

Spirit of Daytona Takes Glen Win

USCC >> 2014 Sahlen's Six Hours of the Glen

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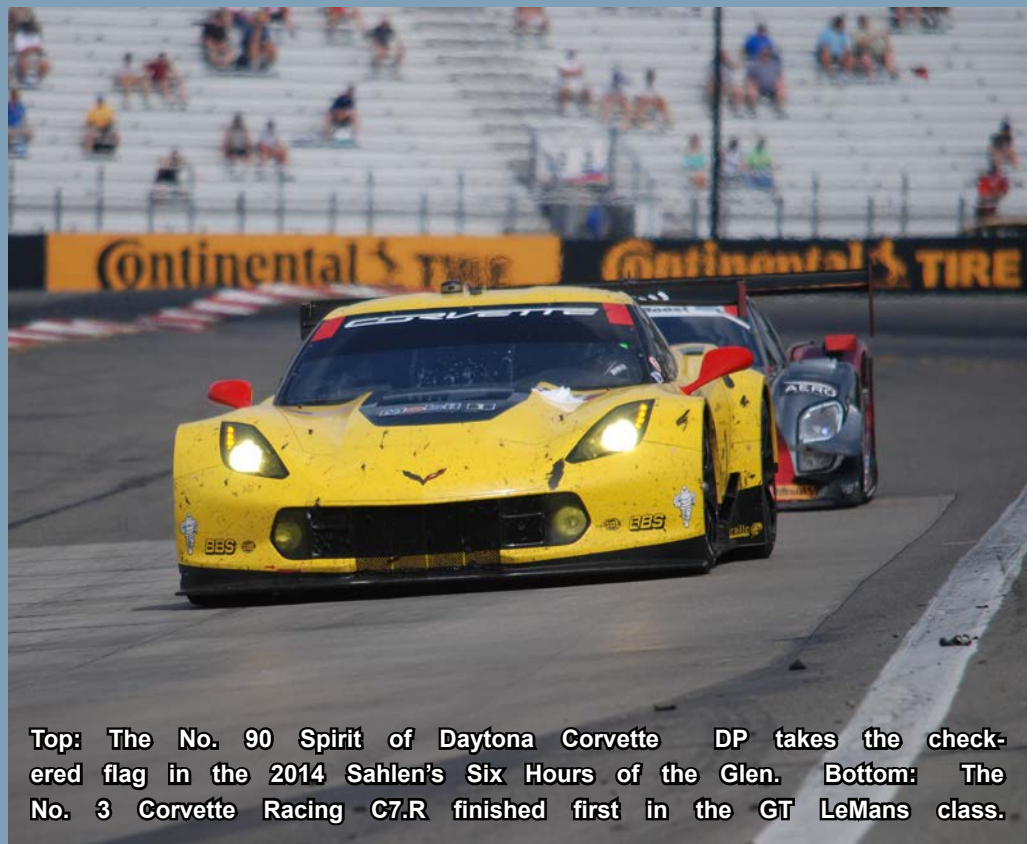


Watkins Glen, NY - June 29, 2014 – Richard Westbrook in his No. 90 Spirit of Daytona Corvette DP completed the 2014 Sahlen's Six Hours of the Glen with a tight 0.877 second margin of victory over Alex Brundle and his No. 42 OAK Racing Morgan/Nissan. Westbrook drove past Brundle late in the race when a caution flag condensed the field thus eroding Brundle's large lead. At turn four, the No. 90 Corvette DP's stronger torque proved too much for the No. 42 Oak Racing Morgan/Nissan to handle.

"Richard and my approach for the last couple of races was to keep the car safe and be in a position that would allow us to take a podium or possibly the win," said Spirit of Daytona co-driver Michael Valiante.

The win was the fourth for Daytona Beach-based Spirit of Daytona, and the first since Sept. 9, 2012 at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca.

Brundle, who started the race



Top: The No. 90 Spirit of Daytona Corvette DP takes the checkered flag in the 2014 Sahlen's Six Hours of the Glen. Bottom: The No. 3 Corvette Racing C7.R finished first in the GT LeMans class.

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from pole position, grabbed the lead on Lap 170 after Valiante brought the No. 90 to pit road for tires, fuel and a driver change with 48 minutes remaining in the race. An accident between Alex Tagliani and Ian James brought out a full-course caution, giving Westbrook, now driving No. 90, the opportunity to catch Brundle.

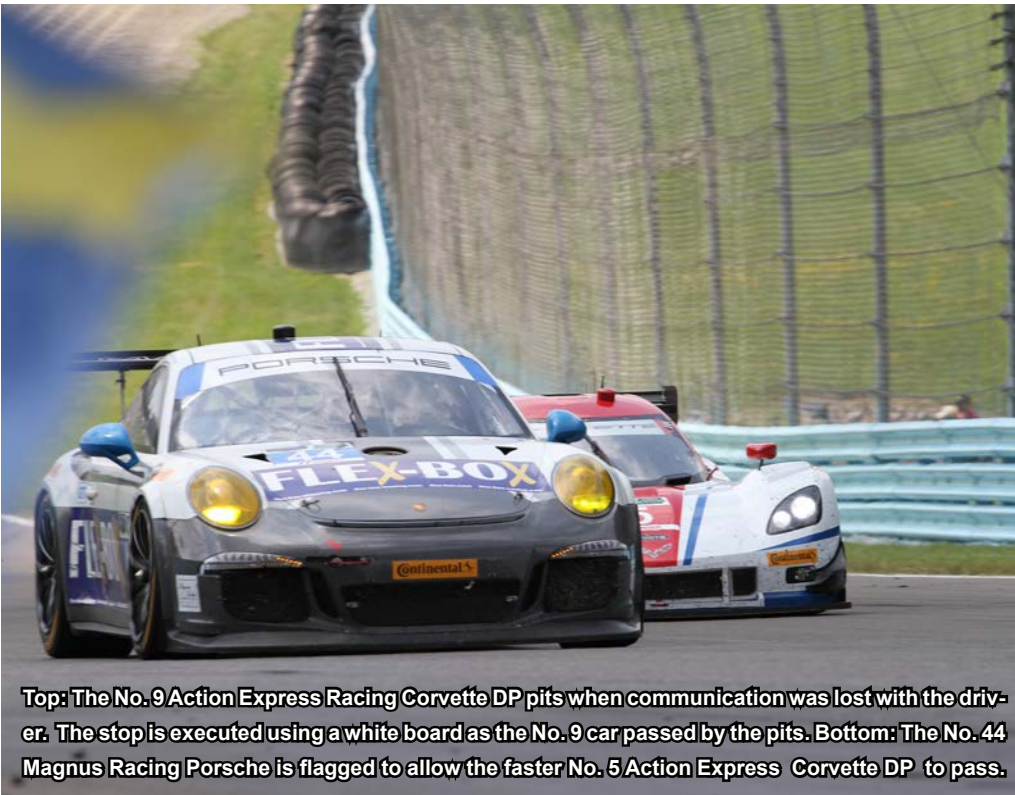
After the turn 4 pass, Brundle had one last chance to track down Westbrook when Renger van der Zande spun Scott Pruett with 10 minutes remaining. Safety officials hurried to ready the racetrack, and Westbrook prevailed in a one-lap dash to the checkered flag.

Porsche in GT LeMans Class

The No. 911 Porsche North America Porsche 911 RSR ran consistently near the front of the GTLM pack throughout the six-hour race. The No. 911 was seventh as a caution flew with 10 minutes remaining. Entering the last corner of the 3.4-mile, 11-turn facility, several cars made contact ahead of the No. 911, but Nick Tandy, the team driver at the wheel, kept a clear head through the chaos to move to fifth at the checkered flag.

The No. 912 Porsche North America entry had a less dramatic day after qualifying fourth. However, various issues

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Top: The No. 9 Action Express Racing Corvette DP pits when communication was lost with the driver. The stop is executed using a white board as the No. 9 car passed by the pits. Bottom: The No. 44 Magnus Racing Porsche is flagged to allow the faster No. 5 Action Express Corvette DP to pass.

would relegate No. 912 to eighth at the checkered flag. The only customer Porsche 911 RSR racing, the No. 17 Team Falken Tire entry, ran in the top-three early in the day and eventually finished in ninth.

Porsche in GT Daytona Class

The No. 44 Magnus Racing Porsche 911 GT America overcame an injury suffered by driver Andy Lally in yesterday's Continental Tire Challenge race to help the team score its third podium finish in five races. At the final hour, Lally took over in fourth and made his way to third at the checkered flag.

The No. 27 Dempsey Racing Porsche 911 GT America finished right behind Magnus in fourth place. Qualifying in eleventh, the Dempsey car moved up steadily with all three drivers gaining positions. Hurley Haywood, the famed Brumos driver, joined the Dempsey team as a consultant starting at the six-hour race.

The other GTD Porsche, No. 30 NGT Motorsports, started fifteenth and finished sixth in class. **AA**

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