



STRONG FINISH FOR THE END OF THE YEAR

SP Tools Racing's Shane van Gisbergen came within half a lap of his first race win on Sunday at the Sydney Telstra 500 Finale race, but a gamble with fuel saw him lucky to finish in third, after just managing to crawl his way across the finish line on the last lap. A safety car period put van Gisbergen in the lead with 18 laps to go and Lee Holdsworth behind on fresh tyres, but it was on the final lap that the SP Tools Falcon started to slow after switching to reserve to make the full 250km race distance. Sunday's podium finish at the Sydney Telstra 500 totals ten for van Gisbergen this season and marks the beginning of the 21-year-old's bright future in the sport.



"I was trying pretty hard at the end there to save fuel and when the Safety Car was out I felt like almost hitting it to bump draft it! It was pretty tough, I flicked over to reserve with two and a half laps to go and when I first came onto the straight on the final lap I felt it cough so was trying to hit the curbs extra hard to shake the fuel around but coming out of turn 8 I just started slowing down. I kept flicking it from reserve to main to try and make it and we just did."

Wet weather caused havoc on the streets of Sydney on Saturday with all three SBR cars failing to finish the 74 lap race after making contact with the circuit's unforgiving concrete walls. The morning's qualifying session saw all three Falcons progress to the Top Ten Shootout but the unfortunate incidents in the race meant none were able to convert it onto a solid result, leaving the SBR crew with a long night of repairs ahead.



"It's pretty devastating when you look at the state the cars are in after we all started in the top 10. It just got too wet out there, Paul [Forgie] and I had been talking about whether to stay on slicks or change to wet tyres for a long time before the Safety Car came out for Ingall.

"Obviously we weren't the only ones that fell victim to the rain, you had the three guys in the Championship hunt crash on the same lap as I did. If I could go back we would have definitely changed to wets at the final restart but you know what they say about hindsight."

2010 V8 Supercars Championship Points

- 1 James Courtney 3055
- 2 Jamie Whincup 2990
- 3 Mark Winterbottom 2729
- 4 Craig Lowndes 2669
- 5 Garth Tander 2466
- 6 Shane van Gisbergen 2391
- 7 Lee Holdsworth 2387
- 8 Rick Kelly 2347
- 9 Paul Dumbrell 2232
- 10 Steven Johnson 2006

SP Tools for Kids Charity Program is supporting Ronald McDonald House Charity in 2010



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