

NOT DEAD YET? Potential Carrera Cup competitors are trying to convince Porsche to resurrect the series (AW, May 18).

“The last thing they need is another Porsche failure,” said Tom McCabe, who sold his Firehawk racer to pay for a Carrera Cup car.

“I’m not sure it’s as dead as Porsche thinks it is,” said racer/Porsche dealer Rick Mancuso, whose Lake Forest (Ill.) Sportscars serves as a clearing house for would-be Carrera Cup competitors, some of whom reportedly had rented garages, hired crews and purchased transporters.

But the series may be more dead than those racers want to believe. Porsche Cars North America, which has 25 race-ready chassis—with 20 more yet to be converted, may convert the Carrera Cup cars back into streetable configuration or sell them to the collectors who are calling.

The racers say all Porsche needs to do is proceed with a proposal to cut the price of

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the cars, and “believe me,” Mancuso said, “there are 40 buyers for these cars at the lower price.” Porsche wanted \$100,000, plus a \$10,000 performance bond, for each chassis. When racers balked, Porsche reportedly considered offering the cars for \$75,000, with racers having to put only \$50,000 down. Racers thought approval of the new financing plan was the reason for a board meeting May 8. Instead, the board emerged to say that since it had found no series sponsor and had deposits for fewer than 20 cars, the series was being canceled.