

# 24 HEURES DU MANS

15-16 JUIN 2002



Press release #18

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## Pescarolo loses the #18

The safety car came out at 1:56 am so that the marshals could clean the oil left by the #18 Courage-Peugeot driven by Eric Helary. The Pescarolo driver returned to the pits and retirement seemed inevitable. At 2:25 am, a few rain drops fell on a portion of the track. But no driver switched to rain tires. Kondo spun out with the #9 Dome but started back racing immediately.

The #80 Porsche is still leading in the LM-GT category and took advantage of the red flag to change its brake pads without losing its leadership position.

After 37 minutes of cleaning, the safety car reopened the track.

The #11 Panoz returned to the race after 3 hours and 30 minutes of repairs to fix a serious problem in its cooling system. Despite all the efforts made by its mechanics, who changed the entire cooling system, Bryan Herta very quickly returned to the pits and things don't look good.

Very bad news for the "Michel Vaillant" film production, the #22 Leader has been left on the track due to a break in its primary transmission shaft. Bringing the car back in seems difficult.

Luc Alphand Aventures' #72 Porsche is still losing time as it replaces a hose in its power steering. In the adjacent pit, at Autopalace, which has entered the #74 Ferrari, there are battery problems that are slowing down the team's progression.

In contrast, everything is going off without a hitch for the top performers. The three Audis are still running in the same order (1, 2, 3), ahead of the #8 Bentley and the #6 Cadillac. The #27 MG is the leader in the LMP-675 category and 12th in the overall standings. The #58 Ferrari, ahead in the LM-GTS category, follows just behind. Freisinger Motorsport still leads the in LM-GT category with the #80 Porsche.

**La course en direct sur le 0892 3500 24 \***