



MEDIA RELEASE

4 August, 2019

Armstrong leads from lights-to-flag for first win

PREMA Racer finishes ahead of Pulcini and Hughes in Budapest Race 2

Marcus Armstrong ruled Race 2 in Budapest with a lights-to-flag finish that saw him cross the line a massive 12s ahead of Leonardo Pulcini for his first ever FIA Formula 3 win.

The PREMA man had spent a mammoth 97 Laps inside of the top three ahead of Round 5, but was yet to have a victory to show for it. He set the record straight on Sunday with a dominant drive around the Hungaroring, ahead of Hitech Grand Prix racer Pulcini and HWA RACELAB's Jake Hughes. The Kiwi brushed off an attack at the start from the Italian, who attempted to pass him on the second turn. The duo kissed tyres, which forced Pulcini to ease off and allowed Armstrong to scuttle on ahead.

There was little movement in behind, with most of the top ten clinging onto their original positions. Felipe Drugovich in particular was hanging onto 3rd by a thread. He was being hounded and harried by the dazzling red PREMA of Robert Shwartzman, but just about survived the opening few laps.

The battle continued as the lap tally hit double figures and still Drugovich would not falter. PREMA urged Shwartzman to overtake, but he was struggling to find the speed or the space. Eventually he gathered enough power to pull side-by-side with the Carlin Buzz racer, who remained just millimetres in front.

Just as Drugovich thought he had held on, his tyre was struck by the front-wing of Shwartzman, which tore into his rubber and caused a puncture. He quickly dropped back and would eventually retire from the pits. Shwartzman was momentarily in 3rd, but his front-wing was battered and his bruised PREMA couldn't sustain the pace and he too dropped back, before also retiring from the pits. Stewards swiftly deemed the collision a racing incident that required no further investigation.

This handed Juri Vips the podium place he came so close to clinching in Race 1. Initially, it was Max Fewtrell in behind, but the Briton slowed and fell out of contention. This allowed Hughes into 4th and a chance at a second podium place. Race 1 repeated itself as the HWA racer bombed down the side of the Estonian on the straight and into the first corner for 3rd.

The chaos going on behind had allowed Pulcini to put 18s between himself and 3rd place, while Armstrong topped the pack by 12s, meaning the duo crossed the line unchallenged. In 3rd remained Hughes, with his second podium of the weekend, as Vips and Christian Lundgaard completed the top five. Yuki Tsunoda finished 6th, ahead of Jehan Daruvala, who had managed to climb into the points for the first time this weekend. Logan Sargeant, Liam Lawson and Bent Viscaal completed the top ten.

Having missed out on the points in Race 2, Shwartzman's lead at the top of the Drivers' Championship has been slashed to just 12, ahead of Vips, who is on 112. Jehan Daruvala is only eight behind, while Armstrong has 98. Lundgaard completes the top five with 73. In the Teams' Championship, PREMA retain their stranglehold with 326, ahead of Hitech Grand Prix on 165 and ART Grand Prix on 147. HWA RACELAB are fourth with 66 and Trident 5th with 58.

With the title chase closer than ever and just 20 points separating the top three in the Championship, the next round in Spa-Francorchamps, Belgium will be unmissable, when racing returns at the end of August.

2019 FIA Formula 3 Championship – Race 2 provisional classification

DRIVER	TEAM
1 Marcus Armstrong	PREMA Racing
2 Leonardo Pulcini	Hitech Grand Prix
3 Jake Hughes	HWA RACELAB
4 Juri Vips	Hitech Grand Prix
5 Christian Lundgaard	ART Grand Prix
6 Yuki Tsunoda	Jenzer Motorsport
7 Jehan Daruvala	PREMA Racing
8 Logan Sargeant	Carlin Buzz Racing
9 Liam Lawson	MP Motorsport
10 Bent Viscaal	HWA RACELAB

11	Devlin DeFrancesco	Trident
12	Niko Kari	Trident
13	Fabio Scherer	Sauber Junior Team by Charouz
14	Keyvan Andres	HWA RACELAB
15	Andreas Estner	Jenzer Motorsport
16	Alex Peroni	Campos Racing
17	Richard Verschoor	MP Motorsport
18	Simo Laaksonen	MP Motorsport
19	David Beckmann	ART Grand Prix
20	Lirim Zendeli	Sauber Junior Team by Charouz
21	Giorgio Carrara	Jenzer Motorsport
22	Ye Yifei	Hitech Grand Prix
23	Sebastian Fernandez	Campos Racing
24	Max Fewtrell	ART Grand Prix
25	Raoul Hyman	Sauber Junior Team by Charouz
26	Alessio Deledda	Campos Racing
27	Pedro Piquet	Trident

NOT CLASSIFIED

Robert Shwartzman	PREMA Racing
Felipe Drugovich	Carlin Buzz Racing
Teppei Natori	Carlin Buzz Racing

OVERALL FASTEST LAP

Marcus Armstrong (PREMA Racing) - 1:35.307 on Lap 4

FASTEST LAP ELIGIBLE FOR POINTS

Marcus Armstrong (PREMA Racing)



Marcus Armstrong
(PREMA Racing)



Leonardo Pulcini
(Hitech Grand Prix),
Marcus Armstrong
(PREMA Racing), Jake
Hughes (HWA
RACELAB)



2019 Drivers
Championship

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2019 FIA Formula 3 -
Round 5 Race 2
classification

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2019 Teams
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