

Sunday 21 July, 2024

## Tsolov takes third win of 2024 in ART 1-2 finish

Nikola Tsolov earned his first Feature Race victory in Formula 3, winning from ART Grand Prix teammate Laurens van Hoepen in Budapest. The Bulgarian took the lead at the start and resisted race-long pressure from the Dutchman, while Noel León rounded out the podium in third for Van Amersfoort Racing.

### AS IT HAPPENED

Van Hoepen got wheelspin in the second phase of the start and had to defend hard from his teammate Tsolov off the line. The Dutch driver ran deep at Turn 1, allowing the Bulgarian through along with VAR's Noel León. Into Turn 3 and the ART rookie didn't give up, fighting his way back past the Mexican to take second.

With DRS enabled, van Hoepen began to close in on Tsolov and was within half a second on Lap 3, while León dropped to beyond a second back from the ART duo.

Christian Mansell moved his ART up to fifth position with a late dive to the inside of Santiago Ramos at Turn 1 on Lap 4.

As the opening laps ticked by, van Hoepen radioed into his team to relay his tyres were beginning to overheat in the wake of teammate Tsolov. While he wasn't quite close enough to overtake for the lead, León was able to creep his way into DRS range of the Dutchman ahead by Lap 10.

By the midway point of the race, the top six were covered by four seconds with Santiago Ramos some 9.6s clear of Rodin Motorsport's Callum Voisin who was running in P7.

In the fight for the final points places, Oliver Goethe pulled off a late dive at Turn 1 to pass Dino Beganovic and secure himself ninth position on Lap 14, while behind that pairing, Gabriele Minì cleared Tسانapol Inthraphuvasak to move up to P11.

Mari Boya was next to pass the AIX Racing driver on Lap 16 at Turn 12, and he was followed by Luke Browning on the following lap at Turn 2.

Into the final three laps and after a phase of tyre management, van Hoepen began to apply the pressure on Tsolov once again in the lead fight.

Boya's battle with Minì resumed and the Spaniard found a gap at Turn 2 to take 11<sup>th</sup> position.

Contact between Arvid Lindblad and Matias Zagazeta resulted in a late-race Safety Car on Lap 21, with the PREMA Racing driver stopped at Turn 4.

With little time to clear both cars, it was not possible to resume racing in time for a final lap shootout. Tsolov took his third race win of 2024 and his first F3 Feature Race victory ahead of teammate van Hoepen.

León rounded out the podium with his third rostrum visit of the season, taking third for Van Amersfoort.

Fornaroli was fourth and he took a chunk out of compatriot Mini's Championship lead in the process, while Mansell ensured ART had all three cars in the top five with fifth.

Ramos, Voisin, Nikita Bedrin, Goethe and Beganovic rounded out the points-paying positions.

### KEY QUOTE – Nikola Tsolov, ART Grand Prix

"Finally a Feature Race win. I'm super excited and super happy. Third win as well so I think we managed it well. Had a good start and that was the key for a good race. Just super excited."

### THE CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS

Gabriele Mini didn't add to his points tally but he continues to lead the Drivers' Championship on 119 points, ahead of Luke Browning in second on 115. Arvid Lindblad falls to third with 113 points, while Leonardo Fornaroli closes the gap to his compatriot and is now fourth and 10 points off the lead on 109. Christian Mansell climbs up to fifth position in the Standings on 95 points.

PREMA Racing retain their advantage at the top of the Teams' Standings, now on 321 points while ART Grand Prix scored big to go onto 241 points in second. Trident remain third but move onto 178 points. Campos Racing and Hitech Pulse-Eight complete the top five on 143 and 141 points respectively.

### UP NEXT

It's back-to-back race weekend as we head straight to Spa-Francorchamps for the penultimate round of the 2024 season, from July 26-28.

**CONTINUES**

## 2024 FIA FORMULA 3 CHAMPIONSHIP – ROUND 8 FEATURE RACE ROVISIONAL CLASSIFICATION

|    | DRIVER                   | LICENCE | TEAM                  |
|----|--------------------------|---------|-----------------------|
| 1  | Nikola Tsolov            | BGR     | ART Grand Prix        |
| 2  | Laurens van Hoepen       | NLD     | ART Grand Prix        |
| 3  | Noel Leon                | MEX     | Van Amersfoort Racing |
| 4  | Leonardo Fornaroli       | ITA     | Trident               |
| 5  | Christian Mansell        | AUS     | ART Grand Prix        |
| 6  | Santiago Ramos           | MEX     | Trident               |
| 7  | Callum Voisin            | GBR     | Rodin Motorsport      |
| 8  | Nikita Bedrin            | ITA     | AIX Racing            |
| 9  | Oliver Goethe            | DEU     | Campos Racing         |
| 10 | Dino Beganovic           | SWE     | PREMA Racing          |
| 11 | Mari Boya                | ESP     | Campos Racing         |
| 12 | Gabriele Mini            | ITA     | PREMA Racing          |
| 13 | Luke Browning            | GBR     | Hitech Pulse-Eight    |
| 14 | Martinius Stenshorne     | NOR     | Hitech Pulse-Eight    |
| 15 | Tasanapol Inthraphuvasak | THA     | AIX Racing            |
| 16 | Max Esterson             | USA     | Jenzer Motorsport     |
| 17 | Alexander Dunne          | IRL     | MP Motorsport         |
| 18 | Cian Shields             | GBR     | Hitech Pulse-Eight    |
| 19 | Kacper Sztuka            | POL     | MP Motorsport         |
| 20 | Sebastian Montoya        | COL     | Campos Racing         |
| 21 | Tim Tramnitz             | DEU     | MP Motorsport         |
| 22 | Piotr Wisnicki           | POL     | Rodin Motorsport      |
| 23 | Joshua Dufek             | AUT     | AIX Racing            |
| 24 | Sophia Floersch          | DEU     | Van Amersfoort Racing |
| 25 | Tommy Smith              | AUS     | Van Amersfoort Racing |
| 26 | Sami Meguetounif         | FRA     | Trident               |
| 27 | Joseph Loake             | GBR     | Rodin Motorsport      |
| 28 | Matais Zagazeta          | PEU     | Jenzer Motorsport     |
| 29 | Arvid Lindblad           | GBR     | PREMA Racing          |

### NOT CLASSIFIED - 107%

|     |              |     |                   |
|-----|--------------|-----|-------------------|
| DNF | Charlie Wurz | AUT | Jenzer Motorsport |
|-----|--------------|-----|-------------------|

### OVERALL FASTEST LAP

|  |                  |     |                   |
|--|------------------|-----|-------------------|
|  | Sami Meguetounif | FRA | Trident           |
|  |                  |     | 1:35.293 (Lap 18) |

### FASTEST LAP ELIGIBLE FOR POINTS

|  |                   |     |                  |
|--|-------------------|-----|------------------|
|  | Christian Mansell | AUS | ART Grand Prix   |
|  |                   |     | 1:35.691 (Lap 4) |

**ENDS**

# VAN HOEPEN DISQUALIFIED, ZAGAZETA PENALISED FOLLOWING BUDAPEST FEATURE RACE

21 July 2024



Following the conclusion of the FIA Formula 3 Feature Race in Budapest, two drivers have been penalised.

Firstly, ART Grand Prix driver Laurens van Hoepen has been disqualified from the Feature Race results.

A post-race report by the FIA Technical Delegate indicated that Car 24 had not met the minimum weight requirement set out in Article 5.1 of the 2024 FIA Formula 3 Technical Regulations.

After a review, it was determined that Car 24 was indeed below the minimum weight set out in the regulations, constituting a rules breach and, consequently, Car 24 has been excluded from the Feature Race result.

It promotes every driver that finished behind van Hoepen up one place each in the classification, with Leonardo Fornaroli now taking the final podium place and third position for Trident.

Lastly, Jenzer Motorsport driver Matías Zagazeta has been handed a penalty.

Zagazeta and PREMA Racing driver Arvid Lindblad made contact between Turns 3 and 4, resulting in both retiring from the race.

After the Feature, the Stewards heard from both drivers along with team representatives and examined all available video evidence. They determined that Zagazeta had been the driver wholly responsible for the collision.

As a result, they elected to apply a five-place grid penalty to Zagazeta. The Jenzer driver will serve the penalty at the next race in which he competes.