

Friday 19 July, 2024

## Van Hoepen takes maiden F3 pole after late Red Flag

ART Grand Prix's Laurens van Hoepen earned his first Pole Position in FIA Formula 3, with a 1:33.935 coming in the nick of time. The Dutch driver finished the session on top and ahead of teammate Nikola Tsolov in P2, while title contender Leonardo Fornaroli took third for Trident.

There was a late Red Flag as another contender Luke Browning spun into the barriers on his final attempt, ending the session early.

With tyre preparation laps complete, AIX Racing's Joshua Dufek set the initial pace with a 1:34.414 ahead of teammates Tسانapol Inthraphuvasak and Nikita Bedrin in a 1-2-3 for the team.

PREMA Racing's Dino Beganovic was best of the rest in fourth, 0.391s down on the top time ahead of Trident's Santiago Ramos in P5 after the opening 10 minutes.

There was more vying for track position ahead of the second attempts but this time it was van Hoepen that took over at the top, setting a 1:34.316 until Van Amersfoort Racing's Noel León secured P1 with a 1:34.174.

Further back and with clear track, Fornaroli was next to go quickest but it was very closely run. The Italian driver went just 0.001s quicker than León to secure provisional pole.

Drivers returned to the track on fresh tyres for one final attempt with just over five minutes left of the session with the track at its best.

Van Hoepen returned to the top as the first into the 1:33s ahead of teammate Tsolov in P2. Fornaroli put himself in third just as the Red Flags came out as title rival Browning found the barriers at Turn 11, bringing the session to a conclusion and those behind unable to improve.

A snap of oversteer for the Briton left him sideways and his Hitech Pulse-Eight sliding into the barriers. He was OK but was left in seventh.

León dropped to fourth with the improvements from the trio ahead, with Ramos fifth and Dufek in sixth.

Meguetounif followed Browning in P8 ahead of Tim Tramnitz, Christian Mansell, Callum Voisin and Inthraphuvasak, who after ending up 12<sup>th</sup> will start the Sprint Race from reverse grid pole.

The Budapest Sprint Race is set to get underway at 09:50 local time on Saturday.

## 2024 FIA FORMULA 3 CHAMPIONSHIP – ROUND 8 QUALIFYING ROVISIONAL

### CLASSIFICATION

	DRIVER	LICENCE	TEAM	LAPTIME
1	Laurens van Hoepen	NLD	ART Grand Prix	1:33.935
2	Nikola Tsolov	BGR	ART Grand Prix	1:34.168
3	Leonardo Fornaroli	ITA	Trident	1:34.173
4	Noel Leon	MEX	Van Amersfoort Racing	1:34.174
5	Santiago Ramos	MEX	Trident	1:34.182
6	Joshua Dufek	AUT	AIX Racing	1:34.414
7	Luke Browning	GBR	Hitech Pulse-Eight	1:34.437
8	Sami Meguetounif	FRA	Trident	1:34.524
9	Tim Tramnitz	DEU	MP Motorsport	1:34.531
10	Christian Mansell	AUS	ART Grand Prix	1:34.582
11	Callum Voisin	GBR	Rodin Motorsport	1:34.607
12	Tasanapol Inthraphuvasak	THA	AIX Racing	1:34.685
13	Nikita Bedrin	ITA	AIX Racing	1:34.697
14	Dino Beganovic	SWE	PREMA Racing	1:34.805
15	Gabriele Mini	ITA	PREMA Racing	1:34.872
16	Oliver Goethe	DEU	Campos Racing	1:34.938
17	Max Esterson	USA	Jenzer Motorsport	1:35.042
18	Joseph Loake	GBR	Rodin Motorsport	1:35.061
19	Charlie Wurz	AUT	Jenzer Motorsport	1:35.087
20	Mari Boya	#N/A	Campos Racing	1:35.105
21	Matias Zagazeta	PEU	Jenzer Motorsport	1:35.110
22	Arvid Lindblad	GBR	PREMA Racing	1:35.225
23	Martinius Stenshorne	NOR	Hitech Pulse-Eight	1:35.386
24	Piotr Wisnicki	POL	Rodin Motorsport	1:35.388
25	Cian Shields	GBR	Hitech Pulse-Eight	1:35.517
26	Alexander Dunne	IRL	MP Motorsport	1:35.658
27	Kacper Sztuka	POL	MP Motorsport	1:35.750
28	Sophia Floersch	DEU	Van Amersfoort Racing	1:35.851
29	Tommy Smith	AUS	Van Amersfoort Racing	1:36.493
<b>NOT CLASSIFIED - 107%</b>				
NC	Sebastian Montoya	COL	Campos Racing	1:51.025

**ENDS**

# BROWNING LOSES BEST LAP, DUFEK DISQUALIFIED AND TWO DRIVERS PENALISED FOLLOWING BUDAPEST QUALIFYING

19 July 2024



Following the conclusion of the Budapest Qualifying session, three drivers have received post-session penalties and one has been disqualified.

Firstly, Hitech Pulse-Eight driver Luke Browning has had his best laptime deleted.

In the closing moments of Qualifying, Browning spun at Turn 11, collided with the barriers and brought out the Red Flags, ending the session early.

After a post-session investigation by the Race Stewards, it was determined that Browning would have his best laptime deleted as a consequence of causing the session-ending Red Flag.

As per Article 33.5 of the 2024 FIA F3 Sporting Regulations, the Hitech driver was the sole cause of the Red Flag and, subsequently, the Stewards determined that the fastest time attained by Car 14 during the session should be deleted.

With his laptime removed from the results, Browning drops from seventh in the original Qualifying order down to P15, moving each driver behind him up one position each.

After the application of other penalties and demotions, it means that PREMA Racing's Dino Beganovic is set to start the Sprint Race from reverse grid pole with AIX Racing's Nikita Bedrin alongside him on the front row.

Secondly, AIX's Racing driver Joshua Dufek has been disqualified from the Formula 3 Qualifying results in Budapest.

The AIX #28 car was reported to the Stewards after a post-session technical inspection uncovered a potential breach of the 2024 FIA Formula 3 Technical Regulations.

After Dufek and a team representative appeared before the Stewards, it was found that Car #28 had been below the minimum weight required, contravening Art. 5.1 of the FIA Formula 3 Championship Technical Regulations.

As a result, Dufek is removed from the results of the Budapest Qualifying session. Having originally qualified in sixth position, it promotes those behind him in the classification up one place each.

Furthermore, Piotr Wisnicki has been handed a three-place grid penalty for impeding PREMA Racing driver Dino Beganovic.

Following the Qualifying session, the Stewards spoke to both drivers and their team representatives, while also reviewing video evidence and determined that the Rodin Motorsport driver had unnecessarily impeded Beganovic on his push lap.

Wisnicki will therefore serve his penalty at the next race in which he competes.

Finally, MP Motorsport driver Kacper Sztuka has been handed a three-place grid penalty.

The Polish driver was reported for allegedly impeding Campos Racing's Sebastián Montoya during the session. After examining all video evidence and talking with both drivers and their team representatives, the Race Stewards determined that Sztuka had unnecessarily impeded Montoya.

As a result, the Race Stewards elected to apply a three-place grid drop that the MP driver is set to serve at the next race in which he competes.