

Friday 5 July, 2024

Browning takes dramatic Pole Position in rain-affected session

Hitech Pulse-Eight's Luke Browning took a last-gasp Pole Position at a rain-hampered Qualifying in Silverstone ahead of Jenzer Motorsport's Max Esterson and Trident's Sami Meguetounif.

The Championship leader left it late on a drying lap with a time of 1:44.992 to take top spot with Esterson following his P1 in Practice to go to within 0.045s off pole to seal a maiden front row start.

Following the morning's wet Practice, the drivers went out on the Hard tyres, but as they started their warmup laps reports of heavy rain started to come in over the radios.

Van Amersfoort Racing's Noel León then set the initial time to beat with a lap of 1:45.475, Alexander Dunne moved up to second, just 0.070s off top spot, while Gabriele Minì settled into third for PREMA Racing.

However, as most of the grid returned to the pitlane looking to strap on a new set of hards, the rain intensified. This left Dino Beganovic at the back after the Swede lost his initial time to a track limits violation, while Championship leader Luke Browning was demoted to P13 by Tim Tramnitz.

But with all looking lost, the drivers ventured out on to the track aiming to do as much learning in mixed conditions before tomorrow's Sprint Race.

However, the track began to improve heading into the final minute, with Leonardo Fornaroli going fastest on a 1:45.265. This was bad news for the drivers in the pit lane like León and Dunne as the timing screens lit up with purple and green sectors.

Browning then came across the line to complete a lap of 1:44.992 giving him Pole Position on home soil, as Esterson went second moments later. Meguetounif then moved up to P3 ahead of Fornaroli with Laurens van Hoepen in fifth for ART Grand Prix.

Charlie Wurz was another late improver for Jenzer as his late lap put him in P6, while ART teammates Mansell and Tsolov also made it into the top 10.

Callum Voisin had been fastest in the drying conditions for Rodin Motorsport but ended up in P9 ahead of Matías Zagazeta, who made it three Jenzer cars in the top 10.

CONTINUES



MEDIA INFORMATION

Arvid Lindblad went to P11 for PREMA Racing while León, after looking set to take his maiden Formula 3 Pole Position, qualified in P12 and will start from reverse grid pole in the Sprint Race, which is set to start 09:20 local time on Saturday morning.

CONTINUES

2024 FIA FORMULA 3 CHAMPIONSHIP – ROUND 7 QUALIFYING PROVISIONAL CLASSIFICATION

	DRIVER	LICENCE	TEAM	LAPTIME
1	Luke Browning	GBR	Hitech Pulse-Eight	1:44.992
2	Max Esterson	USA	Jenzer Motorsport	1:45.037
3	Sami Meguetounif	FRA	Trident	1:45.084
4	Leonardo Fornaroli	ITA	Trident	1:45.265
5	Laurens van Hoepen	NLD	ART Grand Prix	1:45.286
6	Charlie Wurz	AUT	Jenzer Motorsport	1:45.312
7	Christian Mansell	AUS	ART Grand Prix	1:45.374
8	Nikola Tsolov	BGR	ART Grand Prix	1:45.394
9	Callum Voisin	GBR	Rodin Motorsport	1:45.397
10	Matias Zagazeta	PEU	Jenzer Motorsport	1:45.405
11	Arvid Lindblad	GBR	PREMA Racing	1:45.426
12	Noel Leon	MEX	Van Amersfoort Racing	1:45.475
13	Alexander Dunne	IRL	MP Motorsport	1:45.545
14	Gabriele Mini	ITA	PREMA Racing	1:45.562
15	Oliver Goethe	DEU	Campos Racing	1:45.628
16	Joseph Loake	GBR	Rodin Motorsport	1:45.779
17	Sebastian Montoya	COL	Campos Racing	1:45.784
18	Santiago Ramos	MEX	Trident	1:45.809
19	Dino Beganovic	SWE	PREMA Racing	1:45.818
20	Kacper Sztuka	POL	MP Motorsport	1:46.032
21	Tim Tramnitz	DEU	MP Motorsport	1:46.184
22	Mari Boya	ESP	Campos Racing	1:46.429
23	Cian Shields	GBR	Hitech Pulse-Eight	1:46.477
24	Nikita Bedrin	ITA	AIX Racing	1:46.495
25	Sophia Floersch	DEU	Van Amersfoort Racing	1:46.584
26	Tommy Smith	AUS	Van Amersfoort Racing	1:46.619
27	James Wharton	AUS	Hitech Pulse-Eight	1:46.773
28	Tasanapol Inthraphuvasak	THA	AIX Racing	1:46.864
29	Joshua Dufek	AUT	AIX Racing	1:46.973
30	Piotr Wisnicki	POL	Rodin Motorsport	1:47.870

ENDS

SEVERAL DRIVERS PENALISED FOLLOWING SILVERSTONE QUALIFYING

5 July 2024



After the FIA Formula 3 Qualifying session at Silverstone, four drivers have been penalised.

Firstly, Max Esterson has been handed a grid penalty. The Jenzer Motorsport driver was reported to have impeded Dino Beganovic of PREMA Racing.

After a post-session investigation by the Race Stewards, hearing from both drivers and team representatives along with examining all available video evidence, Esterson was ruled to have wholly responsible for the impeding of Beganovic.

As a result, the American driver has been assigned a three-place grid penalty to serve at the next race in which he participates.

Secondly, Trident's Sami Meguetounif has also been assigned a grid penalty. He too was reported to the Race Stewards, alleged to have impeded Van Amersfoort Racing's Sophia Floersch.

Following a post-session investigation, reviewing of all available evidence and hearing from both drivers and team representatives, the Stewards determined that Car #5 should have been more aware of faster cars approaching.

As a result, the Trident driver has also been handed a three-place grid penalty to serve at the next race in which he participates.

Thirdly, ART Grand Prix driver Nikola Tsolov has been handed a grid penalty.

The Bulgarian driver was reported for impeding Car #30 of Rodin Motorsport's Piotr Wisnicki during the session.

After considering the matter, hearing from team representatives and the drivers along with examining available video evidence, the Race Stewards determined that Tsolov should have been more aware of faster cars approaching from behind.

Consequently, Tsolov has been assigned a three-place grid penalty to serve in the next race in which he participates.

Finally, Campos Racing driver Mari Boya has been assigned a grid penalty.

The Spaniard was also reported to the Race Stewards for impeding Floersch during the Qualifying session.

After the incident was investigated further, all video evidence examined and drivers with team representatives were heard from, Boya was found to have clearly impeded Floersch.

Accordingly, Boya has been awarded a three-place grid penalty to serve at the next race in which he participates.