

**Media Release #11.2016****30 May 2016****Porsche Carrera Cup Italia Round 2, Imola 27 - 29 May**

Tsunami wins two of three Imola races!

A pole, a well earned victory for Côme Ledogar in Race 1 and a second win at the 45' mini endurance Sunday race for Alex Gaidai/Côme Ledogar, are the remarkable results Tsunami brought back home from the Imola weekend.

In Imola there were three cars in the Tsunami RT - Centro Porsche Padova tent: #13 for Alex Gaidai & Côme Ledogar, #33 for Canadian Mikael Grenier and #43 for Matteo Torta. Gaidai and Ledogar did one sprint race each and shared the car in the Sunday 45' race, while Grenier and Torta did all three races in the weekend.

Qualifying 1 & 2

With a fantastic 1'45"814 in Q1, #13 Côme Ledogar reserved the pole position on the grid of Race 1 in front of Alessio Rovera. The French expressed his satisfaction for the car's setup but it was not the same for #33 Mikael Grenier, who faced some issues with oversteering on his Porsche. The Canadian's best lap (1'46"772) in Q1 was good only for 6th position on the grid. Matteo Torta pulled out a 1'49"560 in Q1 which was enough only for the P17 on the grid.

In Qualifying for Race 2, #33 Mikael Grenier did his best to make it to the front row but his best lap - 1'46"164 - was only 5th fastest. #13 Alex Gaidai was happy with the car after he pulled out a remarkable 1'46"759 that reserved him P7 on the starting grid of Race 2. Pole setter in Q2 was veteran #16 Gianluca Giraudi who pulled out a nearly incredible 1'45"808 (an absolute record for Imola), beating young guns Mattia Drudi and Alessio Rovera. #43 Matteo Torta improved remarkably his time from Q1 (1'48"177 his best in Q2) but it was good only for P14 on the grid of Race 2.

Race 1

On the very first lap #43 Matteo Torta made a mistake on Tosa corner, spun and Walter Ben couldn't avoid the collision with him. As a result, the safety car was called in the track.

A brilliant as ever #13 Côme Ledogar started the race from pole, turned first on Tamburello corner, kept his lead after the exit of the safety car and defended Mattia Drudi's attacks till the chequered flag to add one more victory on his personal palmares, while writing a gold letter piece of history for Tsunami!

#33 Mikael Grenier, who started from 6th, took the flag in 5th position after some fierce battles with Eric Scalvini and Daniele Di Amato for 4th.

C.Ledogar: *"that wasn't an easy race but we had a nice fight with Mattia. Our gap shows the level of the drivers in the Italian Carrera Cup. Thanks to all the team for the perfect car!"*

Race 1 Classification

1. **Come Ledogar** 13 laps in 26'59"210 (141,885 km/h); 2. Mattia Drudi +0"362; 3. Alessio Rovera +0"881; 4. Eric Scalvini +6"398; 5. **Mikael Grenier** +7"824; 6. Daniele Di Amato +8"363;

Race 2

#33 Mik Grenier, took the flag in P5, exactly like he started the race. The Canadian lost a position on a corner from Simone Iaquina when he had a small exit in dusty conditions. Subsequently he had a fight with the Italian all the way to the finish and regained 5th position in the exit of Tosa corner.

#13 Alex Gaidai, who started from 7th, was hit by #28 Eric Scalvini at the Villeneuve corner and lost several positions. The Ukrainian finished the race in P10 but after the 20" penalty given to Scalvini by the Race Director, he regained one position and was classified 9th.

#43 Matteo Torta finished the race in P13 and was happy for doing precious kilometres. #3 Matteo Drudi won the race after a fierce battle with Gianluca Giraudi who is at least 30 years older than the 18 year old talent from Rome!

#33 Mik Grenier: *"at least the car was very good this time. If it was not for Iaquina, I would have stayed up there with the guys at the front".*

#13 Alex Gaidai: *"after the race, Eric Scalvini came to me and apologised for spoiling my race. This is not very common in motorsport - what a decent rival! These things happen in races. After this incident I tried to get as high as possible".*

Race 2 Classification

1. Mattia Drudi 16 laps in 28'28"914 (165, 461 Km/h); 2. Gianluca Giraudi +2"259; 3. Alessio Rovera +7"299; 4. Daniele Di Amato +8"065; 5. **Mikael Grenier** +20"146; 6. Simone Iaquina +22"825; ... 9. **Oleksandr Gaidai** ... 13. **Matteo Torta** +1'30"744

Race 3

A torrential rain started while the cars were supposed to leave the grid. The race was declared wet and after a 5' delay it started behind the safety car, that stayed on track for four laps. After the exit of the SC, #13 Alex Gaidai, who had started from 4th, gained one position on the first Tamburello corner when #16 Gianluca Giraudi went straight. The veteran Italian regained his position but felt Gaidai's pressure after the deployment of the second safety car and crashed heavily on Tamburello. Thanks to the early exit of Mattia Drudi on the brakes to Rivazza

corner, Gaidai completed his stint gloriously and handled the car to Côme Ledogar from P2. After a perfect pit stop Ledogar started his stint leading the race and demonstrated his superiority on the wet all the way to the flag by building an impressive gap from 2nd Alessio Rovera, 21" behind the French. The Tsunami RT duo #13 of Gaidai and Ledogar won the mini endurance race and the French climbed on the lead of the provisional standings.

The result could have been a glorious 1-2 for Tsunami but unfortunately #33 Mik Grenier left the pit lane 0.6 seconds early after his pit stop and subsequently was penalised with a "drive through" that cost him 4 positions. The fast Canadian finished the race in 6th and was inconsolable in the end of a glorious day for the rest of his team. #43 Matteo Torta took the flag in 9th position - a concrete result for the young Italian who showed signs of steady development in Imola.

#13 C.Ledogar: *"the race was great and now I can concentrate on my heavy programme to come. I had no problems in my stint apart in the last laps where I had to look for wet patches on the track to cool down the tyres".*

#13 O.Gaidai: *"the race was rather hard: there was too much water on the track and it was difficult to drive in the water spray of other cars. But I am one of those drivers who know how to drive on the wet. I was confident in my stint that if I stayed on track I could have passed Rovera. But I didn't want to risk. A fantastic result! I'm so happy to win on my favourite track - it feels even better than my maiden victory in LeMans last year!"*

#33 M.Grenier: *"this is a day I must personally forget and proceed to the next race at Misano. It is difficult to accept that for 6 tenths of a second mistake in the pit stop we got a drive through penalty. But these are the rules and we respect them".*

#43 M.Torta: *"finally a good race for me in a weekend with not so good sprint races. I think my best of in Imola was the Q2 and the Race 3. At the start I was very careful but after the second safety car I improved a lot and could see I was getting closer to other drivers".*

Race 3 Classification

1. Come Ledogar - Oleksandr Gaidai 17 laps in 41'15.885 (121,343 Km/h); **2. Alessio Rovera** +21"623; **3. Daniele Di Amato** +25"700 **4. Enrico Fulgenzi** + 30"960; **5. Eric Scalvini** +42"944; **6. Mikael Grenier** +43"132 **7. ... 9. Matteo Torta** +1'09"036;

CARRERA CUP ITALIA CLASSIFICATIONS

After the racing weekend in Imola with 6 from 21 races in the season complete, #13 Côme Ledogar leads the provisional Carrera Cup Italia standings with 70 points, followed by Alessio Rovera (60p.) and Daniele di Amato (51p.). In the teams classification, Tsunami RT - Centro Porsche Padova stands 3rd with 84 points behind Ebimotors (99p.) and Dinamic Motorsport (91p.). For the complete classifications visit the following link on the official PCCI website:

<http://www.carreracupitalia.it/ita/stagione-classifiche>

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