



PRESS RELEASE

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Slater makes fast start to Budapest weekend



Freddie Slater ended the Budapest Free Practice at the top of the timesheets with a 1:33.947. The TRIDENT driver led the way by over a tenth from Brando Badoer, with his Rodin Motorsport teammate just behind in third.

Woohyun Shin was the first driver out on track in the early stages. He completed a 1:36.472 but that time was deleted after he exceeded track limits at Turn 9. 10 minutes into the session and the rest of the field – apart from the

three Rodin Motorsport cars – made their way out of the pitlane.

Ugo Ugochukwu set the pace with a 1:34.798 eclipsing title rival Slater in P2 by just 0.052s. With 26 minutes left, Rodin released their drivers out on track, while Matteo De Palo returned to the pitlane with damage after going off at the exit of Turn 7.

Moments later, Salim Hanna found the barrier at Turn 5 bringing out the Red Flags. The session resumed with 12 minutes to go and once again Ugochukwu led the way with a 1:34.522, with Slater in P2, 0.180s behind.

On his next lap, Hitech's Jin Nakamura took over at the top with a 1:34.360. However, Slater went back to P1 with a 1:33.947, eclipsing Rodin's Badoer time by 0.135s. It was not all good news for TRIDENT however, as Noah Stromsted stopped on the run to Turn 12, bringing out the Red Flags.

That brought the session to a close with Slater on top for a fourth consecutive Practice session, ahead of Badoer and Pedro Clerot. Nakamura was P4 ahead of Théophile Nael and Enzo Deligny. Nicola Lacorte finished seventh ahead of Ugochukwu, with Mattia Colnaghi in ninth as Maciej Gladysz rounded out the top 10.

The drivers will be back out on track for Qualifying later today at 15:00 local time.

FIA Formula 3 - Budapest - Provisional Classification - Practice

	DRIVER	LICENCE	TEAM	LAPTIME
1	Freddie Slater	GBR	TRIDENT	1:33.947
2	Brando Badoer	ITA	Rodin Motorsport	1:34.082
3	Pedro Clerot	BRA	Rodin Motorsport	1:34.347
4	Jin Nakamura	JPN	Hitech	1:34.369
5	Theophile Nael	FRA	Campos Racing	1:34.397
6	Enzo Deligny	FRA	Van Amersfoort Racing	1:34.418
7	Nicola Lacorte	ITA	DAMS Lucas Oil	1:34.462
8	Ugo Ugochukwu	USA	#N/A	1:34.522
9	Mattia Colnaghi	ARG	MP Motorsport	1:34.633
10	Maciej Gladysz	POL	ART Grand Prix	1:34.658
11	Taito Kato	JPN	ART Grand Prix	1:34.732
12	Bruno Del Pino	ESP	Van Amersfoort Racing	1:34.775

13	Ernesto Rivera		MEX	Campos Racing		1:34.880	
14	Louis Sharp		NZL	PREMA Racing		1:34.882	
15	Tuukka Taponen		FIN	MP Motorsport		1:34.924	
16	Christian Ho		SGP	Rodin Motorsport		1:34.940	
17	Yevan David		SRI	AIX Racing		1:34.981	
18	James Wharton		AUS	PREMA Racing		1:35.017	
19	Alessandro Giusti		FRA	MP Motorsport		1:35.024	
20	Noah Stromsted		DEN	TRIDENT		1:35.074	
21	Kanato Le		JPN	ART Grand Prix		1:35.195	
22	Gerrard Xie		CHN	DAMS Lucas Oil		1:35.302	
23	Fionn McLaughlin		IRL	Hitech		1:35.371	
24	Woohyun Shin		KOR	Hitech		1:35.515	
25	HiYu Yamakoshi		JPN	Van Amersfoort Racing		1:35.568	
26	Jose Garfias		MEX	PREMA Racing		1:35.686	
27	Nandhavud Bhirombhakdi		THA	DAMS Lucas Oil		1:36.050	
28	Matteo De Palo		ITA	TRIDENT		1:48.286	
29	Fernando Barrichello		BRA	AIX Racing		1:58.830	
30	Salim Hanna		COL	AIX Racing		2:02.773	

ENDS

About FIA Formula 3:

2019 marked the launch of the FIA Formula 3 Championship. An ambitious new project from the FIA and the former GP3 Series Organisation to form an official third rung of the Road to F1 ladder. Combining GP3 and European F3, the idea was to create a defined entry point for young and ambitious drivers to join the Formula 1 circus, and to give them the chance to take the path to join their heroes in the main paddock. With some of the world's best racing teams on board, and the hottest junior motor racing talent from across the globe filling their race seats, Formula 3 promised to be one of the most exciting championships in motorsport.

Designed as the perfect training ground for both F2, and ultimately, F1, our young drivers must showcase their skills both in speed and in tyre management, just like they will have to do when they move up the motorsport ladder. Notable F3 alumni include 2020 Champion Oscar Piastri, F1 rookie Arvid Lindblad and of course the F1 rookie class of 2024 that included F3 Champion Gabriel Bortoleto, Oliver Bearman, Franco Colapinto and Isack

Hadjar. The Championship benefits from the FIA's excellence in the scrutineering of cars and the overseeing and running of events, while FOM's (Formula One Management) unparalleled expertise in broadcasting and marketing ensures that the Championship has a truly global reach and appeal. 2026 promises to be a thrilling spectacle from start to finish.

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