



**Red Dragon 8th in Long Beach...5th in IMSA Championship**

**The Bubba Burger Grand Prix at Long Beach**

**2018 IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship**

**No. 99 GAINSCO Auto Insurance®/JDC-Miller MotorSports/ORECA/Gibson**

**Started: 12th    Qualifying Time: 1:15.807 (M. Goikhberg)**

**Race Finish: 8th**

The No.99 GAINSCO Auto Insurance®/ORECA raced from 12th to 8th at the Bubba Burger Grand Prix in Long Beach on Saturday. It was the third race of the 2018 IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship and the Red Dragon™ has finished inside the top ten in all three events. They entered the Long Beach weekend in a three-way tie for sixth position in the championship. The No. 99 Red Dragon, Wayne Taylor Racing and the No. 22 ESM/Patron car all had 48 points. The tie is now broken as the Red Dragon outperformed the No. 22 car and took a big jump forward in points; the team is now ranked fifth with 71 points and just 12 points out of the top three.

The JDC MotorSports crew and drivers Stephen Simpson and Misha Goikhberg worked diligently through the weekend to develop their ORECA. With six different series competing during the Long Beach weekend, track time is very limited. The IMSA cars opened the event with an early practice on Friday. The practice was useful to shake down the car, but also presented different conditions as the track was dirty, not yet “rubbered in” and temperatures were cool and windy. Second practice and qualifying on Friday was late in the afternoon at nearly 80 degrees and after a full day of track activity, so the surfaces were much different. The team struggled a bit with tires during the practice and qualifying session and set the 12th fastest time.

Race day Saturday provided very warm temperatures, but the JDC-Miller MotorSports made the right changes to the Red Dragon overnight and provided a fast race car for the nearly two-hour challenge. Misha started the race and picked up two positions on the start, jumping to the top-ten where they

remained all day. Despite a tight and bumpy circuit, the IMSA race had just a few caution periods and only one accident, so positions were gained by passing on track and quick work in the pits. The No. 99 team and drivers fought hard and stayed consistent all day and brought the Red Dragon home in eighth position. This week the JDC-Miller MotorSports team travels to Mid-Ohio for two days of testing in preparation for their race there next month.

Stephen Simpson:

Misha Goikhberg:



**Stephen Simpson:** “The GAINSCO Auto Insurance team worked really hard all weekend and it sure paid off. We had a great race car today. The conditions were challenging out there; it was one of the hottest races that I can remember. I was flat-out every lap trying to get us a better result. We were hoping for more than eighth, but we’re pleased to take the points and head to Mid-Ohio for our test next week.”



**Misha Goikhberg:** “It was a good start but that is also in part to a bad qualifying result. It’s usually easier to grab a few places back there than it is up front. The car was good today; we had a good first stint. You never know what to expect here...last year there were so many incidents. This year it was relatively incident-free and a fast-paced race.” awards important points toward the big picture, the 2018 IMSA WeatherTech Championship.

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**About [GAINSCO, Inc.](#)** GAINSCO, Inc. is a U.S. holding company specializing in automobile insurance, automotive sales and service, auto racing and investments. GAINSCO was established in 1978 as a Texas corporation and is based in Dallas, Texas, with a regional office in Miami, Florida. GAINSCO's insurance company subsidiary is MGA Insurance Company, Inc. As GAINSCO Inc.'s insurance brand, GAINSCO Auto Insurance® is the primary sponsor of the No.99 Red Dragon in the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship. GAINSCO distributes policies through a network of thousands of independent agents and digital marketplaces across the southern states. GAINSCO Auto Insurance uses its motorsports sponsorship and marketing campaign to build brand awareness and advance its distribution strategies.

**About [GAINSCO/Bob Stallings Racing™](#):** Committed to excellence in road racing since its formation in 2001, GAINSCO/Bob Stallings Racing's legacy includes two Sports Car Championships, 16 victories and 31 pole positions in the Rolex Sports Car Series. Its legacy of all-star drivers includes Bob Stallings, two-time Daytona Prototype Champions Alex Gurney and Jon Fogarty, seven-time NASCAR Sprint Cup Champion Jimmie Johnson, two-time IndyCar Champion Jimmy Vasser, GT Champion Darren Law, C.A.R.T. Champion Cristiano da Matta and celebrated American drivers Memo Gidley and Rocky Moran Jr. The team ceased operations after the 2017 season, opening the door to partner with JDC-Miller Motorsports in the 2018 IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship. For more information, visit [www.gainscoracing.com](http://www.gainscoracing.com).