

Friday 1 September 2023

Goethe gets up to speed in stop-start Monza opener

Oliver Goethe was straight back into action at Monza, going fastest of all in Free Practice with a 1:38.677. The Trident driver secured his lap just moments before a second session-ending Red Flag, finishing over a tenth clear of PREMA Racing's Paul Aron and Gabriele Minì for Hitech Pulse-Eight.

Rodin Carlin set the early benchmark, with Oliver Gray putting in a 1:41.612 on his initial effort around the Temple of Speed, half a tenth ahead of teammate Ido Cohen.

Only six cars had laid down a time within the opening six minutes, as newcomer Joshua Dufek went quickest on his Formula 3 debut, slotting the #25 Campos Racing car to the top of the timing sheet with a 1:40.661.

As the 30-minute mark approached, the track quickly got busier as queues of cars formed, all eager to get that all-important slipstream. Home hero Leonardo Fornaroli took charge, dipping into the 1:39s, before Jenzer Motorsport's Taylor Barnard went over two tenths clear of the Trident.

The first Red Flag was brought out by Nikita Bedrin, as the second Jenzer stopped on track. The clock continued to tick down and running resumed with 16 minutes to go.

Grégoire Saucy took ART Grand Prix up into the top spot on the restart, clocking in a 1:39.276 to go eight thousandths faster than Fornaroli. Piecing together a perfect lap was far from easy. Zak O'Sullivan headed a lengthy train of cars around the Italian circuit, whilst several drivers found the runoff at the Variante de Rettifilo.

Minì then broke into the 1:38s, but the Hitech Pulse-Eight driver was immediately beaten by Goethe and Aron. That flurry proved to be the final attempts of the morning, as MP Motorsport's Mari Boya spun off into the barriers at Turn 11 inside the final six minutes.

With not enough time to resume, Goethe remained fastest ahead of Aron and Minì. Saucy dropped to fourth ahead of the two Tridents of Fornaroli and Championship leader Gabriel Bortoletto.

Barnard closed his session in seventh ahead of Franco Colapinto, Dino Beganovic, and Luke Browning, who rounded out the top 10.

Trident will be looking to convert their Practice pace into pole when Qualifying gets underway at 15:05 local time.

CONTINUES

2023 FIA FORMULA 3 CHAMPIONSHIP – ROUND 10 FREE PRACTICE PROVISIONAL CLASSIFICATION

	DRIVER	LICENCE	TEAM	LAPTIME
1	Oliver Goethe	DEU	Trident	1:38.677
2	Paul Aron	EST	PREMA Racing	1:38.790
3	Gabriele Mini	ITA	Hitech Pulse-Eight	1:38.981
4	Grégoire Saucy	CHE	ART Grand Prix	1:39.276
5	Leonardo Fornaroli	ITA	Trident	1:39.284
6	Gabriel Bortoleto	BRA	Trident	1:39.338
7	Taylor Barnard	GBR	Jenzer Motorsport	1:39.477
8	Franco Colapinto	ARG	MP Motorsport	1:39.556
9	Dino Beganovic	SWE	PREMA Racing	1:39.656
10	Luke Browning	GBR	Hitech Pulse-Eight	1:39.751
11	Sebastian Montoya	COL	Hitech Pulse-Eight	1:39.847
12	Tommy Smith	AUS	Van Amersfoort Racing	1:39.865
13	Caio Collet	BRA	Van Amersfoort Racing	1:39.867
14	Kaylen Frederick	USA	ART Grand Prix	1:39.919
15	Mari Boya	ESP	MP Motorsport	1:39.925
16	Nikita Bedrin	ITA	Jenzer Motorsport	1:39.985
17	Zak O'Sullivan	GBR	PREMA Racing	1:40.037
18	Nikola Tselov	BGR	ART Grand Prix	1:40.048
19	Jonny Edgar	GBR	MP Motorsport	1:40.162
20	Christian Mansell	GBR	Campos Racing	1:40.437
21	Rafael Villagómez	MEX	Van Amersfoort Racing	1:40.650
22	Joshua Dufek	CHE	Campos Racing	1:40.661
23	Sophia Floersch	DEU	PHM Racing by Charouz	1:40.718
24	Josep María Martí	ESP	Campos Racing	1:40.832
25	Ido Cohen	ISR	Rodin Carlin	1:40.908
26	Oliver Gray	GBR	Rodin Carlin	1:40.952
27	Francesco Simonazzi	ITA	Rodin Carlin	1:41.392
28	Woohyun Shin	KOR	PHM Racing by Charouz	1:42.357
29	Roberto Faria	BRA	PHM Racing by Charouz	1:42.889
30	Alejandro García	MEX	Jenzer Motorsport	1:43.794

ENDS

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