

**Media Release #08.2017****24 October 2017****Carrera Cup Italia, Races 13 & 14, Monza ACI Racing Weekend**

Alessio Rovera and Tsunami RT Carrera Cup Italia 2017 champions!

With an heroic victory in Race 1 and a cold blooded P2 in Race 2 on the wet tarmac of Monza Circuit, Alessio Rovera was crowned Porsche Carrera Cup Italia 2017 Champion and becomes the second consecutive Tsunami RT driver achieving this. In the ultimate race of the championship, the Ukrainian team also clinched the Teams title for second time in its history, while Lino Curti is 3rd in the Michelin Cup.

In 2015, Tsunami RT driver Côme Ledogar was the dominant figure in the Carrera Cup Italia series but lost the title on court, while Tsunami RT clinched the Team title for the very first time. In 2016, the french star emphatically was crowned Carrera Cup Italia Champion, the first foreigner in the history of the series, always racing with Tsunami. This year, both Alessio Rovera and Tsunami RT were chasing the titles from the first race of the season in Imola but never lead the respective classifications till the last weekend of the season.

Before Monza, Alessio was 14 points behind Riccardo Pera in the standings, while Tsunami RT was following Ebimotors by 11 points. Titles hopes were there for the 22 year old Italian from Varese and the Ukrainian team but against all odds. Rovera definitively needed at least a victory to keep his hopes alive, not an easy task, considering the comeback in PCCI of a fast outsider like Mattia Drudi.

The dramatic events we experienced during the season finale in the Italian "Temple of Speed" make us remember a famous lyric by Lenny Kravitz, one that better defines car racing: "Ain't over, till it's over". And it was for good this time for Tsunami and its leading Italian driver.



Race 1: Rovera wins heroically, Kruglyk steals the show

Alessio Rovera showed his determination to win the first race with his performance in qualifying, taking the pole position with the best ever lap in a Porsche 911 Cup car.

Race 1 was probably the most stressful of the season. It involved a safety car after the first lap and finished behind it for a second track accident, in which a Tsunami driver was involved.

Between the two safety cars employments, the actual race was a real adrenaline rush with two Tsunami drivers leading the show: first, Alessio Rovera who managed to take the victory and maximum points for the championship after a fierce - but always fair - fight with Mattia Drudi. Second, the hero of the day, Andrei Kruglyk, the Tsunami RT manager, who returned as a racing driver after three and a half years: the incredibly fast Ukrainian offered a great show climbing from 9th at the starting grid to 4th in the race and continued fighting relentlessly for the podium. Andrii actually took the flag in 3rd but was immediately penalised with 25" for pushing Fulgenzi in the entry of Ascari corner. So, instead of celebrating a great result, he was downgraded from 3rd to 13th and disappointingly missed a great opportunity to assist Rovera's title cause.

Lino Curti took the flag in 9th, missing a podium finish in the Michelin Cup for the employment of the second safety car. The fourth Tsunami driver, his brother Carlo Curti, finished in 11th.

Tsunami RT drivers after Race 1

#12 Alessio Rovera: *"It's been very hard because it is difficult to keep Drudi behind. And he was really fast! At some points he tried to attack but he was always correct and as he told me after the race he didn't want to ruin the championship. He was good, I closed my lines but he never attempted any breaking on the very limit".*

#21 Andrii Kruglyk: *"it was a beautiful race, only the last two laps were bad, when I started attacking Fulgenzi. I think he is - what they say in Italy - "furbo", because at that point he applied the brakes 300 metres before, while approaching the Ascari corner on 6th gear. This is not normal. After the race, the officials didn't want to see the on-board videos or the telemetry data, even if it's a universal practice before giving a penalty. I hope this is the last time we get penalised like this".*

#81 Lino Curti: *"I did a bad start as usual and lost three positions - I retook two of them and in the end I was attached to Selva hoping to make it to the class podium. But because of the accident and the safety car there was nothing to do. The car was very good, everything worked fine".*

Race 1 Classification: 1. Alessio Rovera 15 laps in 32'16"799 @ 161,5 km/h; 2. Drudi +0"643; 3. Pera +2"887; 4. Linossi +3"693; 5. L. Pastorelli +5"828; 6. De Giacomi +6"981; ... 8. L. Curti +9"958 ... 10. C. Curti +11"365 ... 13. Kruglyk +26"647 (25" penalty);

Race 2: Pera spins to retirement - Rovera takes the flag as champion!

The race started on damp tarmac with all competitors on rain tyres. Mattia Drudi took the lead starting from 5th and soon Rovera - from 6th - was attached behind him. Championship leader, Riccardo Pera followed the leading duo in 3rd knowing that if he finished the race like this he would be crowned champion. But the youngster made a mistake and spun out of the famous 'Parabolica' corner and couldn't make a comeback since he was harshly hit by Francesca Linossi.

After the incident, Alessio had just to finish the race at least in 6th to clinch the title. And he was 2nd. As a real pro and a cool minded driver, he just did his job and a huge party was waiting for him out of the Tsunami tent, organised by Alessio's family, friends and the team. For the history, guest star Mattia Drudi won the ultimate race of the season.

Tsunami RT drivers after the season finale

#12 Alessio Rovera: *"I feel like I want to cry because it's been a great emotion! The last laps seemed to last forever, I tried to just drive the same lap after lap without thinking about anything else. In the end, arrived a title that I expected since last year. I grew up as a driver throughout these two years in every aspect. My feeling in driving is different now and my mentality as well. I tried to stay calm all season and this brought me here. Even my rival had a great year but in the end I won".*



#81 Lino Curti: *"I did a good race, after a good start, I had fights and I managed to gain positions and climbed in 2nd in my class. Thanks to this result I took the 3rd position in my class, so I am happy as it was my first year. As for the season with Tsunami, even if I had some bad luck in the previous races, I had an abysmal development during the year, especially after Vallengunga and Misano. We look forward to do even better next year, possibly staying in this beautiful team".*

#18 Carlo Curti: *"I am very happy today! Thanks to the team the car was really good. I struggled a bit in the first part of the race and I also spun but I was lucky with the safety car bringing the field together. After that, I managed to overtake some competitors. The first season in the Carrera Cup was one of experience for us. The team is fantastic and great companions all. I am extremely happy about 'Ale' because he is a true professional, a very fast driver as well as a very good guy".*

#21 Andri Kruglyk: *"I am very happy for Alessio's title! In this race I was only thinking about him, all year long I wanted just this. And for the team, we managed to arrive in the last race with three teams fighting for the title. And we did it! As for my return to racing, I am very happy with my performance and since yesterday I have received many messages from friends in Ukraine and everywhere in Europe. It was a beautiful experience because I hadn't driven a Porsche on the wet since 2009 and I did a wet race. Everything is fantastic today!"*

Race 2 Classification: 1. Mattia Drudi, 14 laps in 31'39"874 @ 153,7 km/h; **2. Rovera +5"172**; 3. +8"874; 4. Quaresmini +9"711; 5. Fulgenzi +9"714; 6. D. Cazzaniga +15"392; **7. L. Curti +20"474**; 8. De Giacomi +22"027; **9. C. Curti +22"669**; **10. Kruglyk +25"385**;

In the last three seasons, Tsunami RT - Centro Porsche Padova has clinched two drivers titles and other two of the teams - so 4 of 6 titles in total and was runner up in the other two! These numbers mean that the Ukrainian - based in San Marino - team is already considered the dominant force of the modern Porsche Carrera Cup Italia.

Tsunami RT Team Principal, Irina Kolomeitseva, was the happiest person in the Monza paddock right after the team's celebrations: *"we proved one more time that we are a great team, actually the best team in the Porsche Carrera Cup Italia. We always try to give our best to our drivers and this brings results. That's why I think we deserved both titles. I would like to thank Alessio for the fantastic season and the titles he brought to the team. I also want to thank each member of the Tsunami family - because Tsunami RT is not only a racing team, it is a real family for us".*

Official PCCI 2017 classification: <http://www.carreracupitalia.it/ita/stagione-classifiche>

You can download copyright-free Tsunami photos from Imola weekend here
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/kzniuz9xwq4rgti/AADU5pAPknFIEUQHFcAxYjhPa?dl=0>

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