

7.9.2024

Excellent Aitken wins, Bortolotti new DTM leader

- **Aitken claims his third win of the season at the Sachsenring, ahead of new leader Bortolotti**
- **Engel comes home third to make it four podiums in a row**
- **Fightback of the day: René Rast storms through to seventh place from last on the grid**

Hohenstein-Ernstthal. An impressive and serene display from Jack Aitken (GB): the Ferrari driver from the Emil Frey Racing team claimed a comfortable lights-to-flag victory in Saturday's eleventh race of the 2024 DTM at the Sachsenring. Aitken thus took his place on the top step of the podium for the third time this season. "I could feel the pressure from Mirko Bortolotti at the start and immediately after the tyre change. However, I drove a flawless race, so I was never seriously in danger. I was still a little nervous during the pit stop, when the wheel nut jammed on the front tyre. That can happen sometimes in high temperatures," said the 28-year-old. Mirko Bortolotti (I) was runner-up for SSR Performance, crossing the finish line 1.878 seconds behind the winner in a Lamborghini Huracán GT3 Evo2. That was good enough for the Italian to reclaim top spot in the table ahead of Kelvin van der Linde (ZA), who was eighth in an Audi R8 LMS GT3 Evo2 run by Abt Sportsline. Third place went to Maro Engel (Monaco) in a Mercedes-AMG GT3, who again demonstrated his consistency as he claimed his fourth podium in a row.

Key facts, Sachsenring, Hohenstein-Ernstthal, race 11 of 16

- **Circuit length:** 3,645 metres
- **Weather:** 30 degrees, sunny
- **Pole position:** Jack Aitken (Emil Frey Racing, Ferrari 296 GT3 #14), 1:17.288 minutes
- **Winner:** Jack Aitken (Emil Frey Racing, Ferrari 296 GT3 #14)
- **Fastest lap:** Thierry Vermeulen (Emil Frey Racing, Ferrari 296 GT3 #69), 1:19.500 minutes

Starting from pole position, Aitken immediately took the lead at the start and consistently extended his advantage over the course of the race. Bortolotti slotted into second place, while Engel made up two positions and climbed into third. He was followed in third and fourth place by fellow Mercedes-AMG drivers Luca Stolz (Brachbach) and Arjun Maini (IND) from Mercedes-AMG Team HRT. After the mandatory pit stops, the top five found themselves in the same positions, although Aitken did lose a little of his lead due to a somewhat slower tyre change. Despite this, the Brit controlled the pace at the front and took the chequered flag after 46 laps of racing.

The battle of the day was between Kelvin van der Linde, who came into the race as championship leader, and Porsche driver Thomas Preining (A), who went fastest in qualifying but was relegated five places on the grid after receiving a penalty. Van der Linde had made his way from tenth to sixth, overtaking Preining in the process. However, the reigning champion stayed in touch and launched a sequence of attacks. On lap 34, the Austrian from the Manthey EMA team finally pulled off a skilful manoeuvre to pass van der Linde and take sixth place. René Rast (Bregenz), who had been demoted to

Media Information

the back of the grid in his BMW M4 GT3, was also able to overtake the South African and ended the race in seventh place after an incredible fightback. Kelvin van der Linde managed to hang onto eighth place ahead of his brother Sheldon van der Linde (ZA/Schubert Motorsport). Jordan Pepper, making his DTM debut for Lamborghini Team TGI by GRT, completed the top ten.

Mirko Bortolotti: “I would have liked to have challenged for the win, but Jack Aitken was in a league of his own today. It was important to look after the tyres in this heat. Second place puts me back at the top of the table. It could not have gone better for us, thanks in part to a super pit stop.”

Maro Engel: “The race was a lot of fun. I was able to gain a position at the start and then take third place shortly after. That is my fourth DTM podium in a row, so things are going really well at the moment. We want to continue this way.”

Result of race eleven of the season at the Sachsenring

1. Jack Aitken (GB/Emil Frey Racing)
2. Mirko Bortolotti (I/SSR Performance), +1.878 seconds
3. Maro Engel (D/Mercedes-AMG Team Winward), +3.174 seconds
4. Luca Stolz (D/Mercedes-AMG Team HRT), +4.717 seconds
5. Arjun Maini (IND/Mercedes-AMG Team HRT), +10.843 seconds

The full result can be found at dtm.com/en/results

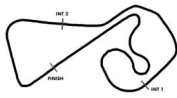
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Result List Provisional

Stewards / Race Management

STEWARD	Achim Loth
STEWARD	Michael Heß
STEWARD	Maik Hänsel
RACE DIRECTOR	Sven Stoppe
CLERK OF THE COURSE	Marcel Putsche
TECHNICAL DELEGATE	Wolfgang Dammert
CHIEF TIMEKEEPER	Steffen Ruhl

Weather Start/Finish

AIR	28.2°C
TRACK	27.1°C
CONDITIONS	Dry
PRESSURE	975 hPa
AIR	29.3°C
TRACK	31.8°C
CONDITIONS	Dry
PRESSURE	975 hPa

Track Information

GREEN FLAG	13:32:25
CHEQUERED FLAG	14:34:47
SAFETY CAR PHASE	0
FULL COURSE YELLOW PHASE	0
TRACK NAME	Sachsenring
TRACK LENGTH	3645m
TURN COUNT	13
TOTAL DISTANCE	167.67km
FASTEST LAP:	#69. VER - 1:19.500

STARTED: 19 CLASSIFIED: 16 NOT CLASSIFIED: 3 DISQUALIFIED: 1

Nr.	Driver Car	Man.	Nation	Team Competitor	Laps	Total Time	Gap	Lap	Time
1	14 Jack Aitken Ferrari 296 GT3			EMIL FREY RACING EMIL FREY RACING	46	1:02:22.683		5	1:19.526
2	92 Mirko Bortolotti Lamborghini Huracan GT3 EVO 2			SSR Performance SSR Performance	46	1:02:24.561	1.878	19	1:19.942
3	130 Maro Engel Mercedes-AMG GT3			Mercedes-AMG Team WINWARD WINWARD RACING	46	1:02:25.857	3.174	18	1:19.584
4	4 Luca Stolz Mercedes-AMG GT3			Mercedes-AMG Team HRT Mercedes-AMG Team HRT	46	1:02:27.400	4.717	18	1:19.800
5	36 Arjun Maini Mercedes-AMG GT3			Mercedes-AMG Team HRT Mercedes-AMG Team HRT	46	1:02:33.526	10.843	21	1:19.562
6	91 Thomas Preining Porsche 911 GT3 R 992			Manthey EMA Manthey EMA	46	1:02:34.900	12.217	19	1:19.700
7	33 Rene Rast BMW M4 GT3			Schubert Motorsport Schubert Motorsport	46	1:02:36.893	14.210	4	1:19.775
8	3 Kelvin van der Linde Audi R8 LMS GT3 EVO II			ABT Sportsline ABT Sportsline	46	1:02:45.963	23.280	19	1:19.934
9	31 Sheldon van der Linde BMW M4 GT3			Schubert Motorsport Schubert Motorsport	46	1:02:46.538	23.855	23	1:19.975
10	63 Jordan Pepper Lamborghini Huracan GT3 EVO 2			Lamborghini Team TGI by GRT GRT Grasser-Racing-Team	46	1:02:51.289	28.606	17	1:19.913
11	69 Thierry Vermeulen Ferrari 296 GT3			EMIL FREY RACING EMIL FREY RACING	46	1:02:51.604	28.921	17	1:19.500
12	22 Lucas Auer Mercedes-AMG GT3			Mercedes-AMG Team MANN-FILTER WINWARD RACING	46	1:02:56.167	33.484	32	1:19.984
13	11 Marco Wittmann BMW M4 GT3			Schubert Motorsport Schubert Motorsport	46	1:03:05.189	42.506	19	1:20.302
14	94 Nicki Thiim Lamborghini Huracan GT3 EVO 2			SSR Performance SSR Performance	46	1:03:05.633	42.950	20	1:20.286
15	71 Maximilian Paul Lamborghini Huracan GT3 EVO 2			Paul Motorsport Paul Motorsport	46	1:03:06.803	44.120	28	1:20.251
16	25 Ben Dörr McLaren 720S GT3 Evo			Dörr Motorsport Dörr Motorsport	46	1:03:07.139	44.456	22	1:19.679
Not classified									
7	Ricardo Feller Audi R8 LMS GT3 EVO II			ABT Sportsline ABT Sportsline	26	35:46.639	20LAPS	12	1:21.203
19	Luca Engstler Lamborghini Huracan GT3 EVO 2			Lamborghini Team Liqui Moly by GRT GRT Grasser-Racing-Team	19	26:47.634	27LAPS	6	1:20.604
85	Clemens Schmid McLaren 720S GT3 Evo			Dörr Motorsport Dörr Motorsport	14	19:35.653	32LAPS	12	1:21.138
Disqualified									
90	Ayhancan Güven Porsche 911 GT3 R 992			Manthey EMA Manthey EMA					

Fastest lap of the race. Car 69 driver Thierry Vermeulen on lap 17. Time 1:19.500, average speed 165.0 km/h.

Following stewards decision no. 21 disqualification for car no. 90

Subject to final scrutineering!		
Publication time:	Clerk of the Course: Marcel Putsche	Timekeeper: Steffen Ruhl