

## Media Information

17.8.2024

### Kelvin van der Linde back on top of the DTM after dominating in the rain

- **Audi driver triumphs in Saturday's DTM race at the Nürburgring**
- **Runner-up Mirko Bortolotti trails the South African by one point**
- **Wet race in the Eifel thrills fans with many changes of position**

Nürburg. That was a textbook wet race from Kelvin van der Linde (ZA). The Audi driver from Abt Sportsline was in a different class to the rest of the field in Saturday's ninth race of the DTM season at the Nürburgring. The South African took the chequered flag with a lead of over 15 seconds to claim his second win of the season and return to the top of the table. "Winning the race and taking the lead in the championship is awesome. The rain was heavy at times, less so at others. In these unsettled conditions, finding the right braking points all the time was a big challenge. However, despite the rain, I felt really comfortable in the car from lap one," said 28-year-old van der Linde. Second place went to Mirko Bortolotti (I) in an SSR Performance Lamborghini. Having come into the race as the championship leader, he now trails van der Linde by just one point. Maro Engel (Monaco) from Mercedes-AMG Team Winward occupied the third spot on the podium.

#### Key facts, Nürburgring, Nürburg, race 9 of 16

- **Circuit length:** 3,629 metres
- **Weather:** 19 degrees, rain
- **Pole position:** Kelvin van der Linde (Abt Sportsline, Audi R8 LMS GT3 Evo2 #3), 1:25.350 minutes
- **Winner:** Kelvin van der Linde (Abt Sportsline, Audi R8 LMS GT3 Evo2 #3)
- **Fastest lap:** Kelvin van der Linde (Abt Sportsline, Audi R8 LMS GT3 Evo2 #3), 1:38.011 minutes

The ninth DTM race of the season started behind the safety car as the rain fell over the Nürburgring. Pole-sitter Kelvin van der Linde immediately pulled clear of the field in his Audi R8 LMS GT3 Evo2, before consistently extending his lead. Behind him, Lamborghini works driver Bortolotti had all on to defend second place against the charging Engel in a Mercedes-AMG GT3. He was followed in fourth place by fellow Mercedes-AMG driver Lucas Auer (A), ahead of Nicki Thiim (DK) from SSR Performance.

After the round of mandatory pit stops, during which all the drivers again fit Pirelli wet-weather tyres as the rain continued to fall, the top four cars maintained their positions. Out in front, van der Linde continued to dominate and pull away from the rest of the field. He produced the fastest lap of the race shortly before the finish, before taking the chequered flag after 37 laps of racing, ahead of Bortolotti, Engel and Auer. Jack Aitken (GB) from Emil Frey Racing ended the wet race in the Eifel in fifth place in a Ferrari 296 GT3.

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In the pack behind the front-runners, the DTM drivers thrilled spectators and fans with some fierce wheel-to-wheel racing and plenty of battles for position. Marco Wittmann (Fürth) from Schubert Motorsport once again showed plenty of fighting spirit, climbing five places to finish sixth in his BMW M4 GT3. The same could be said for Porsche works driver Thomas Preining (A) from Manthey EMA. The defending champion made up no fewer than eight positions at his team's home event, impressing in the second half of the race with spectacular overtaking manoeuvres on his way to a seventh-place finish. Thiim was unlucky. He lost a lot of ground following contact with Ayhan Güven (TR) and eventually crossed the finish line eighth. Ricardo Feller (CH) had to settle for ninth place after a strong start in the second Abt Sportsline Audi. Arjun Maini (IND) from Mercedes-AMG Team HRT completed the top ten.

**Mirko Bortolotti:** "Difficult race, super result. That sums up Saturday from my perspective. Kelvin van der Linde was on a totally different level, and I was unable to match his pace. Before the start, I would immediately have settled for second place, given the difficult conditions. As such, I am very happy."

**Maro Engel:** "It always feels great to be on the podium in the DTM. I tried everything to put Mirko Bortolotti under pressure. Hopefully we can take another step forward on Sunday. Kelvin van der Linde's times show that we still have potential."

### Result of race nine of the season at the Nürburgring

1. Kelvin van der Linde (ZA/Abt Sportsline)
2. Mirko Bortolotti (I/SSR Performance), +15.232 seconds
3. Maro Engel (D/Mercedes-AMG Team Winward), +16.377 seconds
4. Lucas Auer (A/Mercedes-AMG Team Mann-Filter), +28.491 seconds
5. Jack Aitken (GB/Emil Frey Racing), +30.474 seconds

The full result can be found at [dtm.com/en/results](https://dtm.com/en/results).

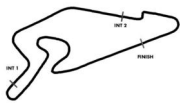
### Media Contact

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[dtm.com/en](https://dtm.com/en)

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

<b>STEWARD</b>	Yasin Özer
<b>STEWARD</b>	Harry Stüber
<b>STEWARD</b>	Dennis Jühe
<b>RACE DIRECTOR</b>	Sven Stoppe
<b>CLERK OF THE COURSE</b>	Kai Rübenhagen
<b>TECHNICAL DELEGATE</b>	Wolfgang Dammert
<b>CHIEF TIMEKEEPER</b>	Steffen Ruhl

**Weather Start/Finish**

<b>AIR</b>	18.5°C
<b>TRACK</b>	22.6°C
<b>CONDITIONS</b>	Wet
<b>PRESSURE</b>	945 hPa
<b>AIR</b>	18.9°C
<b>TRACK</b>	20.3°C
<b>CONDITIONS</b>	Wet
<b>PRESSURE</b>	945 hPa

**Track Information**

<b>GREEN FLAG</b>	13:30:03
<b>CHEQUERED FLAG</b>	14:33:02
<b>SAFETY CAR PHASE</b>	1
<b>FULL COURSE YELLOW PHASE</b>	0
<b>TRACK NAME</b>	Nürburgring
<b>TRACK LENGTH</b>	3629m
<b>TURN COUNT</b>	11
<b>TOTAL DISTANCE</b>	134.27km
<b>FASTEST LAP:</b>	#3. KVL - 1:38.011
<b>FASTEST PIT STOP:</b>	#130. MEN - 6.482

STARTED: 20 CLASSIFIED: 20 NOT CLASSIFIED: 0 DISQUALIFIED: 0

Nr.	Driver	Man.	Nation	Team	Laps	Total Time	Gap	Lap	Time
	Car			Competitor					
1	3 Kelvin van der Linde			ABT Sportsline	37	1:02:59.258		33	1:38.011
	Audi R8 LMS GT3 EVO II			ABT Sportsline					
2	92 Mirko Bortolotti			SSR Performance	37	1:03:14.490	15.232	25	1:38.814
	Lamborghini Huracan GT3 EVO 2			SSR Performance					
3	130 Maro Engel			Mercedes-AMG Team WINWARD	37	1:03:15.635	16.377	21	1:38.835
	Mercedes-AMG GT3			WINWARD RACING					
4	22 Lucas Auer			Mercedes-AMG Team MANN-FILTER	37	1:03:27.749	28.491	29	1:38.872
	Mercedes-AMG GT3			WINWARD RACING					
5	14 Jack Aitken			EMIL FREY RACING	37	1:03:29.732	30.474	22	1:38.818
	Ferrari 296 GT3			EMIL FREY RACING					
6	11 Marco Wittmann			Schubert Motorsport	37	1:03:31.675	32.417	28	1:38.619
	BMW M4 GT3			Schubert Motorsport					
7	91 Thomas Preining			Manthey EMA	37	1:03:36.057	36.799	35	1:38.266
	Porsche 911 GT3 R 992			Manthey EMA					
8	94 Nicki Thiim			SSR Performance	37	1:03:39.219	39.961	28	1:39.010
	Lamborghini Huracan GT3 EVO 2			SSR Performance					
9	7 Ricardo Feller			ABT Sportsline	37	1:03:43.078	43.820	28	1:39.143
	Audi R8 LMS GT3 EVO II			ABT Sportsline					
10	36 Arjun Maini			Mercedes-AMG Team HRT	37	1:03:43.520	44.262	21	1:38.827
	Mercedes-AMG GT3			Mercedes-AMG Team HRT					
11	33 Rene Rast			Schubert Motorsport	37	1:03:44.220	44.962	30	1:38.897
	BMW M4 GT3			Schubert Motorsport					
12	4 Luca Stolz			Mercedes-AMG Team HRT	37	1:03:50.759	51.501	22	1:39.446
	Mercedes-AMG GT3			Mercedes-AMG Team HRT					
13	31 Sheldon van der Linde			Schubert Motorsport	37	1:03:51.901	52.643	28	1:39.335
	BMW M4 GT3			Schubert Motorsport					
14	63 Franck Perera			Lamborghini Team TGI by GRT	37	1:03:55.801	56.543	29	1:38.735
	Lamborghini Huracan GT3 EVO 2			GRT Grasser-Racing-Team					
15	71 Maximilian Paul			Paul Motorsport	37	1:04:02.176	1:02.918	29	1:38.976
	Lamborghini Huracan GT3 EVO 2			Paul Motorsport					
16	69 Thierry Vermeulen			EMIL FREY RACING	37	1:04:07.566	1:08.308	22	1:39.324
	Ferrari 296 GT3			EMIL FREY RACING					
17	90 Ayhancan Güven			Manthey EMA	37	1:04:12.754	1:13.496	32	1:38.217
	Porsche 911 GT3 R 992			Manthey EMA					
18	19 Luca Engstler			Lamborghini Team Liqui Moly by GRT	36	1:03:12.939	1 LAP	25	1:39.873
	Lamborghini Huracan GT3 EVO 2			GRT Grasser-Racing-Team					
19	25 Ben Dörr			Dörr Motorsport	36	1:03:33.401	1 LAP	6	1:41.581
	McLaren 720S GT3 Evo			Dörr Motorsport					
20	85 Clemens Schmid			Dörr Motorsport	36	1:04:27.815	1 LAP	36	1:41.241
	McLaren 720S GT3 Evo			Dörr Motorsport					

Fastest lap of the race. Car 3 driver Kelvin van der Linde on lap 33. Time 1:38.011, average speed 133.2 km/h.

**Subject to final scrutineering!**

Publication time:

Clerk of the Course: Kai Rübenhagen

Timekeeper: Steffen Ruhl