

# LANCE STROLL READY FOR THE TITLE BATTLE

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At the 4.909 kilometres long Autodromo Enzo e Dino Ferrari in Imola, Lance Stroll (Prema Powerteam, 1m35.601s) can already wrap up the FIA Formula 3 European Championship title. The Canadian was accordingly motivated in free practice. Eventually, he was classified in first place from George Russell (HitechGP, 1m35.919s), Ralf Aron (Prema Powerteam, 1m36.134s), Niko Kari (Motopark, 1m36.140s), Nick Cassidy (Prema Powerteam, 1m36.243s) and Callum Ilott (Van Amersfoort Racing, 1:m36.266s).

Lance Stroll dominated proceedings in free practice at Imola. After 80 minutes, he was over 0.3 seconds faster than his closest rival George Russell. Together with the Brit, he was the only driver to post a sub 1m36s lap time. In the first session during the only event of this year's FIA Formula 3 European Championship in Italy, Ralf Aron, the reigning Italian Formula 4 champion, ended up third as the best-placed rookie. The Estonian was only 0.006 seconds faster than Niko Kari, beating the Finn in the battle for the top rookie position.

Behind the two rookies, two stalwarts were next up with Nick Cassidy and Callum Ilott, followed by three further rookie drivers as Anthoine Hubert (Van Amersfoort Racing, 1m36.358 s), Guanyu Zhou (Motopark, 1m36.429s) and Joel Eriksson (Motopark, 1m36.462s) were classified in seventh to ninth place. Sérgio Sette Câmara (Motopark, 1m36.631s) rounded out the top ten.

For the final two events of the 2016 season at Imola and Hockenheim, the ThreeBond with T-Sport is making its FIA Formula 3 European Championship comeback. With its two young drivers Ukyo Sasahara (1m37.430s) from Japan and Wing Chung Chang (1m38.389s) from Macau, the team was 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> in free practice.