



Michael Shank Racing Takes 6th and 10th on NJMP GRID

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Tune In: SPEED, Sunday, 1:00 PM ET

MILLVILLE, NJ, 17 July--Returning to a track where the team scored a convincing victory in 2008, Michael Shank Racing will look to duplicate that feat on Sunday after both team Daytona Prototype entries scored top-ten positions in qualifying at New Jersey Motorsports Park on Saturday.

Leading the team charge will be Brian Frisselle in the No. 6 Dallara-Ford that carries the Rocky Fork Company colors. Frisselle will start the 2.75-hour Rolex Sports Car Series presented by Crown Royal race from the third row before turning the machine over to Michael Valiante to take to the finish.

The day opened with a pair of practice sessions before Ozz Negri and John Pew were invited to participate in a meet and greet with participants in a Susan Koman event on the track grounds before returning to the paddock for the qualifying session.

The sister No. 60 Crown Royal XR Ford Riley of Negri and Pew will roll off the combined Daytona Prototype and GT Class grid from tenth on Sunday after Pew clocked his personal best time of the weekend to take the spot on the fifth row.

"We have a very good car once again this weekend," said Pew after the session. "Once I set my quick time, I was working harder to go even quicker but I probably ended up over-driving it a little bit. But you have to work hard in qualifying and I was giving it my all. We've improved a lot already this weekend, and I'm really happy with where we are with the car and hopefully we can keep the momentum we have in the championship going."

Negri's constant smile through the day was likely the best indicator of the state of play for the No. 60 entry as the No. 6 Dallara also continued to pick up speed through the event.

"The car's balance was better than it has been all weekend but we still struggled a little bit with getting the power down so we weren't as far forward as we wanted to be today," said Frisselle. "The car is good on corner entry, and it is really stable through the middle of the corner. But with the track temperatures being what they are, it's very slippery out there. I

think we have a good car for tomorrow so we will see what we can do when the race starts.”

The track temps soared to nearly 140 degrees in the mid-summer July heat and humidity, but the team has kept the focus with both cars on having Daytona Prototypes that can once again compete for podiums on race day.

“We’ve barely had to make any changes for the Crown Royal car so far this weekend and both Ozz and John feel like we’ve got a great car for the race tomorrow, so we’re just going to keep doing what we’ve been doing with the 60,” said team owner Mike Shank about the car that currently sits third in the team championship standings. “We are still learning a lot with the Dallara and we’ve made a lot more progress this weekend. We’ve got some more changes in mind and have a practice session in the morning to try some things to get even better for the race.”

Make sure to tune in to SPEED at 1:00 PM ET for Live coverage of the Rolex Sports Car Series.

Source: www.michaelshankracing.com
www.sundaymanagement.com



About Michael Shank Racing:

Based in Columbus, Ohio, Michael Shank Racing was formed in 1989 when Mike Shank first began driving racing cars professionally. Shank retired from the cockpit in 1997 to focus his efforts on running the team, which quickly found success in the Champ Car Toyota Atlantic Championship. With several race wins under his belt, Shank was named as Team Owner of the Year twice in four years. Michael Shank Racing joined the Rolex Sports Car Series in 2004 as the team proved as quick in endurance racing as in the sprint formula car format. Michael Shank Racing scored a debut Rolex Series win in 2006 at Miller Motorsports Park, and fans selected the victory as the 2007 Rolex “Moment of the Year.” After opening the 2008 season with a front-row sweep of the Rolex 24 At Daytona, the team closed out the year taking wins in the final two races of the year.



About Crown Royal Canadian Whisky:

Crown Royal Canadian whisky is the number one selling Canadian whisky brand in the US by value and has a tradition as long and distinctive as its taste. Specially blended to commemorate a grand tour of Canada made by King George VI and Queen Elizabeth of Great Britain in 1939, Crown Royal Canadian whisky’s smooth, elegant style reflects its aristocratic origins and is considered the epitome of Canadian whisky.

For more information visit www.crownroyal.com.

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About Diageo:

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