



Communications Motorsport

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Audi RS 5 DTM before premiere in England

- **DTM to race on Grand Prix Circuit at Brands Hatch for the first time**
- **Audi drivers on technically challenging old-school track**

Neuburg a. d. Donau/Brands Hatch, August 6, 2018 – At Brands Hatch (England), the Audi DTM teams will start the second half of the season on the weekend of August 11/12. For the first time, the popular touring car racing series is using the tradition-steeped Grand Prix Circuit. A very challenging track profile with high cornering speeds is in store for the six Audi drivers.

The 3.908-kilometer race track on the outskirts of London has been the venue of major auto races since the 1950s. It is regarded as a true drivers' track that separates the wheat from the chaff. The DTM most recently visited Brands Hatch in 2013. At that time, Audi driver Mike Rockenfeller won on the shorter Indy Circuit. "I'm really happy that we're finally going to race on the longer track at Brands Hatch," says Head of Audi Motorsport Dieter Gass.

British Audi driver Jamie Green can hardly wait to be on the grid at Brands Hatch with the Audi RS 5 DTM as well. "The Grand Prix Circuit is an old-school track with many long corners, a little like Zandvoort," says the local hero. "That'll be pretty exciting for us drivers – a high-speed challenge. I've never won a DTM race at home. It would be great to do so this year."

Not only the demanding roller coaster track in the woods of the County of Kent poses a special challenge to the six Audi drivers, Loïc Duval, Robin Frijns, Jamie Green, Nico Müller, René Rast and Mike Rockenfeller. None of the teams has any previous experience with a DTM car on the Grand Prix Circuit, plus, due to noise control around the race track, the usual Friday practice will be omitted. Two 25-minute free practice sessions early Saturday morning will directly be followed by qualifying for race one. Only 20 minutes will be available before qualifying for Sunday's race.

"This makes finding an optimal setup more difficult, but the conditions are the same for everyone," says Dieter Gass. "The track profile is similar to the ones of Zandvoort and Budapest. That's why we're hoping to perform like we did on those two tracks." At Budapest, Nico Müller clinched a podium for the four rings and at Zandvoort, René Rast the first Audi victory this season.



The Grand Prix circuit at Brands Hatch is characterized by several fast right-hand turns that heavily stress the left front tire in particular. The corners in the woods are all more than 170 km/h fast. At the fastest point of the race track, the Audi RS 5 DTM, according to simulations, achieves a top speed of some 250 km/h with an open DRS rear wing before the driver brakes in front of the Hawthorns Bend. By contrast, the cars are driven through the Druids hairpin bend on the Indy Circuit at merely 75 km/h.

The two DTM races will start on Saturday (August 11) and on Sunday (August 12) at 1.30 PM local time (2.30 CEST), respectively. SAT.1 will air live coverage in Germany starting on both days at 2 PM (CEST).

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