



## **Fact Sheet: 2019 IMRRC Award Dinner honoring Bobby Rahal with the Cameron R. Argetsinger Award for Outstanding Contributions to Motorsports**

### **EVENT:**

Sixth annual International Motor Racing Research Center (IMRRC) Award Dinner, presenting the Cameron R. Argetsinger Award for Outstanding Contributions to Motorsports to the 2019 honoree, Bobby Rahal.

### **LOCATION:**

Corning Museum of Glass  
One Museum Way  
Corning, N.Y. 14830

### **DATE/TIME:**

Thursday, June 27, 2019, in advance of the Sahlen's Six Hours of The Glen IMSA race at Watkins Glen International, Watkins Glen, N.Y.

The Master of Ceremonies for the sixth consecutive year is popular race commentator Dr. Jerry Punch.

### **COST:**

\$250 per person

### **ATTIRE:**

Business casual

### **CAPACITY:**

300 guests, 30 tables of 10

## **MISSION OF EVENT:**

This sixth annual award dinner is a fundraiser for the International Motor Racing Research Center. Bobby Rahal has been selected by a committee of auto racing professionals as the sixth honoree and recipient of the Cameron R. Argetsinger Award.

The previous honorees have been Chip Ganassi (2014), Richard Petty (2015), Roger Penske (2016), Mario Andretti (2017) and Jim France and the France Family (2018).

## **BACKGROUND ON BOBBY RAHAL:**

Co-Owner, Rahal Letterman Lanigan Racing. Chairman, IMRRC Governor's Council, 2014-2018. *On Jan. 27, 2019, BMW Team RLL won the GTLM class at the Rolex 24 At Daytona.*

Robert "Bobby" Woodward Rahal was born in Medina, Ohio, in 1953, and started in SCCA's Formula Atlantic Series and then European Formula Two. In an 18-year career spanning F1, Can-Am, Le Mans/IMSA, and CART, Rahal notched three CART championships, including the 1986 Indy 500 win, and wins at the 1981 24 Hours of Daytona and the 1987 12 Hours of Sebring endurance races.

In open-wheel racing, Rahal started 264 races for five teams and scored 18 poles and 24 wins. He collected back-to-back CART championships in 1986 and '87, and picked up his third in 1992. When Buddy Rice won the 2004 Indy 500, Rahal became only one of a handful of individuals to win the Indy 500 as both a driver and a team owner.

After retiring from driving in 1998, he joined Jaguar's F1 effort and in mid-2000 he returned to the U.S. to be the interim boss of CART. Along with David Letterman and businessman Michael Lanigan, he is a principal in Rahal Letterman Lanigan Racing where Rahal has overseen the growth of the team from a one-car program to a multi-car, multi-discipline organization. He's developed some of the top young talent in open-wheel racing, including Graham Rahal, Takuma Sato, Oriol Servia, Ryan Hunter-Reay, 2004 Indy 500 winner Buddy Rice, Danica Patrick, Bryan Herta, Max Papis, Kenny Brack, Jimmy Vasser and Michel Jourdain Jr. He also brought Honda into North American open-wheel racing in the early '90s, that has produced for Honda 16 driver championships and more than 237 victories including 12 Indy 500 wins (2004-2018).

His team won the 2010 GT team and manufacturers championships in the American Le Mans Series (ALMS) with BMW and swept the top two spots in the 2011 Mobil 1 12 Hours of Sebring, earning the 2011 ALMS GT drivers championships for Joey Hand and Dirk Mueller. In 2012, the team earned back-to-back Mobil 12 Hours of Sebring wins and was second in the Team Championship and third in the Manufacturer Championship. In 2013 BMW Team RLL earned two wins, seven podium finishes and four poles en route to second place in the Driver, Team and Manufacturer Championship. In 2014, the team joined the United Sports Car Series (USCC), later renamed the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship. Since 2014, BMW Team RLL has totaled 17 wins, 23 poles and 68 podiums and second place in the Manufacturer, Team and Driver championships in 2015 and 2017. In 2018, the team brought BMW its first victory with the all-new M8 GTE and followed up with back-to-back wins, six podiums and three poles over the two-car program. The 2019 season brings great promise for success. In 2018, the team entered the world's first production-based electric vehicle race series – the Jaguar I-PACE eTROPHY -- with a two-car effort for 2018-19.

Rahal was the driving force behind the new HMP Legends of Motorsports historic racing series

that was purchased by an outside group late in 2011. Along with his leadership of Rahal Letterman Lanigan Racing, he operates Bobby Rahal Automotive Group, a string of car dealerships in Pennsylvania, is President of the Road Racing Drivers Club, former Chairman of the International Motor Racing Research Center Governing Council at Watkins Glen (2015-2018) and is active in the community through the Bobby Rahal Foundation. He was Chairman of the USA Bobsled & Skeleton Foundation from August 2012 until the fall of 2016.

### **BACKGROUND ON CAMERON R. ARGETSINGER:**

Cameron R. Argetsinger, often referred to as the father of American road racing, was a visionary who could make things happen. He had a passion for fast cars and is remembered as an outstanding driver. In 1948, at Watkins Glen, he conceived, organized, and drove in the first post-war road race in America. He brought full international races to Watkins Glen in 1958 and, beginning in 1961, was organizer and race director of the Formula One United States Grand Prix. Formula One enjoyed a successful run of 20 years at the Glen circuit. He was subsequently executive director of the Sports Car Club of America (SCCA) in the 1970s. He later served as commissioner for the International Motor Sports Association (IMSA) in the 1980s. A graduate of Cornell Law School, he practiced law for 48 years. Retiring from the law in 2002, he was president of the International Motor Racing Research Center until 2007. In 2005, Watkins Glen International honored Argetsinger's legacy by titling the Indy Racing League winner's trophy the "Cameron R. Argetsinger Trophy," a prestigious sterling-silver cup.

### **TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:**

5:30-6:30 p.m. – arrival and registration

5:30 p.m. – cocktails in plaza

7:00 p.m. – dinner (slide show).

8:00 p.m. – speakers, award presentation (including unique videos and slide show)

9:00 p.m. – Bobby Rahal interview

9:30 p.m. – auction of original event art

### **OUTLINE OF SPEAKERS:**

- Dr. Jerry Punch as M.C.
- Representative of presenting sponsor/s
- John Saunders, IMRRC Board of Directors Chairman
- Archie Urciuoli, IMRRC Board Member
- Representative of the Argetsinger family
- Representatives of other event sponsors
- Racing dignitaries from variety of racing series

### **SPONSOR PACKAGES:**

Please contact Judy Stropus at [jstropus@earthlink.net](mailto:jstropus@earthlink.net)

### **PRESENTING/TITLE SPONSOR – *Obtained: Sahlen's, NASCAR/ISC/IMSA/WGI***

- \$25,000, includes:
- Name on event logo, to be used on all promotional materials, including video display during dinner, on event lapel pins, etc.
- Two tables for 10 (negotiable)
- Individual press release announcing sponsorship
- Individual display, if applicable (to be supplied by sponsor), at cocktail reception and/or in lobby

- Logo/s included on all individual table cards in dining room
- Logo/s included on all table number assignment cards
- Time allotted in program for sponsor rep to speak at start of program
- Full-page sponsor ad in printed program
- Private meet-and-greet with honoree, Bobby Rahal

#### **COCKTAIL RECEPTION SPONSOR:**

- \$20,000, includes:
- Table for 10 (negotiable)
- Individual press release announcing sponsorship
- Signage in dining room and on video screen
- Signage in cocktail reception
- Logo included on all individual table cards in dining room
- Logo included on all table number assignment cards
- Signs with logo at each bar in reception
- Time allotted in program for sponsor rep to speak at start of program
- Full-page sponsor ad in printed program

#### **DIAMOND SPONSOR:**

- \$25,000, includes:
- Two tables of 10
- Special recognition by M.C.
- Time allotted in program for sponsor rep to speak at start of program
- Special signage at entry, cocktail reception, dinner and on video screen
- Sponsor displays (provided by sponsor) at entry, cocktail reception and dinner
- Press release announcing sponsorship; mentions in all press releases
- Logo included on all individual table cards in dining room
- Logo included on all table number assignment cards
- Private meet and greet with honoree, Bobby Rahal
- Full-page sponsor ad in printed program

#### **PLATINUM SPONSOR:**

- \$15,000
- Table for 10
- Individual press release announcing sponsorship
- Signage in dining room and on video screen
- Signage in cocktail reception
- Logo included on all individual table cards in dining room
- Logo included on all table number assignment cards
- Full-page sponsor ad in printed program
- Mention by M.C. during program

#### **GOLD SPONSOR:**

- \$10,000, includes:
- Table for 10
- Individual press release announcing sponsorship
- Signage in cocktail reception
- Logo included on all individual table cards in dining room
- Logo included on video screen

- Logo included on all table number assignment cards
- Mention by M.C. during program
- One-half-page sponsor ad in printed program

**SILVER SPONSOR:**

- \$7,500, includes:
- Table for 10
- Logo included on all individual table cards in dining room.
- Mention in all (remaining) press releases
- Mention by M.C. during program
- One-half-page sponsor ad in printed program

**TABLE SPONSOR:**

- \$2,500 includes:
- Table for 10
- Mention by M.C. during program

**EVENT PROGRAM:**

An event program will be produced, with space allotted for commercial advertising. Contact Kip Zeiter at the IMRRC at 607-535-9044 or [kip@racingarchives.org](mailto:kip@racingarchives.org).

**THE CAMERON R. ARGETSINGER AWARD TROPHY:**

The trophy, awarded in the name of Cameron R. Argetsinger, is a unique glass bowl on a granite slab, the original of which will be held on display at the IMRRC. It will be etched with the name of the honoree as the 2019 recipient. Bobby Rahal will receive a smaller replica of the original trophy.

**UNIQUE ART PRODUCED:**

A noted motorsports artist will be commissioned by the IMRRC to produce an original work of art depicting the history of Bobby Rahal, which will be auctioned off at the end of the evening.

**SILENT AUCTION:**

A silent auction will be held before and during the dinner. Contact Kip Zeiter at the IMRRC at 607-535-9044 or [kip@racingarchives.org](mailto:kip@racingarchives.org) to donate items.

**LODGING AVAILABILITIES:**

A limited number of rooms has been set aside at area lodging establishments for use by dinner attendees. The designated rooms are reserved for Thursday, June 27, only. Contact the IMRRC at 607-535-9044 to make room reservations.

**IMRRC MISSION AND VISION:**

The IMRRC's mission is to collect, preserve and share the global history of motorsports. Its extensive collection includes thousands of hours of film and video, hundreds of thousands of photographs, as well as thousands of cubic feet of periodicals, newsletters, rare books, race results, race programs, artwork, trophies and much, much more. The IMRRC is dedicated to preserving and sharing these priceless artifacts that might otherwise be lost to future generations.

The IMRRC's vision is to become the world's leading professional archive of motorsports history and to share that history in innovative and inclusive ways that become not only recognized as best practice globally, but create sustainability by drawing in new generations of motor racing fans.

**LOCATION OF CENTER:**

The Center is located at 610 S. Decatur Street, Watkins Glen, New York, in the heart of the state's Finger Lakes region. The Watkins Glen Area Chamber of Commerce can provide information about this region (607-535-4300) or call the Research Center at 607-535-9044.

**IMRRC STAFF:**

Jenny Ambrose, Head Archivist, Acting Executive Director  
Duke Argetsinger, Archival Assistant  
Josh Ashby, Research Assistant  
Samantha Baker, Membership and Development Coordinator  
Joe Cali, SCCA Archives Technician  
Bill Green, Historian  
Rick Hughey, SCCA Archives Technician  
Kip Zeiter, Coordinator of Visitor Services and Outreach

**The Research Center is guided by a Board of Directors of racing aficionados and civic and community leaders:**

**2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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János Wimpffen

## **CONTACT NAMES:**

- Judy Stropus – event planning, sponsor coordination
  - [jstropus@earthlink.net](mailto:jstropus@earthlink.net)
  - 203-438-0501, cell 203-243-2438
- Kip Zeiter – program ads, silent auction, gift bags
  - [kip@racingarchives.org](mailto:kip@racingarchives.org)
  - 607-535-9044
- Samantha Baker – overall administration
  - [sam@racingarchives.org](mailto:sam@racingarchives.org)
  - 607-535-9044

2/27/19