

Leimer eyes back-to-back championships

Amici, Geraci and Zaugg to challenge series leader in Spa

23 July 2013, Sant'Agata Bolognese. With just four remaining scoring opportunities in the 2013 Lamborghini Blancpain Super Trofeo European series remaining, competitors head to Spa Francorchamps with a renewed sense of focus as the drivers' and team's championships begin to tighten to a captivating conclusion.

Fast Facts

- Cédric Leimer leads the PRO-AM series with 74 points ahead of Zaugg/De Nora with 54, with Leonardo Geraci holding 52 points and Andrea Amici 51. 60 points are available in the remaining races
- Laurent Jenny holds a 17 point advantage in the Amateur championship
- Three of the four leading PRO-AM drivers (Leimer, Zaugg & Amici) visited the podium at Spa last year
- 20 cars will take the start grid in Belgium

The Swiss driver and defending PRO-AM champion, Cédric Leimer takes a considerable 20 point lead to Spa, which he will be looking to defend from three main protagonists - the South African ace and former Red Bull Junior driver, Adrian Zaugg, who habitually leads the first stint of each race before passing over to his rapidly-improving amateur team-mate, Federico de Nora. Zaugg looked on course for a Spa win last year before mechanical problems intervened. Leimer's other main contender is the hard-charging Imperiale driver, Andrea Amici, who claimed one of the race wins in Belgium last year and will arrive in Belgium brimming with confidence having won the last race contested at Silverstone. And consistently in the mix is last year's amateur title-holder, Leonardo Geraci.

So Leimer's crack outfit, Autovitesse Garage R. Affolter, head the team's tables ahead of Autocarrozzeria Imperiale and Bonaldi Motorsport, but not just due to reigning champion's efforts. In the Amateur category, Leimer's team-mate Laurent Jenny has enjoyed a matchless season, finishing every race on the podium and frequently finding himself in overall podium positions ahead of his PRO-AM colleagues, thereby catapulting Autovitesse Garage R. Affolter to the top of both teams' championships.

While the title contenders in each championship will be focused on their bid for honours, there are any number of other drivers who may well mix up the results based on strong recent form. All three of Composit Motorsport's entries seem on the cusp of the podium, with Checco Malavasi & Flavio Pierleoni having progressively performed more competitively, notably with a fifth place at Silverstone, while their team-mates Enrico Dell'Ontè & Andrea Gagliardini promised much with a strong qualifying performance at Paul Ricard. Another glimpse of real form was also shown in France by series newcomer, Fran Bugliotti and the Emmebi Motorsport squad. Another team that have had a busy three weeks is the Gravity Charouz Team, occupied with race car repairs, but their commitment sees both Achim Winter & Richard Chlad making the grid in Belgium this weekend.

The race will also mark the first occasion the Lamborghini Blancpain Super Trofeo community has come together following the fatal accident suffered by Andrea Mamé at Paul Ricard. A number of tributes will be paid to the Italian driver over the race weekend.

A 24hr Spectacle

The Lamborghini Blancpain Super Trofeo pair of races in Belgium form part of the schedule for the 24 Hours of Spa, one of the classics on the European endurance racing calendar that will see over 70 GT3 cars contesting the epic challenges of the Ardennes circuit. Key among the huge field are the entries of the two Blancpain Racing Lamborghini's piloted by Stefan Rossina/Albert von Thurn und Taxis in the PRO Cup, and in the #24 sister car in the PRO-AM Cup classification, Marc A. Hayek/Peter Kox/Jos Menten/Kristian Poulsen. A third Lamborghini entry in the PRO-AM category is the GRT Grasser-Racing Team from Austria with Gottfried Grasser/Gerhard Tweraser/Hari Proczyk.

The 24hr race starts at 1630hrs on Saturday following a parade of cars through the town of Spa and the anticipated 60-70,000 race fans will also be entertained by live music and a range of events through the night.



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Squadra Corse News

Forming an established part of the sportscar racing landscape in Europe and Asia, Lamborghini recently celebrated the start of the new Lamborghini Blancpain Super Trofeo series in North America, a championship which will conclude with its leading drivers joining top-placed competitors from Europe & Asia in a World Final at Vallelunga in late November this year.

The new North American series got underway at Lime Rock Park as part of the ALMS Northeast Grand Prix a fortnight ago.

Following a similar racing format to the other series, teams from across the US including Santa Monica, Laguna Beach, Beverly Hills, Palm Beach & Chicago contested two 50 minute races at Skip Barber's scenic 1.5 mile circuit near Salisbury, Litchfield County. The weekend's programme was sprinkled with stardust of an inaugural race celebrity driver in the guise of Hollywood actor, Dax Shepard, who claimed a podium finish in the second race.

The race also provided the very first opportunity for Automobili Lamborghini America to showcase its unrivalled hospitality centre, maintaining the tradition of superlative off-track experiences for guests.

Reflecting on the first Super Trofeo race on US soil, Dax Shepard said, "What in the world is cooler than racing Lamborghinis? The cars look amazing and are incredible to drive. But it's about more than the competing. It's about becoming part of the Lamborghini family. The people are so welcoming, and the hospitality is the best I've experienced at a race - a great weekend."

More information about all three series and other Squadra Corse motorsport activity including GT3 racing can be found at www.squadracorse.lamborghini.com

Lamborghini Squadra Corse

Lamborghini Squadra Corse is a specialist team within Lamborghini's R&D department dedicated to motorsport including GT3, the Super Trofeo series, and a customer driving program.

From 2013, the Squadra Corse will provide an integrated approach to Lamborghini driving experiences. A new series of 'Esperienza' events provide enthusiasts and prospects with opportunity for a first test-drive and to experience the world of Lamborghini.

The Lamborghini Academies, on both track and ice, provide driver training and the initial steps towards racing.

The Super Trofeo series provides the perfect first race experience for young and gentleman drivers, with the Lamborghini GT3 for more experienced racers wanting to compete with the Lamborghini marque worldwide.



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The weekend in prospect - Lamborghini Blancpain Super Trofeo Europe Round 5: Spa Francorchamps

Lamborghini Blancpain Super Trofeo track action starts with two practice sessions on Thursday, with qualifying and the first 50 minute race on Friday and the second race on Saturday morning.

Thursday July 25

12:10 - 13:10 Free Practice 1
15:40 - 16:40 Free Practice 2

Friday July 26

10:50 - 11:30 Qualifying
14:30 - 15:20 Lamborghini Blancpain Super Trofeo Race 1
18:30 Media update distributed - summary, quotes, results (ENG, ITA)

Saturday July 27

10:40 - 11:30 Lamborghini Blancpain Super Trofeo Race 2
14:30 Media update distributed - summary, quotes, results (ENG, ITA)

Race Calendar for 2013

In Europe, the Lamborghini Blancpain Super Trofeo will again partner the Blancpain Endurance Series.

Monza (ITA)	13/14 April
Misano (ITA)	04/05 May
Silverstone (GBR)	01/02 June
Paul Ricard (FRA)	29 June/01 July
Spa (BEL)	25/28 July
Nurburgring (DEU)	21/22 September
Vallelunga (ITA)	23/24 November (Lamborghini Super Trofeo World Final)



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Blancpain

The Lamborghini Blancpain Super Trofeo will once again enjoy the sponsorship of the premium watch maker, Blancpain.

Founded in 1735 by Jean-Jacques Blancpain, the watch brand bearing his name is the oldest in the world. Blancpain is currently engaged to the renewal of mechanical watchmaking and to passing on exceptional expertise from one generation to the next through constant investment in human resources, production facilities and research. This approach is its strength and the expression of our long-term vision, even though it goes against the tide of a certain tendency to seek immediate profit.

From the creation of components through to watch design, Blancpain is distinguished by its ability to develop exceptional movements. Over the past seven years, the Manufacture has indeed developed no less than 26 new calibres.

Through its various models, Blancpain preserves its heritage of precision and elegance, while also displaying an innovative and occasionally provocative spirit. Its range encompasses the sportive L- evolution line, the legendary Fifty Fathoms diver's watch, as well as the classic Villeret collection, the high complication from Le Brassus collection and the feminine Women models.

While remaining loyal to its fundamental values, Blancpain quite naturally associates with the world of fine automotive mechanical engineering, since the key values of precision, reliability and sturdiness are required and shared by both cars and watches.

Pirelli

Founded in 1872, Pirelli is the world's fifth largest tyre manufacturer based on revenues. With a presence in over 160 countries, the company now has 22 tyre manufacturing facilities on five continents and employs some 34,000 people.

Having been involved in motor racing since 1907, Pirelli is currently the single tyre manufacturer for Formula 1™ for the 2011-2013 championship seasons and for the World Superbike Championship. This is an important challenge in terms of technological innovation and is a key means of promoting the Pirelli brand.

In 2013, Pirelli underlines its status as the global tyre manufacturer with the biggest commitment to motorsport. In total, the Italian firm supplies 138 different championships across the world, excluding Formula One, both on the road and on the track. One of the most important engagements is the Lamborghini Blancpain Super Trofeo, supplied exclusively by Pirelli, which highlights the strong technical collaboration that the two Italian icons have shared since 1963.

Follow Us

All 2013 season races will be broadcast on Eurosport:

The 2013 series is being broadcast across the extensive Eurosport network, thus reaching all 59 countries - including Italy - in the Eurosport footprint of 129 million households. The Eurosport coverage includes a one-minute teaser shown on the Sunday of each race weekend on "Motorsport Weekend" magazine, followed by a 26-minute summary, highlights and interviews aired on the following Tuesday evening. A 26 minute highlight of the races in Belgium will be broadcast on Tuesday July 30 at 23:15hrs CET on Eurosport (repeated the following day at 08:00hrs CET on Eurosport 2).

Visit the new Squadra Corse website to follow all of Lamborghini's racing activities at

www.squadracorse.lamborghini.com

Follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/lamborghini>

Contact Us

All media enquiries including requests for additional photography should be directed to: media@supertrofeo.com and please see the official Automobili Lamborghini press website by clicking [here](#)



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