

NICK MANCUSO **R**ACING

NICK MANCUSO MAINTAINS PIRELLI WORLD CHALLENGE GT-A POINTS LEAD DESPITE TROUBLE AT THE LONG BEACH GRAND PRIX



Long Beach Grand Prix / Long Beach, CA (April 13, 2014) – After securing a 2nd place GT-A finish at the previous round in St. Petersburg, Ferrari driver Nick Mancuso looked all but set to secure his first GT-A win at the Long Beach Grand Prix until a tire puncture forced him to pit lane in the closing laps. Driving the #16 Ferrari Lake Forest/Wounded Wear 458 GT3 entry prepared by R. Ferri Motorsport, Mancuso fought his way up the grid from 7th place, but went from the lead to eventually finish 8th in the GTA class of Pirelli World Challenge competition after an unscheduled pit stop to replace the damaged tire.

Running in conjunction with IndyCar at the Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach, 40 Pirelli World Challenge racecars took the Formula One-style standing start and what ensued could only be described as a chaotic street fight. While squeezing into the tight Turn 1 wedged between McLaren, Audi and Porsche GT3 machinery, Mancuso was tagged in the rear corner on lap 1 which began a slow leak in the right rear tire.

Mancuso, still a newcomer to the exceedingly quick GT3 machinery, acquitted himself rather well before the tire went down setting a blisteringly quick lap of 1:21.866 around the famed circuit; less than a tenth of a second off of his vastly more experienced teammate Anthony

Lazzaro and well below the existing Long Beach track record lap time. “I had such a fast Ferrari racecar under me and the R. Ferri Motorsport boys worked so hard all weekend I just feel bad for them that we didn’t get the finish we deserved” stated Mancuso. “I was actually trying to be pretty cautious through Turn 1 at the start, but the bottleneck effect meant nearly everyone had some level of contact.” Losing a few spots after the contact, Mancuso set into a rhythm of setting fast times lap after lap and picked off his competition one by one. After working his way into the lead of the GT-A race, and holding this position for quite some time, on lap 27 of 32 Nick’s right rear tire finally let go. “It’s unfortunate for sure, but some racecars were totaled in this race and the R. Ferri team got me back out so quickly that we still salvaged an 8th place finish. We’re just going to take the points we can get and move on. A bad day in a Ferrari 458 racecar is still a pretty good day, relatively speaking, so we have to keep everything in perspective; plus it’s a long season and we won’t stop fighting!”

Next up for the #16 Ferrari Lake Forest entry is the Honda Indy Grand Prix of Alabama April 25-27th in Birmingham, Alabama. Mancuso heads into Round 3 maintaining the GT-A class points lead; albeit with a much smaller margin to 2nd place!

The Long Beach race will air Sunday, April 20th at 5:30pm EST on NBC Sports Network. You can also view the race at www.World-ChallengeTV.com. You can find more information by following Nick on Twitter @NickMancusoRace and checking NickMancusoRacing.com.



About Nick Mancuso

Nick Mancuso is one of the more interesting and accomplished drivers in Pirelli World Challenge. In addition to his racing activities, he was inducted into the Cum Laude society, made a member of the National Honor Society and chosen as a National Merit Scholar before graduating from the University of California, Santa Barbara in 2009. He is a black belt in Shotokan Karate and an 'extreme adventurer' with hobbies that include spearfishing, Krav Maga, skydiving and capturing/photographing reptiles in the wild.

About R.Ferri Motorsports

Led by Remo Ferri, R.Ferri Motorsport Racing with Ferrari is in its first full season of competition in the Pirelli World Challenge. Founded in 1991, R.Ferri Motorsport is a professional Canadian racing team headquartered in Toronto, Ontario and races in partnership with the Remo Ferri Group of Automobiles including Ferrari of Ontario, Toronto and Alberta. R.Ferri Motorsport also provides technical, racing, and logistical support for the North American Ferrari Challenge along with other exclusive customer track events. Learn more at www.rferrimotorsport.com.

About Ferrari Lake Forest

Ferrari Lake Forest is a world-class, 70,000 square foot luxury automotive dealership located in the Chicagoland area. The success of Ferrari Lake Forest lies not only in the DNA of its cars, but also the people who stand behind it- the Mancuso family. An automotive family since 1923, it is now the fourth generation of Mancusos carrying on the family tradition of selling quality automotive products while quickly becoming one of the most well respected names in motorsport. Please visit www.FerrariLakeForest.com for more information.

About Wounded Wear

Wounded Wear is a non-profit organization founded by Jason Redman, a decorated Navy SEAL and author of *The Trident*, who was gravely injured in a firefight while pursuing a High-Value Al Qaeda leader. Wounded Wear enables wounded warriors to "Rediscover The Hero Within" by providing free clothing and clothing modifications to these individuals. WW also raises the national awareness of the sacrifices made by wounded veterans and their families. Please visit www.WoundedWear.org for more information.

Take a ride with Nick around Long Beach by visiting the Nick Mancuso Racing YouTube channel. For additional information, please visit <http://www.nickmancusoracing.com>. For photos, interviews, etc., contact Nick directly at Nick@NickMancusoRacing.com

