

FIRST STATE CORVETTE CLUB

CORVETTE RACING ACTIVITIES REPORT

JANUARY 2, 2019

2018 CORVETTE RACING SEASON IN REVIEW

The Chevrolet Pratt&Miller Corvette Racing Team #3 Corvette won their 2nd consecutive IMSA SportsCar Championship WITHOUT WINNING A SINGLE RACE; 4 - 2nd, 4 - 3rd, 1 - 4th. And it all came down to the final race of the season, the 10HR race at Road Atlanta, the Petit Le Mans. The #4 Corvette Team finished in 3rd place in the Championship standings.

While the race was won by a Porsche, it was the #3 Corvette team with co-drivers Antonio Garcia and Jan Magnussen that defended their Championship Title with an 8th place race finish.

The #3 Corvette entered the race needing to finish only 4th or better to clinch the championship

With 2 ½ hours to go in the race, the #3 Corvette was in contention for a RACE VICTORY, when Antonio Garcia spun the #3 Corvette into the inside concrete wall while exiting pit road ON COLD TIRES causing severe damage. It forced the #3 Corvette to go to their garage for repairs, returned to the track in 9th place, 3 laps down, setting up a situation where all the #67 Ford GT had to do was finish 2nd to win the championship. BUT THIS IS A 10 HOUR RACE, AND ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN, AND DID!

While in position to do just that, the #67 Ford pitted while in 2nd place with 48 minutes to go, but so did the #4 Corvette. With a GREAT PIT STOP, the No. 4 Corvette BEAT THE #67 Ford back out of the pits into 2nd place and held that position, while the No. 67 fell to 5th place, until the checkered flag.

Historical Review for the Yellow Corvettes

20 YEARS OF RACING

206 RACES, INCLUDING LE MANS

107 1ST PLACE FINISHES

99 2ND PLACE FINISHES

59 1ST/2ND PLACE FINISHES

13 TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

12 DRIVER CHAMPIONSHIPS

100TH WIN CAME AT LIME ROCK PARK IN 2016

300,000 MILES RACED

OLIVER GAVIN, Team #4 Co-Driver, WON HIS 50TH RACE

[183 races since 2002. Same Team! Same Brand! C5s, C6s, C7s]

24 HR OF LE MANS – 19 RACES, 8-1ST, 8-2ND,

4 OF THOSE 1ST/2ND, 90,000 RACE MILES



TRANS AM SERIES

Amy Ruman reached a milestone in 2018;

Amy made her 100th Trans Am start at the Austin, TX Circuit of The Americas race, in her LITTLE RED CORVETTE.

Amy first started driving the No. 23 McNichols Company Corvette 13 years ago, in 2005. Ruman's 1st victory came at Road Atlanta in 2011, when she became the first woman to win a Trans Am race in the 45-year history of the series.

Her first Trans Am Championship came in 2015. Followed up with a 2016 second straight title in the Trans Am Series' 50th Anniversary season. In 2017 Ruman finished the year in 3rd place.

For 2018 Ruman finished a disappointing 5th in Championship points. Albeit, the series is getting a lot of attention and is very competitive now.

Just for comparison sake, the factory sponsored Corvette Racing Team laps Watkins Glen at 1min 43.666sec

The Ruman Racing Team laps WG at 1min 50.276sec. Not too shabby for a Independent Team on a limited budget.

ADAC GT MASTERS

CALLAWAY CORVETTE finished with a 3rd place in Drivers championship out of 40 Drivers pairs, and a 4th place in Team Championship, out of 21 Teams.

This series is very competitive, with typically 34-35 racing cars all in the same class racing on some of the most iconic race tracks in Europe.

The 'twin' races are 1 Hr in length, 1 typically on Saturday, 1 on Sunday, with a mandatory pit stop with driver change at halfway

in each race. In typical Callaway fashion, the last race of the year, Callaway Corvette qualified 27th in dismal rainy conditions. For the second race, with a great deal of Car&Driver skills they passed 20 competitors to finish 7th. Just an awesome race against some of Europe's finest Porsche, Audi, BMW, Ferrari, Lambo, & Mercedes Benz competitors.



Respectfully submitted,
Mike Waal

