new Michelin tire, designated by IMSA to be used by all competitors. Both Garage Racing's crew and driver devoted considerable practice time to understanding how the tire performed and fine tuning the car setup.

On Saturday's round all the Gold class cars started on rows 6, 7 and 8 on the grid. With one car pulling away from the pack The Garage Racing's #55 fell into a three way battle for second. It wasn't until the final fifteen minutes of the race, when the more powerful Platinum cars began to lap the Gold class pack, when things began to get intense. Martin Barkey was kept busy as he pushed hard to close up on third in the midst of the Platinum cars engaged in a near bumper to bumper battle all around him. Maintaining a small amount of caution proved to be the best course of action as the Gold class car he was fighting with for third spot and a Platinum car made contact and went off the track. Martin paced himself the rest of the way and took his Porsche to a third place finish.

Sunday's round had a great start from the flag drop. By passing on the outside of turn 2 Martin was able to advance a position by overtaking #35 which was one of the Platinum cars and hold it off for several laps. Early on in the race two of the other Gold class cars pulled away from the pack with the battle again being for third in class. Martin continued to duel with the #38 car until the 23rd lap when he was passed putting him to fourth. He was able to keep close, never more than two car lengths behind until about fifteen minutes remaining where once again the more powerful Platinum cars began to lap forcing Martin to separate further from the #38 car. With less than ten minutes remaining Martin was able to jockey his #55 car and close the gap with #38 to less than a second separating the two, running bumper to bumper going into some of the corners. The battle went down right to the end but Martin, unable to safely make his move, ran out of time and brought it home in fourth.



"There was some great racing out there," said Martin Barkey, Garage Racing's team owner and driver following Sunday's race. "I'm now in my second race in the Cup and learning so much every day from lots of great guys, from coaching and just being out there running. I had a blast today and a great race with Andrew (Danyliw). I got a five second lead on him and somehow he reeled me in but we battled for the last eight or ten laps so it was good experience that's for sure."

For the most recent pics, videos, drivers' bio's and up to date racing news follow Garage Racing at www.garageracing.ca. For high-octane, edge of your seat action. It's the place to go.

Image Gallery

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Garage Racing's next action will be the third event of the 2013 Ultra 94 GT3 Cup Challenge Canada by Michelin Series July 19-21 at the Canadian Tire Motorsport Park for the Mobil 1 Grand Prix.

For more information about Garage Racing please email Martin Barkey at mb@mbrp.com. You can also check us out via the links to Facebook, Twitter or YouTube below.

For more info regarding this release please email mcloutier@the-garage.net.

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