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Porsche Carrera Cup Italia, Races 3 & 4, 12 - 13 May Paul Ricard

Alessio Rovera dominates in Paul Ricard

A pole position, a fastest lap and two wins in a single weekend. It couldn't be better for the Tsunami RT driver in Paul Ricard, second round of the 2018 Porsche Carrera Cup Italia.

The past two weeks have been amazingly successful for both Alessio Rovera and Tsunami RT - Centro Porsche Padova: in 14 days, the 23-year old driver from Varese took 4 wins in two different championships in three historic tracks, each in a different country: Imola, Spa-Francorchamps and Paul Ricard. Alessio leads now the standings of the Italian series with three wins in four races, while the fourth win belongs to the younger Tsunami RT driver, Tommaso Mosca, who stands now second in the PCCI classification. Summarising, this means 100% success for the Ukrainian team in Italy - with four wins in four races - and 5 wins in 6 races so far in the 2018 racing season!

Under these circumstances, Alessio Rovera is already rethinking about his 2018 plans. He was supposed to follow the French Carrera Cup and attend only selected races in the Italian series, just "for staying in the mood" as he says. And now, the 2017 PCCI champion is by far the dominating figure of the series. What's next? Keeping his cool approach, Alessio will decide what to do after the upcoming PCCF round in Zandvoort - on schedule next weekend - and definitely after the third PCCI round in Monza, in the first weekend of June. But let's go back to Paul Ricard.

Race 1

Rovera snatched the pole from Mosca - who did a small mistake in his best lap - and the Tsunami duo booked the front row at the starting grid of Saturday's race. Considering Mosca's speed and fighting spirit, the Ukrainian team was equally happy and uneasy with the situation. Having both drivers fighting to win is a dream that can easily turn to a nightmare but this what Tommaso Mosca experienced at the starting grid, when his gearbox misfired and he stayed in neutral watching the entire field passing by. While Rovera lead the whole race to win in great style, Mosca also drove amazingly, offering a breathtaking show of overtaking moves to finish the race in 7th. Nobody could do something better given the circumstances and this was valid for both Tsunami drivers. Alex De Giacomo proved fast for 2nd in his class but he was pushed out by his rival and friend Marco Cassarà in the very last lap.

#1 Alessio Rovera: *"In the first laps I had to manage my driving to make the tyres last, because we had very low tyre pressure, and then in the second part I managed the tyres to keep them in the right temperature because this is a track with a lot of grip. The car was perfect. I am very happy!"*

#19 Tommaso Mosca: *"At the start, 1st gear was not inserted. I was pressing the clutch and when I released it I realised I was in neutral. I was a little bit angry because in the first laps they didn't let me pass and lost the front spoiler by my mistake. But if you want to be a professional you shouldn't make mistakes like this".*

#67 Alex De Giacomo: *"I am happy because we have better feeling with the car and my hand is not so painful now. What I didn't want was to have an accident with Marco (Cassara). I am not 100% sure but I think his move was not voluntary".*

Classification: 1. Rovera 15 laps in 31'59"851 @ 163,728 km/h; 2. laquinta +2"222; 3. Quaresmini +4"151; 4. Bertonelli +15"153; 5. D. Cazzaniga +15"749; 6. Segù +18"407; 7. Mosca +23"255; ... 16. De Giacomo +1'02"750 (P4 Michelin Cup);

Race 2

The weather turned bad on Sunday morning bringing heavy rain and surprisingly low temperatures at Paul Ricard and as a result one race was cancelled. But thankfully it didn't rain in the afternoon, so we had the chance to enjoy a thrilling second Carrera Cup race and an unforgettable one for Tsunami RT: Alessio Rovera took a remarkable win starting from 6th, Tommaso Mosca finished third on the podium starting from 7th and Alex De Giacomo took the flag in 2nd in the Michelin Cup.

#112 Alessio Rovera: *"I did a quite good start and looked to stay away from troubles because with so many cars in front it's not difficult for somebody to spin. This time the tyres worked immediately and I could push right away. I looked to pull out some overtaking and it went fine. I managed to overtake Bertonelli on the S of the Mistral straight".*

#19 Tommaso Mosca: *"it was a quite nice race both from my side and the team's side. From 7th we arrived 3rd. Unfortunately I had problems with the car after I hit Pellegrinelli by mistake – I didn't see well – and after that the steering wheel was completely crooked. I could have done something more in this race but since we are still at the beginning of the season, I preferred to wait. If I did a risky move, I could have thrown out both Alessio and me. But it was a great catch up".*

#67 Alex De Giacomo: *"we did a great start today, everything ran smoothly, the car was perfect and the team did a great job. Unfortunately, my fitness deteriorated in the last three laps and Pastorelli could overtake me. But I see an improvement in my arm and also see a great potential from the team".*

Classification: 1. Rovera 15 laps in 32'13"224 @ 162,596 km/h; 2. Bertonelli +2"038; 3. Mosca +2"694; 4. Segù +3"916; 5. Fulgenzi +7"943; 6. Berton +8"056; ... 10. De Giacomo +27"032 (P2 Michelin Cup);

PCCI Standings

Overall: 1. Rovera 66 points; 2. Mosca 44; 3. Bertonelli 40; 4. Fulgenzi 30; 5. Cazzaniga D. 27

Teams: 1. Tsunami RT 72 points; 2. Dinamic Motorsport 42; 3. Ghinzani Arco Motorsport 39; 4. Ombra Racing 19; 5. Gdl Racing 11.

Michelin Cup: 1. Mardini 30 points; 2. Mercatali & De Giacomo 22; 4. Cassarà 21 ; 5. Pastorelli 18.

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