

United Autosports' Duo Continue To Lead British GT Championship Despite Non-Scoring At Brands Hatch

American Mike Guasch was crashed out of two-hour race in opening three minutes

United Autosports' duo Mike Guasch (USA) and Matt Bell (GB) continue to lead the Avon Tyres British GT Championship despite being unceremoniously taken out of the fourth round of the series at Brands Hatch (England) today (Sunday June 19).

Previous round Snetterton race winners Guasch and Bell looked to build on their 24.5-point series lead going in to the two-hour race but the American, having spectacularly brought his #23 Molecule Audi R8 LMS up from a disappointing 12th place grid position to sixth in just over one lap of the 2.301-mile "Grand Prix" track.

Guasch immediately made up five places on his grid position to complete the opening lap on a damp track to seventh and having overtaken the #12 Ferrari for sixth place on lap two, was assaulted by the same car at Druids Hairpin. The American's Audi R8 LMS, hit from behind, ended up in the barriers and gravel trap with substantial front and rear bodywork damage and was too badly damaged for the American to continue.

Avon Tyres British GT Championship (after four rounds):

- 1 Matt Bell & Mike Guasch, 70.5-points
- 2 Gedie/Gedie, 63.5pts
- 3 Lester/Simonsen, 58.5pts

#23 Molecule – Audi R8 LMS



Michael Guasch (USA). Age: 53. Born: Palo Alto, California. Lives: Martinez, California, USA:

“I have previous practice experience in a Ginetta G50 around the ‘Indy’ track but the GP section was new and daunting to begin with but I steadily got to grips with it. Qualifying down in 12th always meant it would be a battle in the race. It had rained right before the race but we decided to start on slicks. I made a number of good clean passes on the opening lap but going into Druids hairpin for only the second time, I had made another clean pass, but the car hit me hard in the rear corner— I can only assume he didn’t see me. The heavy impact shoved me into the barriers and pretty much destroyed the car. I was mandatorily sent to the Medical Center but quickly got the all clear. I feel fine right now, I am sure I will be sore tomorrow. Amazingly we still lead the series.”

Matt Bell (GB). Age: 21. Born: Newcastle-upon-Tyne, T&W. Lives: Barningham, N. Yorks, England:

“I’d only driven here once before, in a Ginetta, two years ago. Practice was red flag interrupted and traffic a problem but was P5 in the final practice heading into qualifying so 12th in ‘qually’ was disappointing. We could have and should have been in the top-six but I struggled to get in a clear lap. The track is narrow with few overtaking opportunities so the race was always going to be difficult but hadn’t expected it to be over so quickly! Today was a great shame. We’ll just have to pick ourselves up and move on to the next races at Spa.”



United Autosports

Created in 2009, United Autosports is co-owned by American Zak Brown and Briton Richard Dean, both successful entrepreneurs and international race car drivers. The unique Anglo-American racing team fields GT3 class Audi R8 LMS sports cars from its United Kingdom headquarters in Leeds. It also races a fleet of “Legends of Motorsports” historic racing cars from its US facility in Indianapolis, Indiana. In 2011, the team competes in full-seasons of FIA GT3 European Championship, Avon Tyres British GT Championship and the “Legends of Motorsports” series. It will additionally contest selected GRAND-AM Rolex Sports Car Series events, the 24 Hours of Spa (Belgium) and Macau GT Cup race (China).

Audi R8 LMS

V10 5.2-liter engine, 4 valves per cylinder, petrol direct injection, 365-412 kW (496-560 PS), emission control by two racing catalytic converters, rear-wheel-drive, traction control (ASR), sequential pneumatic activated 6-speed sport gearbox with shift-paddles, Audi Space Frame (ASF) made of aluminum with bolted steel roll-cage, carbon-fiber composite/aluminum bodywork, Avon radial tires. Start weight 1,305kg. Limitation at 8500rpm for every gear. Developed by Audi Sport with cooperation from quattro GmbH. Won seven championships across Europe in 2009-2010 plus Spa 24 Hours class victory in debut 2009 season and Nürburgring 24 Hours class victories in 2009-2010 and scoring a total 64 victories.

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* Bell, Bintcliffe, Guasch & Palmer biographies plus team & car profiles are available on the United Autosports website
<http://www.unitedautosports.com/>

* A comprehensive library of Editorial Copyright Free photographs can be downloaded at
www.flickr.com/unitedautosports/sets

For further information, please contact:

Martyn Pass

Audi UK Sport Press

T +44 1564 824600

M +44 7801 859502

E audiuk-motorsport@earthlink.net

Skype martyn.pass

www.audi-press.co.uk

www.unitedautosports.com

For more information about Mike Guasch, visit: www.MikeGuasch.com

Mike Guasch Representation and Marketing Contact:

Movement Arts Motorsport Marketing LLC

190 Wolf Rock Road, Exeter, RI 02822

Phone: 401-667-4961

Fax: 401-244-7722

Email: info@movement-art.com