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Additional Photos available upon request

**JDC-Miller MotorSports confirms regulars Misha Goikhberg and Stephen Simpson will return to the team's full-season #85 entry in the 2018 IMSA WeatherTech Championship.**



MINNEAPOLIS, MN. (November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017) JDC-Miller MotorSports today confirmed their first full-season driver lineup for the 2018 IMSA WeatherTech Championship with JDC-Miller regulars Misha Goikhberg and Stephen Simpson teaming up for their second prototype class campaign in the team's #85 entry.

Goikhberg and Simpson, along with Tequila Patron North American Endurance Cup driver Chris Miller, became IMSA's 2017 success story as the bright yellow ORECA regularly challenged for victories and podiums.



The team ended their debut season in top-level prototype racing fourth in both the driver and team championships, highlighted by runner-up finishes at the Sahlen's Six Hours of The Glen and the Mobil 1 SportsCar Grand Prix at Canadian Tire Motorsports Park. Regularly one of the fastest cars in the field, the team also recorded fastest laps at Road America and Canadian Tire Motorsports Park, where Goikhberg also qualified the car on the front row. The team led laps in four events and was the only prototype team to finish every race, only once finishing outside of the top six.

Minnesota native Chris Miller will again join the team for the four rounds of the Tequila Patron North American Endurance Cup, after helping to secure the team's first podium finish of 2017 at the Sahlen's Six Hours of The Glen.

"I'm glad to be back with JDC-Miller for another season and am very curious to see what we can do with a year under our belt." Goikhberg said "The competition is getting very high and we welcome the challenge. I think we can still improve in all areas as we look to make a more sustained and targeted challenge at the championship and capture that first elusive win. I'm very happy that we have continuity in the driver line-up as well and look forward to co-driving again with two very strong drivers in Stephen and Chris."

Simpson shared similar excitement in being able to continue the team's momentum from 2017.

"I'm excited to be continuing my strong relationship with JDC-Miller Motorsports and sharing the #85 car with Misha and Chris for another year," remarked Simpson. "Continuity and chemistry has been key to our strong 2017 season and I relish the added competition that the 2018 season promises. I'm confident we can build on what we have learned and head into the new season with high expectations."

The fourth JDC-Miller MotorSports driver for their Rolex 24 at Daytona lineup will be announced in the coming months. With the team's recent announcement to expand to a two car program for 2018, testing with both cars and several candidates for the second full-season entry and Tequila Patron North American Endurance Cup roles are already underway, with several tests planned for November and December.

More news about JDC Miller MotorSports 2018 **IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship** program is expected to be released soon.





JDC-Miller MotorSports races with associate sponsorship from [Hi-Tide Boat Lifts](#), [RedLineOil.com](#), and [Justice Brothers, Inc.](#)

Additional information on JDC MotorSports can be obtained from the team's website @ [www.jdcmotorsports.com](http://www.jdcmotorsports.com)  
For direct contact, please contact John Church @ 612-963-3352 or [jchurch@jdcmotorsports.com](mailto:jchurch@jdcmotorsports.com)

### **### About JDC MotorSports / JDC-Miller MotorSports:**

Involved in formula car racing since its inception in 1994, JDC MotorSports originally founded by Minnesota natives John Church and Gerry Kraut, established itself as one of the leading junior open-wheel teams in North America before also becoming involved in IMSA SportsCar racing.

Kraut a Minnesota investment banker also competed with the team in numerous JDC open wheel and IMSA SportsCar programs and still races as a driver/owner on regular bases in the team's LMP 3 prototype program. He also was part of the team's first driver lineup during the 2014 12 Hours of Sebring, after the team made the move into the now called IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship under the entry JDC-Miller MotorSports.

### **Early success**

Initially making its mark in the F2000 class of club racing competition, JDC MotorSports was soon a team worth watching in the pro ranks. Expanding into the Pro Mazda Championship in 2005, the Minnesota-based team remained focused on not only challenging for top honors, but also helping develop young drivers. Over the years, JDC MotorSports has won numerous races and championships.

JDC captured both the driver and team titles in the 2007 Star Mazda Championship, with Rookie of the Year Dane Cameron scoring a series-high three wins. The Minnesota-based team followed that up with a second Star Mazda Championship title with Rookie of the Year Adam Christodoulou, and the F2000 Championship Series title with Chris Miller in 2009.

JDC continued its winning ways one year later, earning the Rookie of the Year award in the Star Mazda Championship with Connor De Phillippi, and scoring a non-points win in the USF2000 National Championship with Misha Goikhberg.

The junior formula car standout secured its third Star Mazda Championship title in 2011 with Tristan Vautier, in addition to scoring a win in the USF2000 National Championship with Luke Ellery, as well as making its Prototype Lites Championship debut, earning five podium finishes.

In 2014 JDC MotorSports captured the Cooper Tires Prototype Lites driver and team champion with drivers Misha Goikhberg (2014 overall driver champion), Matt McMurry and JDC MotorSport owner and partner Gerry Kraut.

2014 was also the first year JDC MotorSports entered under JDC-Miller MotorSports with new program partner John Miller a program in the TUDOR United SportsCar Championship Prototype Challenge class, finishing 4th at its maiden race the 12 hours of Sebring and scored its first podium finishing 3rd at Road America.



### Re-writing IMSA history

JDC Motorsports added to the tally in 2015 with another team and driver championship in the Cooper Tires Prototype Lites Powered by Mazda Championship. But there was more to celebrate along the way than the championship. In the 2015 Prototype Lites season, JDC Motorsports won every race and pole position. They won 32 out of 33 IMSA prototype Lites races dating back to August 2014, which marked one of the more remarkable streaks in North American sports car racing.

In their second season competing in the TUDOR United SportsCar Championship Prototype Challenge fulltime driver Misha Goikhberg finished 4<sup>th</sup> overall in 2015 prototype challenge class driver championship including three podiums and the team's first pole position at LimeRock Park.

In the 2016 season JDC-Miller MotorSports accomplished its biggest success so far winning the legendary Rolex 24 Hours of Daytona and later the Long Beach Grand Prix. Misha Goikhberg and regular full season teammate Stephen Simpson finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the overall IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship Prototype Challenge class driver championship. The team also finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in 2016 Tequila Patron North American endurance cup driver championship and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Tequila Patron North American endurance cup team championship.

Additional to the success in the 2016 IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship, JDC secured the overall IMSA Prototype Lites driver championship with Clark Toppe, as well as the team and Masters Class championship with Joel Janco in 2016.

### Current programs

In 2017 the team moved its JDC-Miller MotorSports program into the main Prototype class of the IMSA WeatherTech Sports Car Championship running an ORECA 07 Gibson WEC spec LMP2 prototype. After two consecutive 2<sup>nd</sup> place podium finishes and seven top five finishes overall, JDC-Miller MotorSports finished 4<sup>th</sup> in the overall driver and team point's championship which made the team the most successful non-manufacture LMP2-spec program in the series.

The team also campaigned a BMW 228i with drivers Michael Johnson and Stephen Simpson in the IMSA Continental Tire SportsCar Challenge and under the entry of JDC MotorSports with partner Gerry Kraut a multi-car program in the IMSA Prototype Challenge Championship.

### 2018 programs

For 2018 JDC-Miller MotorSports IMSA WeatherTech Sports Car Championship program will expand to a full season two car program with a second ORECA 07 Gibson WEC spec LMP2 prototype.

In the IMSA Continental Tire SportsCar Challenge championship the team will move into the new TCR class campaigning at least one Audi RS3 LMS TCR for Michael Johnson and Stephen Simpson.

In addition the team will run several Ligier JSP3 LMP3 prototypes under the entry of JDC MotorSports with partner Gerry Kraut in the 2018 IMSA Prototype Challenge Championship.

As of today all JDC programs combined secured a total of 18 Championships, 58 wins, 56 Pole Position and 190 podiums.

**Attachments: Photo:** on request JPEG

**Possible Caption: JDC-Miller MotorSports confirms regulars Misha Goikhberg and Stephen Simpson will return to the team's full-season #85 entry in the 2018 IMSA WeatherTech Championship.**