Spa-Francorchamps, Race 1: Belov wins under pouring rain

24/07/2021 19:02



After an outstanding pole position, Michael Belov wins his first race in Formula Regional by Alpine and brings also the first success to his team, G4 Racing. A perfect start and also a great restart after the safety car, together with an amazing pace, give a great success to the Russian driver who wins with more than 9 seconds on his follower, Hadrien David (R-ace GP), who manages to overtake his teammate Zane Maloney two laps to the end. A stall for Isack Hadjar (R-ace GP) makes the French driver lose many positions and finally end seventh, in front of Gabriele Minì (ART Grand Prix) and an astonishing Grègoire Saucy (ART Grand Prix),recovering 16 positions from 24th to 8th. A great result also for Dino Beganovic (Prema Powerteam), fourth and first of the Rookies, in front of a very good Patrick Pasma (ART Grand Prix). Points also for the two Aren Motorsport drivers, William Alatalo and Alex Quinn, respectively ninth and tenth.

"I am really happy about the race. I had never started in wet conditions with this car, so I was a little worried, but all went well and I managed to avoid spinning the wheels. Finally, the pace was amazing and all went smoothly to the end of the race, even during the restart behind the safety car", **Belov** comments after the podium ceremony.

Spa-Francorshamps, Race 1 report: Belov huge, then David and Maloney

25/07/2021 06:36



Race 1 starts with slightly wet track conditions and some teams and drivers trying a gamble with slick tyres, but the choice does not help and, finally, the race will be held with pouring rain. In the first row Michael Belov (G4 Racing) is in pole position, and at his side is the Rookie, Red Bull Junior Team driver, Isack Hadjar (R-ace GP). In the second row, Hadrien David (R-ace GP) and Dino Beganovic (Prema Powerteam).

Belov makes a good start while **Hadjar stalls** and loses many positions, just as **Franco Colapinto (MP Motorsport)**, starting from the seventh position. Behind, **Hadrien David** is really good and manages to almost overtake the Russian driver with an amazing drive along the straight, putting two wheels on the grass, and actually gaining the position for a moment. Belov is though good in gaining it back taking advantage of the French driver going slightly wide. David is then slightly blocked and **Zane Maloney** is excellent in conquering P2.



After 5 minutes, **Grègoire Saucy** has already recovered 14 positions, from 24th to 10th, while in a few laps Belov is already more than 5 seconds away from the driver of **Barbados**.

23 minutes to the end of the race, unfortunately, **David Vidales (Prema Powerteam)** spins and damages the rear wing. His position is dangerous and requires the entry of the safety car. All the group is compacted and **Belov** needs to do the job all over again. The safety car is on track for quite some time to permit the recovery of the car of the Spanish driver. The race restarts 6'50 to the end of the race, and Belov is perfect behind the safety car, gaining immediately good distance from **Maloney** and **David**. The **Russian of G4 Racing will also set the best lap time of the race (2:34.930).**



Zane Maloney (R-ace GP) overtakes his teammate Hadrien David, who will gain P2 back two laps to the end of the race

Track conditions worsen a lot, and rain is pouring down heavily, with very poor visibility for drivers following others. **Saucy** tries to attack **Hadjar**, who himself is very close to **Gabriele Minì (ART Grand Prix)**, but finally these battles do not lead to overtakes, still giving a show of great driving with controls of the cars to the limit.



With two laps to go a mistake by **Maloney**, who raced an amazing race until that moment, permits **David** to overtake and conquer the second position.



Finally, **Belov wins** with more than 9 seconds of advantage on **David**. Third is **Maloney**, fourth is a fantastic **Beganovic**, first of the **Rookies**, fifth a very good **Patrick Pasma** in his first race with ART Grand Prix, sixth is Minì, who holds to his position with his teeth, seventh is **Hadjar** and eighth, **recovering finally 16 positions from 24th on the grid**, is the championship leader **Saucy**, who manages to limit the loss of points on his first opponent in the championship, **David**.

Race1 - Classification (Final)

The **live-streaming** of **Race 2 starting at 11.35 (CET) today** will go 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/