

9.9.2023

Victory for Luca Stolz, Thomas Preining returns to the top of the table

- Mercedes-AMG driver Stolz comfortably claims his first win of the season
- Thomas Preining regains the championship lead after finishing runner-up
- Fans at the Sachsenring on Saturday witness the first DTM race there for 21 years

Hohenstein-Ernstthal. A serene Luca Stolz (Brachbach) won the first DTM race for 21 years at the Sachsenring on Saturday. After 45 laps of racing, the Mercedes-AMG driver took the chequered flag with a lead of 2.688 seconds to claim his second victory in the DTM. "First pole position, then a lights-to-flag victory. This has been a perfect day. I am mega pleased with my second DTM win, as the Sachsenring is one of the highlights of the DTM calendar for me. The lead may have made it look easy from the outside, but I still had to remain focussed and could not afford any mistakes," said the 28-year-old from Mercedes-AMG Team HRT. Thomas Preining (A) was runner-up in his Porsche 911 GT3 R, and consequently regained the lead in the championship. Fellow Porsche driver Ayhancan Güven (TR) from Team75 Motorsport finished third to claim his first podium in the DTM and also set the fastest lap of the race.

Key facts, Sachsenring, race 11 of 16

- **Circuit length:** 3,645 metres
- **Weather:** 29 degrees Celsius, sunny
- **Pole position:** Luca Stolz (Mercedes-AMG Team HRT, Mercedes-AMG GT3 #4), 1:17.633 minutes
- **Winner:** Luca Stolz (Mercedes-AMG Team HRT, Mercedes-AMG GT3 #4)
- **Fastest lap:** Ayhancan Güven (Team75 Motorsport, Porsche 911 GT3 R #24), 1:19.284 minutes

Spectators witnessed a frantic start to the race on the narrow track on Saturday afternoon. The drivers came through the first tight right-hander wheel to wheel, resulting in several contacts. Amidst all this, pole-sitter Stolz was immediately able to pull clear at the front. Within a matter of a few laps, he had extended his lead to more than three seconds over Güven, Preining, Ferrari driver Jack Aitken (GB) and Mirko Bortolotti (I), who came into the race as championship leader in his Lamborghini Huracán GT3 Evo2. Even after a short safety car period on lap seven, to clear car parts off the track, the Mercedes-AMG driver stayed out in front. Aitken, on the other hand, was forced to retire with a broken radiator after a heavy contact in the early stages of the race.

When the pit stop window opened after 20 minutes, Stolz and Preining were the first in to change their Pirelli tyres. This tactic paid dividends. Stolz remained out in front and passed Güven, who came in for his new set of tyres one lap later and rejoined the race in third place. The big loser in the round of pit stops was Bortolotti: running fourth at the time, the Italian was given a penalty for an infringement in the pit lane and consequently fell back to ninth place. Team-mates Ricardo Feller (CH) and Kelvin van der Linde (ZA) were the beneficiaries of Bortolotti's misfortune. The two Abt Sportsline drivers ended Saturday's race at the Sachsenring in fourth and fifth place in their Audi R8 LMS GT3 Evo2.

Media Information

Reigning DTM champion Sheldon van der Linde (ZA) steered his BMW M4 GT3 to sixth place. Porsche driver Dennis Olsen (N) came seventh, followed by René Rast (Bregenz), who climbed from 18th on the grid to finish eighth in the second Schubert Motorsport BMW. Bortolotti was ninth, ahead of Thierry Vermeulen (NL) in a Ferrari 296 GT3. The Emil Frey Racing driver underlined his fine form with his fifth top-ten finish in a row. Preining leads the overall standings with 151 points, ahead of Bortolotti (145 points) and Feller (132 points).

Race two at the Sachsenring gets underway at 13:30 on Sunday. German free-to-air TV station ProSieben kicks off its coverage at 13:00. The grid positions for Sunday's race will be decided in qualifying, which starts at 09:05 and, like the race, will be streamed live at ran.de and on the DTM's YouTube channel. The DTM is broadcast live or replayed in full in more than 150 territories around the world.

Thomas Preining: "The team made the right decision to come in early and switch to new tyres. Thanks to the good tactics, we were able to take second place. Another podium and back at the top of the table, that is a super result. Congratulations to Luca Stolz. He was extremely fast, particularly on cold tyres at the start of the race and after the pit stop."

Ayhancan Güven: "It felt mega, after some less successful races recently, to be back among the front-runners and finally make it onto the DTM podium. I could see Ricardo Feller and Kelvin van der Linde in my mirror at the end of the race. But I was determined to make it onto the podium, and am glad it worked out."

Result of race 1 at the Sachsenring

1. Luca Stolz (D/Mercedes-AMG Team HRT)
2. Thomas Preining (A/Manthey EMA), +2.688 seconds
3. Ayhancan Güven (TR/Team75 Motorsport), +3.630 seconds
4. Ricardo Feller (CH/Abt Sportsline), +10.598 seconds
5. Kelvin van der Linde (ZA/Abt Sportsline), +10.867 seconds

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

2023 DTM calendar

26.05. – 28.05.2023	Motorsport Arena Oschersleben
23.06. – 25.06.2023	Circuit Zandvoort / NL
07.07. – 09.07.2023	Norisring
04.08. – 06.08.2023	Nürburgring
18.08. – 20.08.2023	DEKRA Lausitzring
08.09. – 10.09.2023	Sachsenring
22.09. – 24.09.2023	Red Bull Ring / A
20.10. – 22.10.2023	Hockenheimring Baden-Württemberg

Media Information

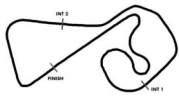
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dtm.com

**Result List
Provisional****Stewards / Race Management**

STEWARD	Achim Loth
STEWARD	Matthias Heinz
STEWARD	Maik Hänsel
RACE DIRECTOR	Sven Stoppe
CLERK OF THE COURSE	Marcel Putsche
TECHNICAL DELEGATE	Wolfgang Dammert
CHIEF TIMEKEEPER	Daniel Schulze

Weather Start/Finish

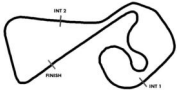
AIR	28.2°C
TRACK	24.8°C
CONDITIONS	Dry
PRESSURE	980 hPa
AIR	28.9°C
TRACK	25.4°C
CONDITIONS	Dry
PRESSURE	980 hPa

Track Information

GREEN FLAG	13:32:30
CHEQUERED FLAG	14:34:01
SAFETY CAR PHASE	1
FULL COURSE YELLOW PHASE	0
TRACK NAME	Sachsenring
TRACK LENGTH	3645m
TURN COUNT	13
TOTAL DISTANCE	164.02km
FASTEST LAP:	#24. GVE - 1:19.284
FASTEST PIT STOP:	#27. DSC - 6.176

STARTED: 27 CLASSIFIED: 21 NOT CLASSIFIED: 6 DISQUALIFIED: 0

Nr.	Driver	Man.	Nation	Team	Laps	Total Time	Gap	Lap	Time
	Car			Competitor					
1	4 Luca Stolz Mercedes-AMG GT3			Mercedes-AMG Team HRT Mercedes-AMG Team HRT	45	1:01:31.284		4	1:19.652
2	91 Thomas Preining Porsche 911 GT3 R			Manthey EMA Manthey EMA	45	1:01:33.972	2.688	20	1:19.510
3	24 Ayhancan Güven Porsche 911 GT3 R			Team75 Motorsport KÜS Team Bernhard	45	1:01:34.914	3.630	20	1:19.284
4	7 Ricardo Feller Audi R8 LMS GT3 EVO II			ABT Sportsline ABT Sportsline	45	1:01:41.882	10.598	20	1:19.367
5	3 Kelvin van der Linde Audi R8 LMS GT3 EVO II			ABT Sportsline ABT Sportsline	45	1:01:42.151	10.867	21	1:19.482
6	1 Sheldon van der Linde BMW M4 GT3			Schubert Motorsport Schubert Motorsport	45	1:01:47.608	16.324	20	1:19.687
7	90 Dennis Olsen Porsche 911 GT3 R			Manthey EMA Manthey EMA	45	1:01:47.963	16.679	19	1:19.606
8	33 Rene Rast BMW M4 GT3			Schubert Motorsport Schubert Motorsport	45	1:01:48.751	17.467	21	1:19.789
9	92 Mirko Bortolotti Lamborghini Huracan GT3 EVO 2			SSR Performance SSR Performance	45	1:01:56.486	25.202	22	1:20.231
10	69 Thierry Vermeulen Ferrari 296 GT3			EMIL FREY RACING EMIL FREY RACING	45	1:01:58.908	27.624	17	1:19.494
11	94 Franck Perera Lamborghini Huracan GT3 EVO 2			SSR Performance SSR Performance	45	1:01:59.369	28.085	19	1:19.338
12	75 Laurin Heinrich Porsche 911 GT3 R			Team75 Motorsport KÜS Team Bernhard	45	1:02:00.833	29.549	23	1:19.868
13	36 Arjun Maini Mercedes-AMG GT3			Mercedes-AMG Team HRT Mercedes-AMG Team HRT	45	1:02:01.424	30.140	20	1:19.996
14	84 Jusuf Owega Mercedes-AMG GT3			Mercedes-AMG Team BWT Mercedes-AMG Team Landgraf	45	1:02:06.817	35.533	20	1:20.590
15	99 Marvin Dienst Porsche 911 GT3 R			Toksport WRT Toksport WRT	45	1:02:07.310	36.026	22	1:20.324
16	9 Tim Heinemann Porsche 911 GT3 R			Toksport WRT Toksport WRT	45	1:02:07.924	36.640	23	1:20.147
17	27 David Schumacher Mercedes-AMG GT3			Mercedes-AMG Team WINWARD WINWARD RACING	45	1:02:14.929	43.645	25	1:20.128
18	11 Marco Wittmann BMW M4 GT3			Project 1 Project 1	45	1:02:15.619	44.335	28	1:19.781
19	8 Luca Engstler Audi R8 LMS GT3 EVO II			LIQUI MOLY Team Engstler LIQUI MOLY Team Engstler	45	1:02:23.234	51.950	19	1:20.465
20	56 Sandro Holzem BMW M4 GT3			Project 1 Project 1	45	1:02:28.379	57.095	22	1:20.403
21	6 Alessio Deledda Lamborghini Huracan GT3 EVO 2			SSR Performance SSR Performance	45	1:02:36.318	1:05.034	24	1:20.600



Result List
Provisional

Nr.	Driver Car	Man.	Nation	Team Competitor	Laps	Total Time	Gap	Lap	Time
Not classified									
83	Patric Niederhauser Audi R8 LMS GT3 EVO II			Tresor Orange 1 Tresor Attempto Racing	36	50:09.641	9LAPS	19	1:20.234
22	Lucas Auer Mercedes-AMG GT3			Mercedes-AMG Team WINWARD WINWARD RACING	35	48:44.165	10LAPS	20	1:20.385
63	Clemens Schmid Lamborghini Huracan GT3 EVO 2			GRT Grasser-Racing-Team GRT Grasser-Racing-Team	27	38:12.637	18LAPS	20	1:20.248
48	Maro Engel Mercedes-AMG GT3			Mercedes-AMG Team MANN-FILTER Mercedes-AMG Team Landgraf	23	32:14.425	22LAPS	3	1:21.356
40	Mattia Drudi Audi R8 LMS GT3 EVO II			Tresor Orange 1 Tresor Attempto Racing	18	25:15.746	27LAPS	4	1:21.767
14	Jack Aitken Ferrari 296 GT3			EMIL FREY RACING EMIL FREY RACING	10	14:07.450	35LAPS	6	1:19.769

Fastest lap of the race. Car 24 driver Ayhancaan Güven on lap 20. Time 1:19.284, average speed 165.5 km/h.

Subject to final scrutineering!		
Publication time:	Clerk of the Course: Marcel Putsche	Timekeeper: Daniel Schulze