

WTCC

FIA World Touring Car
Championship



ROUNDS 13 & 14 – DONINGTON PARK, UK RACE REPORT

Weather: cloudy with a threat of rain, but the track was dry

MULLER STRIKES BACK AND CUTS POINT GAP

Yvan Muller struck back in Donington Park, claiming a double victory and cutting by half his gap in the points from Rob Huff that is now of 15 points only.

The Chevrolet team is a steamroller and his drivers are re-writing the WTCC book of records, including 13 race wins in the same season and two back-to-back victories in the same weekend for the same driver (Huff in Monza, Muller at Donington).

The fight between the two Muller and Huff for the WTCC title becomes hotter and hotter as again one of the races was decided by a controversial manoeuvre. Two weeks ago in Porto Huff stole the leadership from Muller by cutting a chicane, today in Donington Muller overtook Huff after hitting the rear bumper of his car, which will cost him three positions on the starting grid for the next race at Oschersleben.

As for Alain Menu, he seems now relegated in the role of the 'third man' having lost more points from his team-mates; despite he finished third and fifth in today's races, the Swiss racer is not 71 and 56 points behind the two leaders.

Franz Engstler had his best weekend ever in WTCC, winning both races in the Yokohama Trophy and claiming his first overall podium in the championship.

The championship will resume at Oschersleben, Germany, on July 31st for rounds 15 and 16.

RACE 1 – MULLER WINS FROM HUFF AND MENU

Chevrolet drivers Yvan Muller, Rob Huff and Alain Menu finished one-two-three once again, in the same order they qualified on Saturday.

The trio of blue cars took command from the start and created a gap, leaving the rest of the field to fight for the positions from fourth downwards.

Tom Coronel won the duel with Gabriele Tarquini and claimed fourth position, while Franz Engstler finished sixth and won the Yokohama Trophy.

Robert Dahlgren and Colin Turkington had reasons to regret for being classified eighth and tenth respectively.

The Swede was quickly elbowing his way up from the 19th starting position, but his efforts were frustrated by a clash with Kristian Poulsen. The pace of his Volvo was impressive and with a better qualifying he could have fought with Coronel and Tarquini.

As for Turkington, his hopes for a brilliant result vanished after only three corners, when he went on the grass and lost several places.

Key moments

Start – Muller sprints from pole position and takes the lead, from Huff and Menu

Lap 1 – Tarquini jumps to second as Turkington cuts onto the grass at Craner and rejoins at Starkeys Bridge dropping to 10th

Lap 2 – Nykjær overtakes Poulsen for seventh

Lap 3 – Dahlgren overtakes Turkington for ninth

Lap 4 – Coronel overtakes Tarquini for fourth

Lap 5 – Nykjær, Poulsen, Dahlgren, Turkington and O'Young have a fight for 7th



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Lap 6 – Dahlgren and Poulsen make contact, the Volvo climbs on the BMW's tail
Lap 6 – Michelisz spins at Melbourne
Lap 7 – O'Young and Bennani have a clash
Lap 8 – Bennani overtakes Barth for tenth
Lap 10 – it starts to rain; Taniguchi spins at the Fogarty esses
Lap 12 – Bennani and Barth make contact at Goddards, Bennani spins
Lap 13 – Huff cuts the Fogarty esses while chasing Muller
Lap 13 – Dahlgren overtakes Poulsen for eighth

Withdrawals

T. Monteiro: broken suspension; N. Michelisz: steering wheel.

RACE 2 – MULLER AND HUFF ENCORE

Yvan Muller and Rob Huff encored their Race 1 result, finishing first and second again in today's second race.

Chevrolet point men had to recover from their 10th and 9th positions on the starting grid and were given a big help by the competitors in front of them who were involved in a series of collisions during the first laps. These collisions eliminated Tiago Monteiro and Michel Nykjær and delayed Colin Turkington, Tom Coronel and Javier Villa.

Just like in Portugal, Muller and Huff were also involved in a controversial action that saw the Frenchman hitting the back of his rival's car and taking advantage for moving ahead. An action that is currently investigated by the Stewards.

Franz Engstler claimed third position (and victory in the Yokohama Trophy), his best result ever in the championship. The German racer managed to stay off the incidents and rejected Coronel's assaults in the final laps.

Key moments

Start – Coronel takes the lead, from Villa, Engstler and Turkington

Lap 1 – Nykjær, Monteiro and Tarquini come together into the Fogarty esses; Monteiro and Nykjær retire while Menu benefits from the incident and move up to fifth

Lap 2 - Villa takes the lead from Coronel, who drives wide at Mc Leans a drops to fifth

Lap 2 – Menu overtakes Turkington for third; Turkington drives onto the grass

Lap 2 – Muller hits Huff at Goddards and overtakes him for sixth

Lap 3 – Menu and Villa make contact at the Fogarty esses; Menu cuts the chicane, Villa pits for repairs, Tarquini, Muller and Huff are promoted to second, third and fourth

Lap 5 – Muller and Huff overtake Tarquini and climb to second and third

Lap 5 – Muller and Huff overtake Engstler and climb to first and second

Lap 6 – Coronel takes fourth from Tarquini

Lap 7 – Poulsen and Michelisz tangle at Goddards while fighting for eighth

Lap 9 – Menu overtakes Tarquini for fifth

Lap 10 - it starts to rain

Lap 11 – Coronel is on the tail of Engstler's car

Lap 12 – Dahlgren overtakes Tarquini for sixth

Withdrawals

T. Monteiro: race incident; M. Nykjær: race incident.

FLASH NEWS

RADISICH RETURNS TO DONINGTON PARK

Paul Radisich was among the famous guests who paid a visit to the WTCC paddock at Donington Park this weekend.

The New Zealander was one of the most successful touring car drivers of the Nineties, racing in the British Touring Car Championship against the likes of Gabriele Tarquini, Alain Menu and Roberto Ravaglia.

His most important achievements were the two FIA Touring Car World Cup titles at Monza in 1993 and Donington Park in 1994, both at the wheel of a Ford Mondeo.

MULLER, POULSEN AND FABIANI PUNISHED BY THE STEWARDS

The Panel of the Stewards investigated on a few controversial actions including the contact between Yvan Muller and Rob Huff during the second race that cost the French a drop of three positions on the grid for the next race

Kristian Poulsen also received a drop of five positions on the grid for the next race because of the incident he had with Norbert Michelisz in Race 2.

Fabio Fabiani was excluded from both races, from the first because Proteam Racing crew worked on his car during the parc fermé period and from the second for not using the WTCC official fuel.

THE WORD TO MULLER AND HUFF

Yvan MULLER – winner of Races 1 and 2: *“Two victories in the same weekend is a great result. It was important for me to reduce the gap in the points and I was able to cut it by half. In the first race the most important thing was to keep the lead at the first corner. Then my car was perfect and faster than the others, so it was just a matter of avoiding mistakes, But in the end there was a little bit of rain and it became a complicated to drive. During the second race there was a lot happening between the drivers in front of me and this helped me to gain some positions. I hit Rob and overtook him like he did it at Porto. It was a race incident, it was not intentional...”*

Rob HUFF – second in Races 1 and 2: *“Unfortunately I lost a lot of points today, but I am still leading by 15, which is good news. During Race 1 I tried to catch up with Yvan, but it was impossible to find a way for overtaking him. In the final laps, when he slowed down a bit because of the rain, I was hoping in some little mistakes, but he didn’t make any. In the second race I was hit from behind by Yvan and he jumped ahead of me. Like Yvan said in Porto, it is just a matter to know what is allowed and what is not... Now we’ll see what happens in the next races and for sure we will be fighting again for pole positions and victories.”*

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RACE 1 RESULT

POS	NO	CL	DRIVER	NAT	CAR	TIME	LAPS	GAP	KPH	BEST
1	1		Yvan MULLER	FRA	Chevrolet Cruze 1.6T	21:21.521	13		146.01	1:37.462
2	2		Robert HUFF	GBR	Chevrolet Cruze 1.6T	21:22.657	13	1.136	145.88	1:37.380
3	8		Alain MENU	CHE	Chevrolet Cruze 1.6T	21:25.424	13	3.903	145.57	1:37.623
4	15		Tom CORONEL	NLD	BMW 320 TC	21:30.229	13	8.708	145.03	1:38.052
5	3		Gabriele TARQUINI	ITA	Sunred SR Leon 1.6T	21:30.820	13	9.299	144.96	1:37.993
6	12	Y	Franz ENGSTLER	DEU	BMW 320 TC	21:35.707	13	14.186	144.41	1:38.246
7	17	Y	Michel NYKJAER	DNK	Sunred SR Leon 1.6T	21:40.495	13	18.974	143.88	1:38.704
8	30		Robert DAHLGREN	SWE	Volvo C30 Drive	21:40.712	13	19.191	143.86	1:37.975
9	11	Y	Kristian POULSEN	DNK	BMW 320 TC	21:42.057	13	20.536	143.71	1:38.660
10	29	Y	Colin TURKINGTON	GBR	BMW 320 TC	21:50.325	13	28.804	142.80	1:38.209
11	9	Y	Darryl O'YOUNG	HKG	Chevrolet Cruze 1.6T	21:51.352	13	29.831	142.69	1:38.073
12	74	Y	Pepe ORIOLA	ESP	Sunred SR Leon 1.6T	21:51.487	13	29.966	142.68	1:39.635
13	7	Y	Fredy BARTH	CHE	Sunred SR Leon 1.6T	21:55.614	13	34.093	142.23	1:38.654
14	25	Y	Mehdi BENNANI	MAR	BMW 320 TC	21:56.047	13	34.526	142.18	1:38.487
15	4	Y	Aleksei DUDUKALO	RUS	Sunred SR Leon 1.6T	22:00.940	13	39.419	141.66	1:39.614
16	10	Y	Yukinori TANIGUCHI	JPN	Chevrolet Cruze 1.6T	22:29.459	13	1:07.938	138.66	1:39.529
17	20	Y	Javier VILLA	ESP	BMW 320 TC	21:58.874	12	1 LAP	130.95	1:38.565
NOT CLASSIFIED										
5	Y	Norbert MICHELISZ	HUN	BMW 320 TC	22:04.832	7	N.C.F.	75.97	1:38.487	
18		Tiago MONTEIRO	PRT	Sunred SR Leon 1.6T	17:01.666	4	D.N.F.	56.20	1:38.805	
FASTEST LAP										
2		Robert HUFF		Chevrolet Cruze 1.6T	1:37.380	4	147.98kph	91.95mph		
9	Y	Darryl O'YOUNG		Chevrolet Cruze 1.6T	1:38.073	3	146.94kph	91.30mph		

Car 21 excluded. Stewards decision 10 refers.
Weather/Track: Cloud 16C/Wet 19C

Donington Park
Circuit Length = 4.0030 km.
Start: 12:03 End: 12:24

Steward:	Steward:	Steward:
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RACE 2 RESULT

POS	NO	CLS	DRIVER / TEAM	NAT	CAR	TIME	LAPS	GAP	KPH	BEST
1	1		Yvan MULLER	FRA	Chevrolet Cruze 1.6T	21:33.182	13		144.70	1:37.993
2	2		Robert HUFF	GBR	Chevrolet Cruze 1.6T	21:34.139	13	0.957	144.59	1:38.274
3	12	Y	Franz ENGSTLER	DEU	BMW 320 TC	21:36.858	13	3.676	144.29	1:38.585
4	15		Tom CORONEL	NLD	BMW 320 TC	21:38.008	13	4.826	144.16	1:38.563
5	8		Alain MENU	CHE	Chevrolet Cruze 1.6T	21:41.574	13	8.392	143.76	1:38.857
6	30		Robert DAHLGREN	SWE	Volvo C30 Drive	21:42.198	13	9.016	143.69	1:38.741
7	3		Gabriele TARQUINI	ITA	Sunred SR Leon 1.6T	21:44.769	13	11.587	143.41	1:38.493
8	9	Y	Darryl O'YOUNG	HKG	Chevrolet Cruze 1.6T	21:46.213	13	13.031	143.25	1:39.228
9	25	Y	Mehdi BENNANI	MAR	BMW 320 TC	21:47.141	13	13.959	143.15	1:39.173
10	29	Y	Colin TURKINGTON	GBR	BMW 320 TC	21:47.844	13	14.662	143.07	1:38.488
11	7	Y	Fredy BARTH	CHE	Sunred SR Leon 1.6T	21:52.875	13	19.693	142.53	1:39.544
12	5	Y	Norbert MICHELISZ	HUN	BMW 320 TC	21:57.984	13	24.802	141.97	1:39.144
13	10	Y	Yukinori TANIGUCHI	JPN	Chevrolet Cruze 1.6T	22:04.828	13	31.646	141.24	1:40.080
14	4	Y	Aleksei DUDUKALO	RUS	Sunred SR Leon 1.6T	22:06.677	13	33.495	141.04	1:39.695
15	74	Y	Pepe ORIOLA	ESP	Sunred SR Leon 1.6T	22:59.853	13	1:26.671	135.61	1:39.095
16	20	Y	Javier VILLA	ESP	BMW 320 TC	21:55.344	12	1 LAP	131.30	1:39.194
17	11	Y	Kristian POULSEN	DNK	BMW 320 TC	15:37.718	9	4 LAPS	138.08	1:39.395

NOT CLASSIFIED

18			Tiago MONTEIRO	PRT	Sunred SR Leon 1.6T	2:37.377	1	D.N.F.	90.19	
17	Y		Michel NYKJAER	DNK	Sunred SR Leon 1.6T		0	D.N.F.	N/A	

FASTEST LAP

1			Yvan MULLER		Chevrolet Cruze 1.6T	1:37.993	6	91.37mph	147.05kph	
29	Y		Colin TURKINGTON		BMW 320 TC	1:38.488	6	90.91mph	146.32kph	

Car 21 excluded, Stewards Decision 14 refers.

Weather/Track: Bright 19C/Drying 27C

Donington Park

Circuit Length = 4.0030 km.

Start: 14:18 End: 14:40

Steward:	Steward:	Steward:	Issued at:
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2011 FIA WORLD TOURING CAR CHAMPIONSHIP - DRIVERS' CHAMPIONSHIP

position	driver	Curitiba (BRA) 20 March		Zolder (BEL) 24 April		Monza (ITA) 15 May		Budapest (HUN) 5 June		Brno (CZE) 19 June		Porto (PRT) 3 July		Donington (GBR) 17 July		Oschersleben (DEU) 31 July		Valencia (ESP) 4 September		Suzuka (JPN) 23 October		Zhaoqing (CHN) 6 November		Macau (CHN) 20 November		TOTAL
1	Robert HUFF (GBR)	25	12	25	8	25	25	12	18	25	12	15	25	18	18											263
2	Yvan MULLER (FRA)	18	15	15	0	18	18	10	25	18	25	18	18	25	25											248
3	Alain MENU (CHE)	8	25	18	18	0	10	25	0	15	15	25	8	15	10											192
4	Tom CORONEL (NLD)	12	18	0	0	10	0	0	12	12	18	8	10	12	12											124
5	Gabriele TARQUINI (ITA)	6	8	12	25	0	1	8	15	0	8	10	6	10	6											115
6	Tiago MONTEIRO (PRT)	0	6	10	15	15	12	6	10	0	0	12	15	0	0											101
7	Norbert MICHELISZ (HUN)	-	-	6	4	12	6	18	0	4	0	4	12	0	0											66
8	Kristian POULSEN (DNK)	10	0	8	0	8	15	2	0	10	4	0	0	2	0											59
9	Javier VILLA (ESP)	0	4	2	1	4	4	15	6	2	6	0	0	0	0											44
10	Franz ENGSTLER (DEU)	2	2	0	0	2	2	0	8	0	0	0	4	8	15											43
11	Darryl O'YOUNG (CHN)	0	0	1	12	6	8	0	4	6	0	0	2	0	4											43
12	Michel NYKJÆR (DNK)	4	0	4	10	0	0	0	0	1	10	2	0	6	0											37
13	Robert DAHLGREN (SWE)	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	2	8	2	6	0	4	8											36
14	Carlos BUENO (BRA)	15	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-											25
15	Fredy BARTH (CHE)	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	1	0	0	0	1	0	0											7
16	Mehdi BENNANI (MAR)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2											4
17	Aleksei DUDUKALO (RUS)	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0											2
18	Pepe ORIOLA (ESP)	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0											2
18	Colin TURKINGTON (GBR)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1											2
20	Stefano D'ASTE (ITA)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	-	-											1

2011 FIA WORLD TOURING CAR CHAMPIONSHIP - MANUFACTURERS' CHAMPIONSHIP

position	manufacturer	Curitiba (BRA) 20 March		Zolder (BEL) 24 April		Monza (ITA) 15 May		Budapest (HUN) 5 June		Brno (CZE) 19 June		Porto (PRT) 3 July		Donington (GBR) 17 July		Oschersleben (DEU) 31 July		Valencia (ESP) 4 September		Suzuka (JPN) 23 October		Zhaoqing (CHN) 6 November		Macau (CHN) 20 November		TOTAL
1	CHEVROLET	43	40	43	30	43	43	37	43	43	40	43	43	43	43											577
2	BMW Customer Racing Teams	27	26	18	14	22	25	33	20	27	26	16	22	25	27											328
3	SR Customer Racing	18	22	27	40	23	20	18	25	14	22	27	23	20	14											313
4	VOLVO Polestar Evaluation Team	6	6	6	10	6	6	0	6	10	6	8	6	6	10											92