

6.7.2024

René Rast shows nerves of steel to win at the Norisring

- **BMW driver celebrates his first win of the season after staying out on slicks in the rain**
- **Franck Perera and Luca Engstler join him on the podium with the same tactic**
- **Kelvin van der Linde defends his lead in the championship**

Nuremberg. Nerves of steel and a flawless performance – René Rast claimed his first win of the season on Saturday at the street circuit in Nuremberg. The BMW driver from Schubert Motorsport refused to allow the sudden onset of rain to knock him out of his stride, staying out on slicks and going on to take the chequered flag after 69 laps of racing. The win at the Norisring saw the three-time DTM champion return to the top step of the podium after four podiums in the past two years. “For me, the Norisring is one of the best tracks on the calendar. This win feels huge. It got a bit loud on the radio, because I was determined to stay on slicks, despite the rain. That was a brave decision, but it paid dividends,” said the experienced German. The Rast strategy also paid off for Franck Perera (F) from Lamborghini Team TGI by GRT and his team-mate Luca Engstler (Kempten), who came home second and third at the end of an eventful race.

Key facts, Norisring, race 7 of 16

- **Length:** 2,162 metres
- **Weather:** 29 degrees, bright at first, rain later
- **Pole position:** Jack Aitken (Emil Frey Racing, Ferrari 296 GT3 #14), 48.965 seconds
- **Winner:** René Rast (Schubert Motorsport, BMW M4 GT3 #33)
- **Fastest lap:** Maximilian Paul (Paul Motorsport, Lamborghini Huracán GT3 Evo2 #71) 49.632 seconds

Saturday’s race at the Norisring began in glorious sunshine with a good start from pole-sitter Jack Aitken (GB) from Emil Frey Racing in a Ferrari 296 GT3. Sheldon van der Linde (ZA/Schubert Motorsport), Lamborghini driver Mirko Bortolotti (I), Maro Engel (Monaco) in a Mercedes-AMG GT3, and Rast slotted in behind him in second to fifth place. With rain expected, the leading drivers came in very late for their mandatory pit stops, in order to be able to react to a possible change in the weather. Despite this, almost all the drivers remained on the Pirelli slicks. However, Aitken lost two positions to Sheldon van der Linde and Bortolotti. Rast followed in fourth place, with championship leader Kelvin van der Linde (ZA) running fifth at the time in an Audi R8 LMS GT3 Evo2 for Abt Sportsline. Shortly thereafter, the rain started to fall and almost the entire field switched to wet weather tyres.

Rast, still on slicks, took the lead ahead of Perera, who had also decided against wet tyres despite the track being wet in places. That strategy really paid dividends. As the race progressed, those on wets were not able to make up any significant ground and actually ended up being slower in the closing stages. Engstler was a beneficiary of this. The Lamborghini driver had started the race from 15th on the

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grid and battled his way into third place on slicks in the final few laps. Fourth place went to Nicki Thiim (DK), who overtook his team-mate Bortolotti in the final corner.

Kelvin van der Linde came home sixth. That was enough to see the South African defend his lead in the overall standings, ahead of Bortolotti and Rast. His brother Sheldon finished seventh in the second Schubert Motorsport BMW. Engel ended the seventh DTM race of the season in eighth place, while Aitken had to settle for ninth after leading for long stretches. Lamborghini driver Maximilian Paul (Dresden/Paul Motorsport) was tenth.

Franck Perera: “The closing stages of the race, in particular, were incredibly intense. On the one hand, I was closing in on René Rast all the time. On the other hand, I wanted to make sure of second place. In conditions like that, something can happen at any time. Fortunately, it only rained heavily in turn one. Slicks were the right choice.”

Luca Engstler: “After a collision at the start, the first half of the race was so bad that I actually wanted to park the car and retire. When the first drops started to fall, I knew I would be able to make some progress. In the end, we made the right decisions and the team finished with two cars on the podium.”

Result, race 7 of the season, Norisring

1. René Rast (D/Schubert Motorsport)
2. Franck Perera (F/Lamborghini Team TGI by GRT), +2.272 seconds
3. Luca Engstler (D/Lamborghini Team Liqui Moly by GRT), +37.075 seconds
4. Nicki Thiim (DK/SSR Performance), +44.111 seconds
5. Mirko Bortolotti (I/SSR Performance), +44.479 seconds

The full result is available at dtm.com/en/results.

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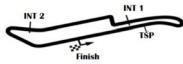
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SCHAEFFLER

VIEROL





Result List Provisional

Stewards / Race Management

STEWARD	Achim Loth
STEWARD	Yasin Ölzer
STEWARD	Sandra Schlag
RACE DIRECTOR	Sven Stoppe
CLERK OF THE COURSE	Arthur Hirning
TECHNICAL DELEGATE	Wolfgang Dammert
CHIEF TIMEKEEPER	Steffen Ruhl

Weather Start/Finish

AIR	29.2°C
TRACK	35.4°C
CONDITIONS	Dry
PRESSURE	970 hPa
AIR	29.6°C
TRACK	26.1°C
CONDITIONS	Wet
PRESSURE	970 hPa

Track Information

GREEN FLAG	13:31:22
CHEQUERED FLAG	14:32:57
SAFETY CAR PHASE	0
FULL COURSE YELLOW PHASE	0
TRACK NAME	Norisring
TRACK LENGTH	2162m
TURN COUNT	4
TOTAL DISTANCE	149.17km
FASTEST LAP:	#71. PAU - 49.632
FASTEST PIT STOP:	#90. GÜV - 6.622

STARTED: 20 CLASSIFIED: 18 NOT CLASSIFIED: 2 DISQUALIFIED: 0

Nr.	Driver	Man.	Nation	Team	Laps	Total Time	Gap	Lap	Time
	Car			Competitor					
1	33 Rene Rast			Schubert Motorsport	69	1:01:35.627		14	49.811
	BMW M4 GT3			Schubert Motorsport					
2	63 Franck Perera			Lamborghini Team TGI by GRT	69	1:01:37.899	2.272	21	49.941
	Lamborghini Huracan GT3 EVO 2			GRT Grasser-Racing-Team					
3	19 Luca Engstler			Lamborghini Team Liqui Moly by GRT	69	1:02:12.702	37.075	30	50.006
	Lamborghini Huracan GT3 EVO 2			GRT Grasser-Racing-Team					
4	94 Nicki Thiim			SSR Performance	69	1:02:19.738	44.111	39	49.736
	Lamborghini Huracan GT3 EVO 2			SSR Performance					
5	92 Mirko Bortolotti			SSR Performance	69	1:02:20.106	44.479	16	49.878
	Lamborghini Huracan GT3 EVO 2			SSR Performance					
6	3 Kelvin van der Linde			ABT Sportsline	69	1:02:20.583	44.956	14	49.808
	Audi R8 LMS GT3 EVO II			ABT Sportsline					
7	31 Sheldon van der Linde			Schubert Motorsport	69	1:02:23.133	47.506	31	49.782
	BMW M4 GT3			Schubert Motorsport					
8	130 Maro Engel			Mercedes-AMG Team WINWARD	69	1:02:26.477	50.850	14	49.851
	Mercedes-AMG GT3			WINWARD RACING					
9	14 Jack Aitken			EMIL FREY RACING	69	1:02:29.115	53.488	30	49.751
	Ferrari 296 GT3			EMIL FREY RACING					
10	71 Maximilian Paul			Paul Motorsport	69	1:02:29.376	53.749	15	49.632
	Lamborghini Huracan GT3 EVO 2			Paul Motorsport					
11	4 Luca Stolz			Mercedes-AMG Team HRT	68	1:01:36.566	1 LAP	26	49.777
	Mercedes-AMG GT3			Mercedes-AMG Team HRT					
12	11 Marco Wittmann			Schubert Motorsport	68	1:01:36.853	1 LAP	26	49.915
	BMW M4 GT3			Schubert Motorsport					
13	7 Ricardo Feller			ABT Sportsline	68	1:01:37.458	1 LAP	28	49.947
	Audi R8 LMS GT3 EVO II			ABT Sportsline					
14	91 Thomas Preining			Manthey EMA	68	1:01:38.506	1 LAP	31	49.924
	Porsche 911 GT3 R 992			Manthey EMA					
15	36 Arjun Maini			Mercedes-AMG Team HRT	68	1:01:42.397	1 LAP	19	49.786
	Mercedes-AMG GT3			Mercedes-AMG Team HRT					
16	90 Ayhan Güven			Manthey EMA	68	1:01:43.546	1 LAP	26	49.823
	Porsche 911 GT3 R 992			Manthey EMA					
17	69 Thierry Vermeulen			EMIL FREY RACING	68	1:02:07.288	1 LAP	11	49.769
	Ferrari 296 GT3			EMIL FREY RACING					
18	85 Clemens Schmid			Dörr Motorsport	67	1:02:07.267	2 LAPS	35	50.671
	McLaren 720S GT3 Evo			Dörr Motorsport					
Not classified									
22	Lucas Auer			Mercedes-AMG Team MANN-FILTER	7	8:57.837	62 LAPS	6	50.590
	Mercedes-AMG GT3			WINWARD RACING					
25	Ben Dörr			Dörr Motorsport	4	5:30.082	65 LAPS	2	52.351
	McLaren 720S GT3 Evo			Dörr Motorsport					

Fastest lap of the race. Car 71 driver Maximilian Paul on lap 15. Time 49.632, average speed 156.8 km/h.

Subject to final scrutineering!

Publication time:

Clerk of the Course: Arthur Hirning

Timekeeper: Steffen Ruhl