

## The Continental Tire Sportscar Challenge Begins

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: (Daytona Beach, Florida) January 25, 2014** After months of planning and preparation the big moment had arrived – the BMW Performance 200 here at the legendary Daytona International Speedway. This race kicks off the 2014 Continental Tire Sportscar Challenge season with a field of twenty-nine GS class cars and thirty-five ST class.

On arrival in Florida Rebel Rock / MBRP Racing, drivers Martin Barkey and Kyle Marcelli visited Camp Boggy Creek to support the CTSC Drivers orientation day there. Boggy Creek provides seriously ill children and their families with a fun-filled camp experience in a safe, medically sound environment. The CTSC series supports this camp, which depends on over \$4 million dollars a year in donations and the support of 1800 volunteers to be able to continue to provide this much needed support.



Things started out very positive for the team with both Barkey and Marcelli posting their fastest laps in the first practice runs. Unfortunately, in motorsports you can only expect the unexpected. This was doubly true for Rebel Rock / MBRP Racing's #08 Porsche 911. During the second practice session on Wednesday, with driver Kyle Marcelli at the wheel, a fuel leak caused a fire to the left rear of the car.

Back in the pits, the team determined that the car needed a new motor, new wiring harness and new gearbox due to severe fire damage. True to the collaborative nature of the sport, another race team generously made their local facilities

available to the team. In a further amazing stroke of luck they just happened to have a fresh new motor and wiring harness in a crashed Porsche sitting at their shop.

Working at a pace that was nothing short of amazing the Rebel Rock / MBRP team had the car back on the ground running and tested by 1:30 a.m. In spite of what appeared to be overwhelming damage, the crew stepped up to the challenge and #08 was ready for Thursday morning's practice where again Barkey and Marcelli were able to improve on their lap times.

Qualifying in the afternoon the Rebel Rock / MBRP team had the car perfectly set-up but a red flag on first lap put the entire field on a "one lap qualifying" situation. Barkey qualified the car 20th in a 29-car field - not what he wanted but still respectable for this field.

Friday, race day started strong and through the first lap Barkey was able to hold his position. However, on the second lap his car made contact with another GS sending him back to the garage for repairs. Once again, the Rebel Rock team went to work on the #08 car, beating body panels back into place, installing several suspension and steering components and replacing a damaged rim and tire.

By the time the car got back on the track forty minutes of race time had been lost placing them far back on the grid. The #08 car was able take to the track for the few remaining laps before the checkered flag finally came down.

"I am super impressed with the Rebel Rock / MBRP race team." said driver Martin Barkey, following the weekend's event. "These guys really had their hands held to the fire this race weekend. They handled everything in an extremely professional manner. It is easy to tell they really want to be at the racetrack. Every single time they came out on top giving Kyle and me a great car to practice and compete with. "

You can check out all of the most recent pics, videos, driver bio's and up to date racing news at <u>http://www.martinbarkeyracing.ca</u>. For high-octane, edge of your seat action it's the place to go.

## **Image Gallery**

<u>Click Here</u> to view our image gallery for all of the pictures of this exciting event.



For more information about Martin Barkey Racing please email Martin Barkey at mb@mbrp.com.

For more info regarding this release please email <u>marketing@mbrp.com</u>.

We continue to invite sponsors for the 2014 season as Martin Barkey and the rest of the Rebel Rock / MBRP Racing team take on the Continental Tire Sportscar Challenge. Learn more about our current sponsors by clicking the links below.



