

**Media Release #29.2016****31 October 2016****Porsche Carrera Cup France Round 6 Paul Ricard 28-30 October**

## **Tsunami completes French season in high spirit**

**The Porsche Carrera Cup France 2016 season was concluded positively for Tsunami RT - Centro Porsche Padova in Paul Ricard: Oleksandr Gaidai took two 2nd places in the gentlemen class B showing his combative spirit in both races. Alex Jouannem had no accidents and finished both races in 8th and 6th position, snatching two wins in the GT3 Cup Challenge Benelux class.**

The French Porsche Carrera Cup had a single star this year, Mathieu Jaminet who managed to win all 12 races (with 12 pole positions). The French took it all in Paul Ricard even if he had secured the title from the previous racing weekend in Imola.

Arriving to Paul Ricard, none of the Tsunami RT - Centro Porsche Padova drivers had any concern about the classifications. Both Alex's - Gaidai and Jouannem - joined the final racing weekend to fight for the best result without the minimum strategy. Less stress some times brings better results. In the end, the Paul Ricard weekend, the final round of the Carrera Cup France 2016, proved to be very fruitful.

The season was over on Sunday afternoon but Tsunami RT - Centro Porsche Padova stayed in Paul Ricard on Monday, taking advantage an extra day of testing. Three new drivers keen to enter the Ukrainian team in 2017 alternated in the two Porsche that the team lined up for the occasion. Blancpain and Porsche Carrera Cup Italia champion Côme Ledogar was in coaching role. The next season has already started for Tsunami RT - Centro Porsche Padova.



### Race 1

In Qualifying 1, the faster of the 25 drivers in the track had the same concern: to manage traffic conditions efficiently and pull out a clean lap. Both Tsunami drivers had issues with slower cars in the 3,8 km circuit. Alex Jouannem, despite he met a slower driver in every single lap, he managed to pull out the 7th fastest time of the session and reserve a place in 4th row on the grid. Alex Gaidai had a little bit more traffic issues and managed to do a clean lap pretty late, when his tyres were not at their peak. Gaidai's best lap was valid only for 13th on the grid.

In the race, while at the start Gaidai had a fantastic sprint and gained immediately two positions, Jouannem had some gearbox issues and lost three positions. The French had to fight back and take the flag in 8th position and 1st among Benelux drivers. The Ukrainian finished the race in P10 and in 2nd among category B drivers after Nicolas Misslin, having defended heroically the relentless attacks from Lapierre and Belgian Derdaele. As a result, both Tsunami drivers were on the Paul Ricard podium in the end of the race.

**#13 Oleksander Gaidai:** *"Frankly speaking, my race was good! I did a very good start, gained two positions and one more in the first lap. I managed to overtake from Lapierre while he was fighting with Alex Jouannem. I also had a good fight with Belgian Derdaele, who is a professional driver but also with Lapierre, who spun trying to overtake me in the first right corner".*

**#47 Alex Jouannem:** *"At the start the gearbox went on neutral, lost time and when I engaged the gear I departed with a lot of spinning so I lost positions. But I am really happy with the race, I had fights and I kept a very good pace very close to the guys in front".*

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### Race 1 Classification

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1. Mathieu Jaminet, 20 laps in 30'17"15 (153,3 kmh); 2. Julien Andlauer +17"441; 3. Vincent Beltoise +19"713; 4. Joffrey de Narda +19"786; 5. Jim Pla +26"373; 6. Thomas Laurent +26"835; 7. Florian Latorre +28"720; 8. **Alex Jouannem +34"238 (P1 GT3 Cup);** 9. Nicolas Misslin +46"193 (P1 cat.B); **10. Oleksandr Gaidai +50"832 (P2 cat. B)**

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### Race 2

Most drivers improved their performance in the last Qualifying session of the season. Oleksandr Gaidai, despite he improved remarkably his lap time from Q1, he was only 12th overall and 4th in category B on the grid of race 2. Alex Jouannem couldn't repeat his Q1 performance paying the price of heavy traffic in his good laps but managed to qualify in 8th position.

The start of the race was almost a copy - paste of Race 1. Jouannem lost positions in his attempt to avoid a jump start while Gaidai gained positions overtaking his major rivals in class. For several laps the two Tsunami Porsche were behind category B leader Nicolas Misslin who defended his position very hard. Jouannem managed to pull out a pass but had already lost much time. The French took the flag in 6th position with a 7 second gap from Jim Pla who was in 5th. Gaidai was also faster than his fellow gentleman driver, he attempted a pass in different occasions but had to settle in 8th position and 2nd in category B. Alex Jouannem was the winner of the GT3 Cup Challenge Benelux race and he celebrated it with French champagne on the podium.

**# 33 Oleksandr Gaidai:** *"I am happy with the race and with the fight. If I had won in category B I would be happy with the result as well. I would be able to win if it was not for my starting position. I started from 4th in my class and when you have to overtake it always takes your time and exhausts your tyres. My rival [Misslin] was very strong, he didn't make mistakes and it was the struggle of two equal drivers. I made almost zero*

*mistakes this weekend and it doesn't happen every time... Overall, I was very pleased with Porsche Carrera Cup France this year. It was a very interesting season with various tracks that I liked so much!"*

**# 47 Alex Jouannem:** *"On the grid the car was rolling ahead (the track straight line is downhill) and I had to brake with the right foot keeping the gas down - something I did for the first time in my life - and start. As a result I lost a position at the start. It took several laps before I managed to overtake Misslin on the first corner - possibly he thought I was Alex [Gaidai]. He was defending so hard and I didn't want to take any risks. Actually, I saw Alex and we were both faster than Misslin but he couldn't overtake him. My pace was good and if I had clear road from the start I think I could have stayed with the group at the front. In the last laps, the gap was big and it was not worthy push. It was a very nice ending of the season".*

### Race 2 Classification

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1. Mathieu Jaminet, 19 laps in 28'44"865 (153,9 kmh); 2. Julien Andlauer +13"694; 3. Joffrey de Narda +16"299; 4. Florian Latorre +22"245; 5. Jim Pla +23"952; 6. **Alex Jouannem +30"560 (P1 GT3 Cup)**; 7. Nicolas Misslin +37"511 (P1 cat.B); 8. **Oleksandr Gaidai +38"215 (P2 cat. B)**  
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