

14 July, 2019

Pulcini pounces for first win of the season

Hitech Grand Prix racer earns his team second win of the weekend

Leonardo Puccini denied Championship leaders PREMA a win for the second round in a row, edging out Robert Shwartzman for his first taste of champagne this season, with a blistering drive in Race 2.

The Russian racer made a late charge through the field, but could only rise as high as second, coming unstuck against the dominant Italian who secured his team's second victory at Silverstone. Reverse grid poleman Liam Lawson completed the top three to earn his first podium in FIA Formula 3.

Lawson had gotten away cleanly at the start, with Pedro Piquet and Christian Lundgaard busy squabbling amongst themselves for P2. Pulcini made the best beginning of the lot, lunging ahead of Shwartzman midway through the first lap for 4th, while the Russian took air on the curb.

It was not a strong start for the Russian who also caught the tail of Race 1 winner Jüri Vips and lost further momentum. Pulcini already had his eyes on a provisional podium spot but would need two attempts to race round Lundgaard, making the second one stick at the final turn.

The Italian arrowed in on Lawson, but carefully calculated his move and patiently waited in the Kiwi's shadow. The opportunity arose on lap 9 and he seared to the right of the MP Motorsport man and comfortably completed the move. His team urged him to build a 1s gap and then concentrate on his degrading rubber.

The three PREMA's were locked in tussle for 5th, but Shwartzman put a stop to the fight with an overtake on Lundgaard at the exit of Chapel which wobbled the Dane and allowed Jehan Daruvala to follow on through.

Having been stuck in 5th for the majority of the race, Shwartzman swiftly followed up his first move and blistered past Piquet for third, with his eyes locked on Lawson in P2. The overtake duly arrived around the outside of Stowe, completing an awesome couple of laps for the PREMA man and a remarkable turn-around.

His charge ended there as Pulcini had managed to fire 4s ahead, with just two laps to go. Action continued further back when Piquet and Lawson went wheel-to-wheel: the Trident man edged ahead and looked to have nailed down the position, but the Kiwi regained the spot thanks to slick defending moves. Daruvala added his name to the fight for third and clipped the back of the Brazilian as he backed off, sending Piquet into a spin and ending his race.

Pulcini held on come the chequered flag for his maiden win of the campaign, ahead of the resurgent Shwartzman and 17-year-old Lawson. Marcus Armstrong and Lundgaard completed the top five, followed by David Beckmann, Yuki Tsunoda and Fabio Scherer.

Shwartzman's podium finish hands him back the lead in the drivers' championship on 114 points, 12 ahead of Daruvala. Vips is third on 92, ahead of Marcus Armstrong on 77 and Piquet on 43. PREMA Racing still lead the teams' championship on 293 points, with Hitech Grand Prix second on 127. ART Grand Prix sit third with 92, followed by Trident on 58 and HWA RACELAB on 41.

Action will resume at the end of July as the grid head to Hungary where Hitech will aim to continue their pursuit of PREMA Racing, who will be desperate to pick up the pace again at the Hungaroring.

FIA Formula 3 Championship – Round 4 Race 2 classification

DRIVER	TEAM
1 Leonardo Pulcini	Hitech Grand Prix
2 Robert Shwartzman	PREMA Racing
3 Liam Lawson	MP Motorsport
4 Marcus Armstrong	PREMA Racing
5 Christian Lundgaard	ART Grand Prix
6 David Beckmann	ART Grand Prix
7 Yuki Tsunoda	Jenzer Motorsport
8 Fabio Scherer	Sauber Junior Team by Charouz
9 Lirim Zendeli	Sauber Junior Team by Charouz

10 Felipe Drugovich	Carlin Buzz Racing
11 Ye Yifei	Hitech Grand Prix
12 Max Fewtrell	ART Grand Prix
13 Juri Vips	Hitech Grand Prix
14 Logan Sargeant	Carlin Buzz Racing
15 Sebastian Fernandez	Campos Racing
16 Teppei Natori	Carlin Buzz Racing
17 Devlin DeFrancesco	Trident
18 Raoul Hyman	Sauber Junior Team by Charouz
19 Niko Kari	Trident
20 Bent Viscaal	HWA RACELAB
21 Richard Verschoor	MP Motorsport
22 Andreas Estner	Jenzer Motorsport
23 Federico Malvestiti	Jenzer Motorsport
24 Simo Laaksonen	MP Motorsport
25 Alessio Deledda	Campos Racing
26 Keyvan Andres	HWA RACELAB
27 Pedro Piquet	Trident
28 Jehan Daruvala	PREMA Racing

NOT CLASSIFIED

Jake Hughes	HWA RACELAB
Alex Peroni	Campos Racing

OVERALL FASTEST LAP

Robert Shwartzman (PREMA Racing) - 1:46.203 on Lap 19

FASTEST LAP ELIGIBLE FOR POINTS

Robert Shwartzman (PREMA Racing)



[Leonardo Pulcini \(Hitech Grand Prix\)](#)



[Robert Shwartzman \(PREMA Racing\), Leonardo Pulcini \(Hitech Grand Prix\), Liam Lawson \(MP Motorsport\)](#)



[2019 FIA Formula 3 - Round 4 - Race 2 Classification](#)

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[2019 FIA Formula 3 - Round 4 - Race 2 Drivers Championship](#)

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[2019 FIA Formula 3 - Round 4 - Race 2 Teams Championship](#)

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[2019 FIA Formula 3 - Round 4 - Race 2 Pit Stop Summary](#)

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VIPS HANDED POST RACE 2 PENALTY

14 JUL 2019

ESTONIAN DRIVER PENALISED FOR COLLISION WITH HUGHES

Jüri Vips has been handed a 5 second time penalty following events in today's FIA Formula 3 Race 2.

The Hitech Grand Prix racer made contact with the rear left of Jake Hughes' HWA RACELAB machine, which resulted in the Briton retiring from the race after going outside track limits. The stewards decided that Vips was responsible for the contact and have penalised him as a result.

The Estonian initially finished the race in 13th, but now drops down to 15th, following the penalty.