

# IMSA Media Conference

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Daytona, Florida, USA

**Antonio Garcia**

**Alexander Sims**

**Jessica Dane**

Press Conference



ALEXANDER SIMS: It's wonderful. Honestly, the year we've had has been really quite phenomenal. We've executed very, very well at pretty much every single weekend.

Our Corvette has been working well at many of the circuits, if not all of them. Although we hadn't necessarily always had the fastest car, it's been a really nice car to drive, consistent, and easy to extract the pace out of it.

Yeah, when a fourth or a third was the best possible result we could get, then that's what we got. Then, yeah, with a second or a first, like at Virginia, was possible, then we were able to get that. Consistency was executed super well throughout the year.

Antonio, Danny, both have -- well, yeah, and myself, I think we've had pretty flawless races most of the season. Very little damage on the car, things like that that would put us back. It's just been be a really nice, smooth year.

THE MODERATOR: Jess, 16 championships for the team, 40 for Chevrolet. What does that say about the legacy of this program and what does it mean to add another one here tonight?

JESSICA DANE: Yeah, the stats are fairly phenomenal, and for me I came onto this program literally a year ago, and understanding the depth and the history of Chevrolet in motorsport, Corvette in motorsport, it's something in the grand scheme of things, I'm a tiny blip on that radar.

It's really an honor to be a part of that from a personal perspective, but from a broader perspective, yeah, it's just testament to everyone at General Motors and Chevrolet and Corvette Racing who are so passionate about going racing and understanding the benefits of doing so and everything that we can extract from a championship like IMSA to benefit our wider organization.

THE MODERATOR: Questions.

**Q. Antonio, we just had Dane Cameron up here, who also won his fifth WeatherTech Championship title just like you today, although Dane did it with five different teams. You've done it with one team. What's the secret ingredient? What's made it to successful with this organization through these years?**

THE MODERATOR: We have our GTD PRO champions in the No. 3 Corvette Racing by Pratt Miller Motorsport Corvette Z06 GT3.R, Antonio García and Alexander Sims, left to right, as well as Jessica Dane, who is program manager for Corvette. Six titles, what does it take to stack up that many championships in a competition like this?

ANTONIO GARCIA: I think running for the best team. I think that's the answer. Running with the best team. Running with the best teammates, and over the years I think I had the best ones. Yeah, that's pretty much it.

THE MODERATOR: Alex, before I ask you anything about winning championships, what's going on with the hair and all this?

ALEXANDER SIMS: Whenever I get asked this question, I just say, what's going on with your hair?

THE MODERATOR: I have mine under a hat.

ALEXANDER SIMS: It's always personal with you. I just have a personality, you know? I'm me, and unashamedly so.

No, I decided I think it was (indiscernible). I can't remember. My dad had a mullet years ago. I remember seeing a family photo of him with one, so I was, like, sod it, I'll do it myself. That's as deep as it goes. Then I thought I would shave the 'stache on this morning just for a bit of fun.

Now that we won the championship, then we can also (indiscernible) about it, because otherwise, I would be looking a bit stupid if we hadn't, so I feel good.

THE MODERATOR: So about that, winning the championship, second championship here in WeatherTech. What does it mean, and what does it mean to do it with Corvette?



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ANTONIO GARCIA: I think it's consistency. Not only the year consistency, but also keeping the key elements of the team as long as you can, basically.

So if you go around the whole Corvette crew and members, there is quite a few that have been there for a long time. When that happens, everything runs very, very smooth. Obviously you are taking new members once in a while for sure. You need to keep the ball rolling, but I think that consistency and be loyal to every single member of the team, that's what it takes, because I think it's a real family.

**Q. I believe this is the first championship title for the GT3 car.**

ANTONIO GARCIA: Yeah.

**Q. You got the first win in WeatherTech Championship last year. What's it mean to get another first for the package?**

ANTONIO GARCIA: Yeah, very grateful. The car has been running really, really good. Yeah, it's just another proof of that pretty much every car that Corvette Racing, Team Chevy builds is capable of winning.

I was very lucky to win with many versions of the Corvette, but again, with the same key members, which is Pratt Miller, so everything stays pretty much the same, even if we all evolve, the cars evolve, so yeah.

**Q. I'm trying to make sure I frame this correctly. Antonio, for you in particular with you being part of Corvette Pratt Miller for as long as you have been, with today's championship finale, I think I mentioned this to you on the grid when we spoke, these close championship battles, you only had 13 points, and essentially it's, like, especially if it was top 5, and fortunately you guys finished third. It was basically first car to the line wins. Tell us about those types of scenarios, and how have you in Corvette time and again in those tight situations just managed to maintain composure, because it was very back and forth throughout the day, but as the dusk and night came, it looked like you came to the fore and stayed there.**

ANTONIO GARCIA: I was nervous today. Even if I'm as old as I am and as experience I have to date, I felt everything had to be perfect. So that's why I was kind of with a little bit of that extra pressure in a way.

Once the flag went, I think I forgot about everything I think

it's not only me. I think the whole everybody on the team knew what to do. I think that, in a way, takes a lot of pressure away, because you know everybody that surrounds you, either them as Alex or Danny, as drivers or every single member of the team, you know everybody is going to be doing the best they can or the best.

Yeah, I mean, that's probably another -- yeah, another great day for Corvette Racing and Team Chevy, so yeah.

**Q. I have a question for Alex. I think we all try to -- we all frame this as a David versus Goliath title fight. Exactly how deep did Corvette Racing need to dig throughout the course of the season to keep the proverbial David at arm's length in this championship?**

ALEXANDER SIMS: Yeah, we've had to be on our absolute A-game throughout the year thanks to the great competitors that we've got in GTP PRO.

For a while, it seemed to be the 77 that was going to run us closest, and then the 81 sort of started to come strong midseason with their results and once we finished through until this weekend really, really strongly.

So it was the consistency that we were all able to achieve this year was really key that we were thereabouts every single weekend. Yeah, it's been a real pleasure, honestly, working against the competitors that we've had. It's been a lot of fun, close racing. I would like to just give credit to IMSA, the Championship, and the stance that they've taken.

Honestly I'm a big supporter of the way that they had to react I think to some of the slightly dodgy situations that were presented to them at Road America. It's kept the racing clean and really, really fair.

There have been moments where I felt I've lost out because of that. I've had to give people space, but that's only right. Then I expect that in return.

So it's been cool. It's been really good working against those guys, but full credit honestly to the primary crew that we've been working with. We've just executed super well all year long.

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