





Friday 27 August 2021

Novalak quickest ahead of Rasmussen in return to action at Spa

Trident's Clément Novalak set the benchmark as the field returned to action in Spa but left it late to set the fastest lap of the opening session. HWA RACELAB's Oliver Rasmussen was top of the timesheet with seconds to go before Novalak found an extra four-tenths to take the spot from him with a time of 2:05.330.

The field were greeted by a spot of rain and chilly 14-degree track temperatures upon their return from the summer break. It took a while for them to get a feel for the slippery surface, but Alex Smolyar eventually set the benchmark at 2:06.748 for ART Grand Prix, ahead of Johnathan Hoggard.

Jack Doohan edged the lap closer to last year's quickest Free Practice time of 2:05.769, stealing first with a tour of 2:06.356.

Action was briefly halted by a pair of yellow flags as Ayumu Iwasa's Hitech Grand Prix stopped on track. The Japanese driver was able to get going again, but there was then a spin for Charouz Racing System debutant Zdenek Chovanec. That brought out another yellow flag before the Portuguese driver also got moving again.

Lorenzo Colombo had shown good speed in the last round at Budapest, taking two P7 finishes, and carried over his good form by going first when action resumed, slicing more than two tenths off Doohan's time, with 2:06.100.

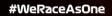
Rasmussen was briefly in first with five minutes to go but Novalak stole the spot off him in the dying seconds, beating last year's quickest time with a 2:05.330. In doing so, the Trident racer dropped Rasmussen and Colombo down a place.

Doohan bettered his early tour by a tenth but finished the session in fourth. Jak Crawford got up to fifth ahead of Frederik Vesti, with Roman Stanek in seventh and Smolyar falling to eighth. Ollie Caldwell beat Hoggard to ninth, with the duo completing the top 10.

Action will resume in just under three hours when the field tackle Qualifying at 1.55pm local time.

CONTINUES







MEDIA RELEASE

2021 FIA FORMULA 3 CHAMPIONSHIP – ROUND 5 FREE PRACTICE PROVISIONAL CLASSIFICATION

-		ı	DRIVER	TEAM	I
I	1	-	Clément Novalak	Trident	I
I	2	1	Oliver Rasmussen	HWA RACELAB	I
1	3	1	Lorenzo Colombo	Campos Racing	I
I	4	-	Jack Doohan	Trident	I
1	5	1	Jak Crawford	Hitech Grand Prix	I
-	6	1	Frederik Vesti	ART Grand Prix	I
1	7	1	Roman Stanek	Hitech Grand Prix	I
1	8	1	Alexander Smolyar	ART Grand Prix	I
I	9	1	Olli Caldwell	PREMA Racing	I
I	10	1	Jonathan Hoggard	Jenzer Motorsport	I
1	11	1	Ayumu Iwasa	Hitech Grand Prix	I
I	12	-	Matteo Nannni	HWA RACELAB	I
I	13	-	Dennis Hauger	PREMA Racing	I
I	14	-	Arthur Leclerc	PREMA Racing	I
I	15	1	Victor Martins	MP Motorsport	I
-	16	1	Logan Sargeant	Charouz Racing System	I
-	17	1	Caio Collet	MP Motorsport	I
-	18	1	Juan Manuel Correa	ART Grand Prix	I
-	19	1	David Schumacher	Trident	I
1	20	1	Hunter Yeany	Charouz Racing System	I
-	21	1	Calan Williams	Jenzer Motorsport	I
-	22	1	Rafael Villagomez	HWA RACELAB	I
-	23	1	László Tóth	Campos Racing	I
1	24	1	Zdenek Chovanec	Charouz Racing System	I
1	25	1	Tijmen Van der Helm	MP Motorsport	I
1	26	1	Jonny Edgar	Carlin Buzz Racing	I
I	27	I	Ido Cohen	Carlin Buzz Racing	I
I	28	I	Amaury Cordeel	Campos Racing	I

ENDS

