

# P O R S C H E C O R R A L & H O S P I T A L I T Y T E N T

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Virginia International Raceway



## Saturday & Sunday

Saturday and Sunday had warm mornings and hot afternoons. The weather did nothing to spoil the fun and socializing.

## Hospitality Tent

Some Porsche owners watched the events from inside the Hospitality Tent, and participated in Hospitality Tent events.

## In the Corral

The number of Porsches in the corral is always substantial. The number of SUVs increases each year. Porsche popularity continues to be high.

## In the Paddock & On the Track

From team haulers to car repairs, the activity in the paddock is always happening. Some relax in the hauler, others make adjustments to the cars.

## Porsche Parade Laps

Sunday afternoon brings Porsche Parade Laps. Up to 100 Porsche vehicles can participate. While not near like actual racing, they are fun.

## Afterthoughts

Between Saturday morning qualifying sessions and Sunday afternoon's main event, there was time for many activities around VIR.

## Saturday & Sunday

Upon arrival early Saturday morning, the Prototype Challenge cars were already on the track for a practice session. Qualifying for the Mazda MX-5, Lamborghini Trofeo, and Prototype Challenge races completed the morning.

Afternoon activities began with Race 1 of the Mazda MX-5 series, then Race 1 of the Lamborghini Trofeo series. The main race of the day began late afternoon with a start time of 4:40 PM. The Virginia Is For Racing Lovers Grand Prix For The Michelin Pilot Challenge was full of action and close racing. This 2-hour race made for a full day of racing activities.

Sunday morning racing began with the Prototype Challenge followed by race 2 of the Mazda MX-5 series and Race 2 of the Lamborghini Trofeo series.

Afternoon began with the very popular Porsche Parade Laps. The track was busy after lunch with preparation for the main event, The Michelin GT Challenge at VIR for the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship.

## In The Hospitality Tent



Inside the Hospitality Tent there were additional activities for Porsche owners. Both mornings began with coffee and doughnuts.

Saturday activities had registration for the Michelin Tire Workshop Tour and Pfaff Motorsports Team Transporter Tour, along with a raffle for a Hot Pit Experience. The Pfaff Motorsports driver Q&A gave us insight into how they intended to win their class, which they did. Thankfully there were plenty of cold beverages to help with the heat of the day.

Sunday activities included a Mobil 1 Technical Presentation, a Michelin Technical Presentation and a Michelin raffle.

It was a very interesting and busy weekend. Let's do it again next year.



View of the Hospitality Tent from track-side.

## In The Porsche Corral

The Porsche Corral hosted mostly Porsche cars and an increasing number of Porsche SUVs. The popularity of Porsche SUVs increases each year, as indicated by the corral. Many owners have a Porsche car and a Porsche SUV. There were mostly modern era cars as few air cooled 911 models were observed. Of the modern era models, most were represented. Whatever your preference, there is always a spot for your Porsche in the Porsche Corral and driving parade laps.

## In The Paddock



Prototype Challenge cars being prepared for their next event. Lots of work is taking place.



A Lamborghini Trofeo is ready and waiting to go.



How much is that BMW in the paddock?

## On The Track

There was plenty of racing action both days. With different race series and multiple races, there was something for everyone to see.



Prototype Challenge cars on their pace laps prior to the Prototype Challenge race.

What type of racing do you like? If it is sports cars, Virginia International Raceway is the place to be in August. With most major brands participating, every sports car lover should have an opportunity to see a favorite make in action. With the Prototype cars race added, there is even more interesting racing to be seen.

Even the parking area is worthy of a visit. Porsche, BMW, and Corvette have corrals, making a walk through the corral almost mandatory. Many vintage cars are scattered around the parking areas. Sunday's Open Grid/Fan Walk allows spectators to walk along pit road with cars and drivers there for photos.



GT Daytona Porsches at the start of the race. The blue #16 Wright Motorsports Porsche GT3 R finished 5th in class, the #99 Team Hardpoint Porsche GT3 R finished 10th in class.



GTD cars at the start of the race. There are Mercedes, Acura, Lexus, Corvette, and others. There are many cars racing close together.



The #9 Pfaff Motorsports Porsche GT3 R won the GTD PRO class.

## Afterthoughts

Though the weather was August Virginia hot, the racing was hotter. All races were tightly contested with the usual bump here and there. For race fans it was a near perfect weekend with no rain and plenty of activities to go along with the action.

Below, the trucks that bring the race cars to the track. Several major brands were parked in the paddock.

## Appreciation

Porsche Club of America, Sponsor of the Hospitality Tent and Porsche Corral.

Aaron Ambrosino, PCA Vice President. Attendance by PCA leaders enables the participants to show how much the Corral and Hospitality Tent are enjoyed by Porsche owners.

Lynn Friedman, Porscheplatz/PCA Car Corral Coordinator. She always has a great event.

Phil Grandfield, Zone 2 Representative. His first event at VIR was a success.

Volunteers, without them there is no event. Nothing else to be said.

Virginia International Raceway, allows PCA to have some events Porsche owners like.

IMSA, allows PCA to have some events Porsche owners like.



## Porsche Parade Laps



Start/Finish line at Virginia International Raceway.

One of the highly anticipated events is the Parade Laps. Driving on the track at low speeds allows the driver and passenger a chance to experience being on a real racetrack and do a little sightseeing from a different perspective. Each year there is no shortage of participants. Some have dash cameras, others have a passenger with a camera.



Roller Coaster at Virginia International Raceway.

One may desire to go faster, but safety comes first. The rules are well explained at the driver meeting. The consequences of not obeying the rules could get one denied parade laps, or worse, cause a safety issue.

As the photographs show, speeds are not high. The view from the track always gives new participants a very different perspective added to their fan experience.





A Prototype Challenge car negotiates Nascar Bend and heads for Left Hook during a practice session.