

Media Release



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TOP FIVE FINISH FOR JONES ON HOME SOIL

Los Angeles, CA, USA – Nick Jones enjoyed a successful home event in the Patrón Porsche GT3 Challenge by Yokohama last weekend finishing an impressive fifth and seventh in the Gold Cup class at the Monterey Sports Car Championship, Mazda Raceway, Laguna Seca, on only his second championship outing for DragonSpeed.

Following two solid finishes of 12th and ninth in class at Sebring, Jones sights were firmly set on moving further into the top ten during round two of the championship in California.

Qualifying didn't go as well as hoped, as with such a competitive field there isn't any room for mistakes. Jones continued to improve his lap times and eventually qualified 15th in class for Race 1, 27th overall but was confident they could move forward during the race.

Race 1 was quite chaotic but Jones made a good start, and after picking his way safely through the first corner began attacking the cars in front. After some really good battles and making some impressive passes throughout the race he also benefitted on the restarts, as a result of the safety car periods. Towards the end of the race he had to defend his position while still chasing down the car in front, but was able to do so and come away with a strong fifth place finish in the Gold Cup class, 13th overall.

Jones started Race 2 higher up on the grid, 11th in class, but lost ground at the start. However, he steadily made his way back up the running order setting increasingly quick lap times in his Porsche 997 GT3 Cup car to register another top-ten finish, seventh in class.

"I would have liked to have finished the weekend with another strong top-5 result, but I'm very happy with 7th", said Jones after Race 2.

"Overall, it was a fantastic weekend and a great pair of results for myself and DragonSpeed," he continued. "The team really provided me with an amazing and competitive car! Elton, Tim, Chris and the whole DragonSpeed team did an amazing job this weekend and I can't thank them enough. I'm really appreciative to all of our partners too, UCI Orthopaedic Surgery Center and Generate. We came away from the weekend much stronger and I can't wait to get back in the car!"

DragonSpeed general manager Elton Julian said: "What a great job by Nick and our crew at Laguna. A constant progression that culminated with two very respectable finishes. Even more importantly at this stage, Nicks pace in the second round was equal to, and at times better than the top drivers in our class. With even more potential still to be unlocked, Nick will soon be the man to watch in Patrón GT3 Gold class. I'm very happy."

After a successful weekend of racing, including setting the fifth fastest lap of Race 2, Nick Jones moves up from 11th to sixth in the Gold Cup championship standings.

Fans can watch Round Two of the 2010 Patrón GT3 Challenge by Yokohama from this weekend at the Monterey Sports Car Championship, Monterey, California on SPEED TV at 1am ET, Sunday 20 June 2010.

Round Three takes place at the New Jersey Grand Prix, Millville, New Jersey from 26-27 June 2010.

Ends

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Notes to Editors

About the Patrón Porsche GT3 Challenge by Yokohama

2010 marks the Patrón GT3 Challenge's sixth season of supporting the American Le Mans Series presented by Patrón. The seven-event calendar includes classic tracks at Sebring and Laguna Seca, with a pair of 45-minute races each weekend. The 2010 Championship is comprised of 14 races, of which the best 12 finishes will count toward the Championship. Featuring Porsche's 977 GT3 Cup, the 37-strong field is split into two classes: the Platinum Cup for the latest 997 GT3 model, and the Gold Cup for 2005-2009 models. For further information on the series, please visit www.imsachallenge.com.

About Nick Jones

Nick Jones is a British-American racer competing in the 2010 Patrón GT3 Challenge with Californian-based DragonSpeed.

After successful single-seater racing in Europe with 23 top-three career finishes, across British F3 International Series, Formula Renault UK Championship and Skip Barber Race Series, Jones moved to the USA testing Champ Car Atlantics during 2006/07. In 2008 he made the switch to sportscars, testing a Porsche GT3 RSR for VICI Racing, which was more suited to his driving style.

About Our Partners

The University of California, Irvine Orthopaedic Surgery provides consultation and treatment for the full range of orthopaedic problems such as joint disorders, children's orthopaedics and sports-related injuries.

About DragonSpeed

DragonSpeed is a professional racing team and driver development operation formed in 2007 based in Santa Monica, California. The team provides arrive-and-drive programs in a range of cars for racing, testing, track days, and special events, all dedicated to helping clients realize their motorsport dreams and ensuring their safety as well as enjoyment. DragonSpeed's seasoned crew includes factory-trained Porsche technicians who can help customers create their ideal track car.

DragonSpeed is run by Elton Julian, who is also available as driver coach and race engineer, with business partners from the media and motorsport worlds, and also supports the fundraising efforts of the Santa Monica and greater Los Angeles chapters of the American Red Cross.

About Elton Julian

DragonSpeed general manager Elton Julian is an accomplished driving talent with engineering skills to match. Raised in the US, Ecuador, and Europe, the 35-year-old Californian's natural speed, technical acumen, and racecraft have earned the admiration of teammates and rivals wherever he has raced.

Elton Julian has raced at international level in both single-seaters and sportscars competing in British Formula 3, finishing on the podium in his first Daytona 24 Hours in 1995 and scoring top six results in each of his Barber Saab, Formula Atlantic, and Indy Lights debuts. At the age of 20 he also tested a Formula 1 car. After a six-year hiatus from driving, Julian was the highest placed rookie in the 2005 Le Mans 24 Hours with starring performances in LMP2 at the Sebring 12 Hours and Petit Le Mans confirming his focus on sportscar racing.

Julian has also worked extensively as a racing instructor and driver coach, most notably in the Ferrari Challenge series, winning universal praise for his ability to demystify the art of competition driving and deliver practical advice leading to significant and lasting improvement.

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Patrón Porsche GT3 Challenge by Yokohama 2010 Schedule

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
MARCH 18-19	12 Hours of Sebring	Sebring, Florida
MAY 21-23	Monterey Sports Car Championship	Monterey, California
JUNE 26-27	New Jersey Grand Prix	Millville, New Jersey
JULY 9-11	Utah Grand Prix	Tooele, Utah
AUGUST 6-7	Acura Sports Car Challenge	Lexington, Ohio
AUGUST 20-22	Gererac 500	Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin
SEPTEMBER 30-31	Petit Le Mans	Braselton, Georgia

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