Sargeant beats Lawson to maiden F3 pole in Silverstone

Logan Sargeant's first three Qualifying sessions of the season read P4, P3 and P2, so it was only fitting that the PREMA racer took his first ever pole position in Round 4 at Silverstone, just four hundredths of a second ahead of a much improved Liam Lawson.

The sun remained out at Silverstone for Qualifying and Richard Verschoor was the first man out of the blocks to give track conditions the once over on a steady flying lap.

Having topped Free Practice, Théo Pourchaire was straight back in top spot, setting the first fast time at 1m 47s, before David Beckmann and Lawson both stole a march on the Frenchman and dipped under that.

PREMA took control at the midway stage and appeared to be in a class of their own. Oscar Piastri briefly led the table, before teammate Sargeant fired around one tenth quicker. The final of the Italian team's drivers, Frederik Vesti, was quick enough for third.

The cars dived into the pits and headed out for their second stint with seven minutes to go. With temperatures rising above 30 degrees, it didn't take long for the tyres to warm, and it was Lawson who led the train of cars on the next set of fast laps.

Hitech had evidently been hard at work in the break between Rounds 3 and 4 to fix their Qualifying struggles. The best the Silverstone-based outfit had managed up until Round 4 was 10th, but they were much improved around their home circuit. Ahead of the final set of laps, Lawson sat in second, and Max Fewtrell fifth.

The Red Bull junior briefly claimed first as the cars crossed the line for the final time on Friday, but PREMA's Sargeant had gone fastest in the first and third sectors and was eying a maiden F3 pole. As was Piastri, but he was running marginally slower than his American teammate.

Lawson was knocked off provisional pole by Sargeant, who set a time of 1:46.257, while Piastri had to settle for third place. Fewtrell found enough on his final lap for fourth, ahead of Vesti in fifth.

Sebastián Fernández claimed sixth, ahead of Jake Hughes, Lirim Zendeli, Alex Smolyar and Clement Novalak.

Sargeant will be gunning for his first F3 victory in Race 1 tomorrow, which takes place at 9.25am (local time).

Peroni up to sixth in Silverstone Qualifying, as best laptime reinstated

31 July 2020

Alex Peroni will start from sixth on the grid for Race 1 on Saturday at Silverstone.

The Campos driver had his best laptime deleted during Qualifying earlier today when it was determined that he had exceeded track limits. The Stewards have since reviewed the footage and concluded that this was incorrect.

They have therefore reinstated his best laptime of 1:46.860, which bumps Peroni up from 18th to sixth on the grid.

The Australian will be looking for his third consecutive points' finish when Race 1 gets underway tomorrow at 9.25am (local time).