

TRG Looking to Defend at New Jersey Motorsports Park

Written by
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Petaluma, CA —

TRG will be looking to defend their Grand-Am Rolex Series GT win from last year at the Verizon Wireless 250 to be run at New Jersey Motorsports Park on May 3.

Last year Andy Lally and Tim George Jr. won the series' first race at the track located in Millville, New Jersey. This year the two TRG drivers return, but in different team cars. Lally is paired with Justin Marks in the No. 67 Construct Corp/No Fear Energy Drinks/Voodoo Ride/Kartel Motorsports/K1 Speed/Gemstone Winery/TRG Porsche GT3.

"I like the New Jersey track a lot and obviously we had success there last year," Lally said. "I have heard about additional improvements to the track and the entire facility that will make it even more enjoyable this year. I think we will have our work cut out for us with the competition right now and we will also try to rebound from a very unlucky VIR weekend. I need to say a BIG thank you to my crew for doing such a great job under pressure to make sure we got points at the last race. They have been working hard to try and get our No. 67 Construct Corps Porsche back in shape and I can't wait to get back on track and prove our speed."

John Potter and Craig Stanton in the No. 65 Riegel/Stanton/Cystic Fibrosis Foundation/65 Roses/Magnus Racing/TRG Porsche GT3 will be looking for some Stanton magic this weekend. Stanton has also visited the New Jersey podium last year, winning the KONI Challenge race.

"I won the KONI Challenge race last year," Stanton said. "We will take our notes from VIR and have a good starting point on the setup of the car for New Jersey. Jeff Braun (TRG team engineer) has brought a format to the team that is really organized and works for all of us. That is a great improvement that Kevin has made for us this year. We get to race again seven days after VIR, which I think is great. The track has made some improvements and I really like the layout. John Potter is doing great so far this season and we are looking forward to having a good run there next weekend."

Ted Ballou, piloting the No. 66 AXA/Mitchell Rubber/Wealth Management Strategies/TRG Porsche GT3 with teammate Spencer Pumpelly, had a strong run going at Jersey last year when a small mechanical issue thwarted their good run.

"Last year we had a good race," Ballou said. "We had the car in the lead, Spencer was looking good and then we had a mechanical problem. We were pretty disappointed. We missed out on a lot of points that day. Jersey is not as high speed as VIR, but I like the track and we have a good car for that track. We will have a good baseline from this weekend to start off with at New Jersey as well as our strong notes from last year."

Tim George Jr. will be teamed with one of the track principals and a member of the driving team that won the Rolex 24 Hours at Daytona in February, RJ Valentine. The pair will be running the

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No. 68 Cabana Cachaca/F1 New Jersey/CRG/TRG Porsche GT3.

"I am coming back to NJMP to get some more laps on the track before I race there again in the ARCA RE/Max Series in September," George Jr. said. "It would be great to bring TRG another win at the track. I am driving with one of the track owners, RJ Valentine, which will be fun. I am looking forward to getting a lot of seat time. I am also looking forward to being back around TRG and the Grand-Am paddock and some good friends again. On a funny note, in the Stock Car world they call the paddock the garage, and people look at you like you have two heads if you say paddock. I think Kevin was called out on this with Dave Despain on Wind Tunnel. Grand-Am and TRG were great to me last year, and I am very thankful for everyone that has helped me along the way, and look forward to working on the same team as Pumpelly and Lally. The track is challenging, the longest straight-away follows this challenging corner, which has a major curb to climb. The Porsches seem pretty stable coming off of the transition, and this will be one of my main focuses as we approach the test day this Friday."

Team owner Kevin Buckler has his team working hard with two races in eight days.

"The crew guys are really doing a great job," Buckler said. "New Jersey has been a second home track for us. RJ is a great friend and we all like to race at his track. We have some points to make up after VIR, but we won there last year and we know what it takes to be successful at Thunderbolt. We could use a little help from the Grand-Am rule makers with leveling the performance in the GT series. It is really impossible to win in a Porsche right now."

Round three of the Grand-Am Rolex Sports Car Series to be run at New Jersey Motorsports Park will be run on Sunday, May 3 and will be televised live on the SPEED Channel starting at 1:00 p.m. ET.

TRG was founded in 1993 and has been competing at the top level of motor racing ever since. The team has the most wins of any team in the Grand-Am Rolex Series with 26, including the 2005 and 2006 Rolex Series GT championship trophy to go along with wins at the Rolex 24 at Daytona and the 24 Hours of Le Mans.

TRG is a manufacturer and distributor of high-performance racing parts. The group specializes in engine and chassis tuning as well as full service professional race car preparation. The company also provides electrical and mechanical engineering services, driver development and arrive-and-drive opportunities. TRG is based in Petaluma, Calif., near its home track of Infineon Raceway in Sonoma. The company's NASCAR operation is based in Mooresville, North Carolina and a new state-of-the-art facility is coming on-line at New Jersey Motorsports Park in late 2009.

More information and a complete press kit can be found at www.theracersgroup.com. Please contact press@theracersgroup.com or 707-935-3999 for additional information.