Monaco, Race 1: Hadjar, what a pace on Maloney and Aron!

22/05/2021

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The French **Isack Hadjar crowns the dream by winning Race 1 on the Circuit de Monaco**, with the eyes of F1 watching. Win, fastest lap, and unbeatable pace by the 16-year-old driver of **R-ace GP**, the team that here in Monaco seems to have found the perfect setup of the Formula Alpine cars.

Behind Hadjar, his teammate and poleman for tomorrow, **Zane Maloney**, who has perfectly kept the second position all the race, also after the safety car, but did not have the pace of the French driver.

Third under the checkered flag is **Paul Aron (Prema Powerteam)**, battling the entire race to protect the podium position from the attacks of another R-ace GP driver, **Hadrien David**, who definitely had more pace than the Estonian and was finally fourth. Fifth is a good **Patrick Pasma** (**KIC Motorsport**) and sixth an always fast **Alex Quinn (Arden Motorsport)**.

Hadjar: "I am of course extremely satisfied. This morning seeing from my room the wet conditions I was not worried, but knew I was perfectly set for dry conditions. In fact, I had a really good pace and would have gained a very big gap from Zane if there had been no safety car. Still, even at the restart I was confident and kept quite easily my position. Tomorrow from P2 I will try to gain P1, and if not I will still battle for the second win. The team, my engineer and the mechanics have been great, and after a not-so-easy weekend in Barcelona they made a huge job and here the car is perfect."

Maloney: "I tried to gain the first position, but after I lost some distance from Isack I understood there was not much I could do more and then decided to keep second and make the most of the experience of Race 1 to be at my best tomorrow from pole position."

Aron: "Definitely here in Monaco R-ace GP drivers have a better pace as their team has already raced here and surely has some more knowledge to be at the top. It was not easy with David trying to attack all race long, and so I decided to focus more on the exit of the corner more than the pace in general. We were good in qualifying and it was a pity that due to too much traffic I could not do better for the grid."

David: "It was really impossible to overtake. My pace was really good, but really I had very few chances and points where to pass Paul, and on those few occasions I decided it did not really make sense to risk so much. If it had been the final race of the season and battle for the title it would have made sense, but not now in Race 1. Tomorrow I start from P3, so one step up, and let's see what I can do."

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Monaco, Race 1 report

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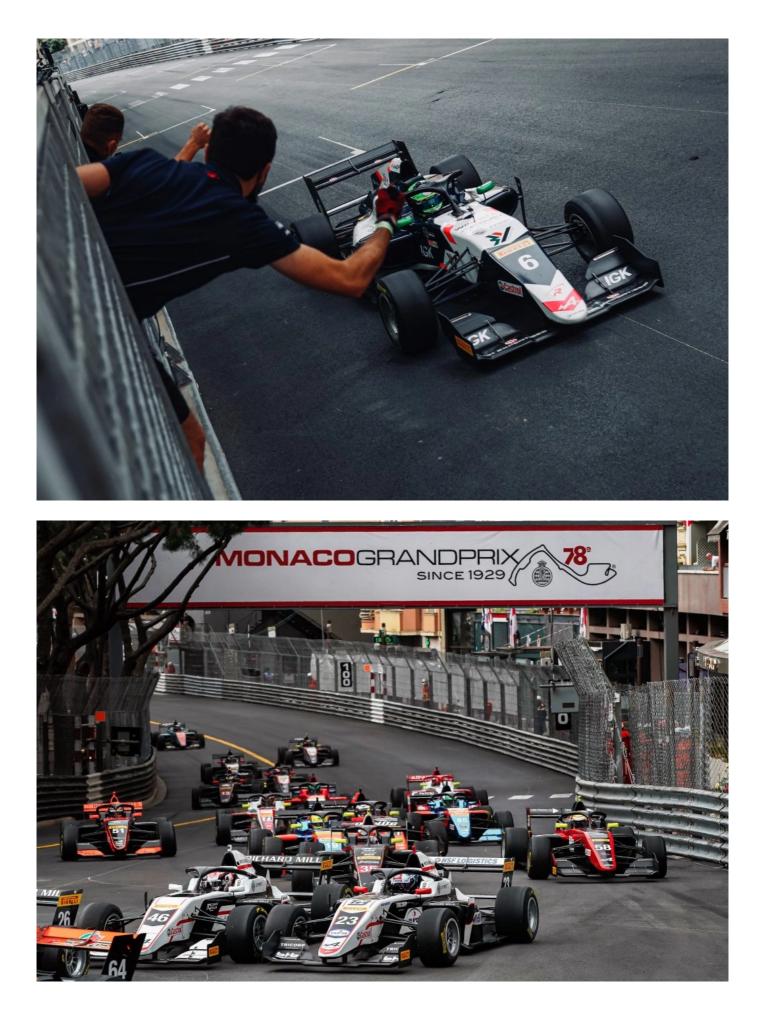
On a **drying track**, where the previous race of the morning has been **F2**, the **Formula Regional European Championship by Alpine** drivers reach the pit lane waiting for the final indication by the Race Direction, which finally confirms wet race. The track is anyway drying quickly thanks to the sun coming out and quite a strong wind blowing.

All drivers put on slick tires and are ready on the grid, with **Isack Hadjar (R-ace GP)** and his teammate **Zane Maloney** occupying the first row, while **Paul Aron (Prema Powerteam) and Hadrien David (R-ace GP)** are in third and fourth position. Behind them, **Patrick Pasma (KIC Motorsport) and Alex Quinn (Arden)**, then **David Vidales (Prema Powerteam)**, William **Alatalo (Arden)**, **Mari Boya (Van Amersfoort Racing)** and the championship leader **Grégoire Saucy (ART Grand Prix)**.

2021 FRECA - Round 03 - MONACO - Starting Grid Race 1

On the grid **Eduardo Barrichello (JD Motorsport)** unfortunately has some problems that will lead to a stop to his race in the first lap. In the formation lap a bad mistake is made by **Lorenzo Fluxa (Van Amersfoort Racing)** hitting the barriers and ending his race before the start.

At the **start**, Hadjar has a good acceleration and keeps his position in front of **Maloney, Aron**, **David**, **Pasma and Quinn**. The track is practically completely dry both in the trajectory and out. The French driver is soon away from his opponents, gaining space lap after lap on Maloney. The battle is behind them, with **David having a better pace than Aron**, and getting extremely close, but finally not being able to overtake the Estonian.





Difficult overtaking keeps the positions quite blocked, when **Jasin Ferati (Monolite Racing)** hits the wall with the rear right wheel, breaking the suspension and retiring. The battle between **Brad Benavides (DR Formula) and Nicola Marinangeli (Arden)** ends with the first hitting the car of the Italian on the rear left wheel in a weak tentative to overtake, making him spin and hit the side barriers with the rear wing, which brakes, giving an end to the race of the Arden driver. Benavides instead will be able to continue his race, but with a broken front wing, that he will have to change going back to the box, and also he will be finally penalized with 3 positions on the grid of Race 2, due to his responsability in the accident with Marinangeli.

In the battle between Rosso (FA Racing), finally 13th, Elias Seppanen (KIC Motorsport), finally 12th, Francesco Pizzi (Van Amersfoort Racing), finally 15th and Gabriel Bortoleto (FA Racing), the latter brakes the front wing and after a few laps has to box and change it, so he will end up 23rd.

The accident requires the **Alpine A110 Safety Car** to enter on track and so the group comes back together. Hadjar has to do it all over again, but is strong and confident in his action and at the restart keeps the lead, with the following positions not changing.

The French driver leads to the checkered flag and the dream comes true. Behind him **Maloney**, who will bring on the podium the National hymn of **Barbados**, and **Aron**, for a podium prized by **Angelo Sticchi Damiani**, **Automobile Club of Italy (ACI) President**, **Michel Ferry**, **Vice President Automobile Club de Monaco and Michel Dotta**, **President of Monaco Economic Board and President of Media Commission Automobile Club de Monaco**.



The positions from **4th to 10th see David, Pasma, Quinn, Vidales, William Alatalo (Arden), Mari Boya (Van Amersfoort Racing and Gabriele Minì (ART Grand Prix).**

2021 FRECA - Rd 03 - MONACO - Race 1 - Classification (Final)

After Race 1, **Saucy** still leads the **general standings** with 85 points, none gained in this race, followed by **Aron** (72), **Quinn** (56) and **Hadjar** (52), the latter being first of the Rookies in front of **Minì** (37) and **Boya** (17).

In the teams standings, **ART Grand Prix** is still first with 122 points, in front of a fast recovering **R-ace GP** (116) and **Prema Powerteam** (110).

Complete standings

Tomorrow Race 2 will start at 11.50, with live streaming starting earlier with studiopresentation at 11.43 (CET), with Chris Mccarthy.

Monaco - Race 2 starting grid

Live streaming will be visible on the official **Youtube** and **Facebook** channels of the series, which are also reachable from the official website: formularegionaleubyalpine.com

Youtube: https://youtube.com/channel/UCrCEln9HtJvw5TDIDli1Rwg

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/FormulaRegionalEUbyAlpine/