

Sunday 24 April 2022

Staněk stands tall to win dramatic Formula 3 Feature Race

Trident's Roman Staněk claimed his maiden FIA Formula 3 victory during a dramatic 24-lap Feature Race at Imola on Sunday.

Staněk prevailed in a duel against Oliver Bearman to pick up his first win in a race that had mixed conditions and was punctuated by three Safety Car periods.

In a highly eventful race Jak Crawford secured back-to-back podiums with second, while Isack Hadjar also climbed onto the rostrum, following a last-lap clash between former leader Bearman and Grégoire Saucy.

AS IT HAPPENED

Overnight rain left the circuit slippery as the field of 29 exited the pit lane to head to the grid.

It led to split strategies, with several drivers opting for wet tyres, though the majority decided to take the start on slicks.

MP Motorsport's Caio Collet was one beneficiary of the wet tyre gamble as he carved his way forwards from ninth on the grid to lead by almost four seconds in the space of a single lap, as Sprint Race winner Franco Colapinto also made gains.

On lap 2 the Safety Car was deployed following a collision between Reece Ushijima and Brad Benavides, with Francesco Pizzi rotating into the gravel by himself.

That wiped out Collet's sizeable advantage but both he and Colapinto ducked into the pits to take on slicks, leaving Trident pair Zane Maloney and Staněk – who had shared the front row of the grid and maintained position until being demoted by the charging Collet – back up front.

The man on the move at the restart was Josep María Martí; he had started 24th but on wet tyres surged forwards and swiftly grabbed the lead from Maloney – though it proved to be short-lived.

Just one lap later the wet/dry crossover point had been fully reached and Martí relinquished the lead to Maloney, with Staněk and Bearman also swiftly relegating the Spaniard out of contention.

A second Safety Car period was called when Benavides' difficult race ended in the barriers after he clipped the back of Rafael Villagómez's car, and the subsequent restart period resulted in heartbreak for leader Maloney.

As he slowly guided the field around for the restart he spun through the penultimate corner, leaving him out of contention, and as the pack continued it was Bearman who profited by breezing past Staněk along the pit straight for what was now the lead.

Maloney's stricken machine necessitated the third appearance of the Safety Car, after which Bearman immediately stretched his advantage by pumping in the race's fastest lap.

However, Staněk soon responded by lowering the fastest lap and the Czech driver was quickly searching for a way past his opponent.

Bearman defended the lead into Turn 1 on lap 22 but the next time around Staněk sauntered past the Briton along the main straight to grab an advantage that he would not relinquish.

Bearman's reduced pace meant a three-way tussle for third became a four-way fight for second, which soon extended to five cars as a rapid Arthur Leclerc – who had battled his way through from 21st on the grid – also joined the party.

Crawford overhauled Bearman for second and Grégoire Saucy also strived to find a way past the Ferrari-backed junior as the race entered its closing stages.

Saucy went around the outside of Bearman at the penultimate corner but the pair clashed, leaving Saucy facing backwards with a broken car, while the delayed Bearman dropped to fourth as Hadjar snuck through to pick up third.

Leclerc's recovery concluded in fifth, making it a gain of 16 positions from his grid spot, while Kush Maini claimed sixth with Zak O'Sullivan bouncing back from an early spin to take seventh.

Kaylen Frederick crossed the line in eighth, with David Vidales another big mover as he took ninth from 27th on the grid.

Ido Cohen picked up his first point in the category as he rounded out the top 10, narrowly ahead of Victor Martins, who gamely recovered to 11th after tumbling to 29th and last at the start.

KEY QUOTE – Roman Staněk, Trident Motorsport

"It was a great race, and it's very nice to win in front of the Italian fans with an Italian team. We had great pace at the beginning, then I managed to overtake Ollie, then I escaped, and we won the race. So, I'm really happy, thanks to Trident, and we will keep pushing for the next race."

THE CHAMPIONSHIP VIEW

Martins retains the lead of the Drivers' Championship though is now joined on 34 points by Leclerc, with Martins ahead on win countback. In a closely-contested battle Staněk moves onto 33, Crawford 32, with Hadjar on 31, while Bearman is on 29.

In the Teams' Championship a strong race with its three cars in the top five moves PREMA into the lead on 95 points, ahead of ART Grand Prix on 63, with Trident on 52.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Formula 3 will return to action at the third round of the season, to be held at Barcelona, from May 20 to 22.

CONTINUES

2022 FIA FORMULA 3 CHAMPIONSHIP – ROUND 2 FEATURE RACE PROVISIONAL CLASSIFICATION

	DRIVER	TEAM
1	Roman Stanek	Trident
2	Jak Crawford	PREMA Racing
3	Isack Hadjar	Hitech Grand Prix
4	Oliver Bearman	PREMA Racing
5	Arthur Leclerc	PREMA Racing
6	Kush Maini	MP Motorsport
7	Zak O’Sullivan	Carlin
8	Kaylen Frederick	Hitech Grand Prix
9	David Vidales	Campos Racing
10	Ido Cohen	Jenzer Motorsport
11	Victor Martins	ART Grand Prix
12	William Alatalo	Jenzer Motorsport
13	Caio Collet	MP Motorsport
14	David Schumacher	Charouz Racing System
15	Alexander Smolyar	MP Motorsport
16	Josep María Martí	Campos Racing
17	Hunter Yeany	Campos Racing
18	Reece Ushijima	Van Amersfoort Racing
19	Nazim Azman	Hitech Grand Prix
20	Rafael Villagómez	Van Amersfoort Racing
21	Federico Malvestiti	Jenzer Motorsport
22	Franco Colapinto	Van Amersfoort Racing
23	Grégoire Saucy	ART Grand Prix
24	Enzo Trulli	Carlin
25	László Tóth	Charouz Racing System

NOT CLASSIFIED

DNF	Zane Maloney	Trident
DNF	Brad Benavides	Carlin
DNF	Oliver Rasmussen	Trident
DNF	Francesco Pizzi	Charouz Racing System

Fastest lap Roman Stanek | **Trident**
1:33.129 (Lap 18)



MEDIA RELEASE

ENDS

Notes to editors

A selection of high-resolution images from this session is now available via our [media platform](#), along with a variety of driver interviews, press conference transcripts and the FIA Formula 3 media kit.

About the FIA Formula 3 Championship™

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IMOLA FEATURE RACE PENALTIES

24 April 2022



Multiple drivers received penalties following today's Formula 3 Feature Race at Imola.

PREMA Racing's Oliver Bearman has received a 20 second time penalty, to be added to his total race time for causing a collision with Grégoire Saucy in the closing stages of this morning's race. Whilst the ART Grand Prix driver was overtaking Bearman on the outside at Turn 17, the Briton was on the inside at the apex of the corner and lost control of his car due to a snap of oversteer. Although Saucy had left enough room, this caused Bearman to collide with the Swiss. Bearman, who had finished P4, now classifies P17.

Jenzer Motorsport's Ido Cohen was handed a five second time penalty after it was found that he had left the track four times at Turn 9 without justifiable reason. The Israeli racer had classified P10. With the penalty applied, he drops to P13.

These promote Championship leader Victor Martins to ninth and William Alatalo to tenth.

Finally, Lazlo Toth failed to stay above the minimum time set by the EU during more than 6 consecutive sectors until the time that he crossed the first safety car line for the second time. As a consequence, the Charouz Racing System driver is assessed a ten second stop-and-go penalty which, since it could not be served during the race, is converted to a 30 second time penalty added to his total race time. Toth classifies last.