

Sunday 9 July 2023

Goethe heads home Trident 1-2 after late race rain

Oliver Goethe claimed his first Formula 3 race victory, leading home Trident teammate and pole sitter Leonardo Fornaroli in P2. The Trident pair exchanged the lead mid-way through the race, before a late Safety Car and rain made things tough for all the drivers. Josep María Martí claimed another podium, finishing third for Campos Racing.

AS IT HAPPENED

Fornaroli covered off his teammate to retain the lead into Turn 1 while Gabriel Bortoleto made immediate progress up to fourth position, going around the outside of Christian Mansell into Turn 3. Paul Aron cleared both of them though into Brooklands to move himself into P4. Further ahead, Martí cleared Goethe to take second position, albeit briefly. The Trident driver was able to retake the place with a great pass around the outside of Stowe later on in the lap.

Luke Browning made contact with Hugh Barter out of the final corner, leaving the Hitech Pulse-Eight driver with a broken suspension. It resulted in his retirement from the race and brought out the Safety Car. Jonny Edgar was also out of his home event on Lap 1 after contact with Caio Collet on the opening lap. The Brazilian was into the pits at the end of the lap for repairs, dropping down to the back of the pack.

Racing got back underway on Lap 7 with Fornaroli relaunching into a comfortable lead over Goethe but with DRS soon re-enabled, the top six were separated by under three seconds at the halfway mark.

Gabriele Minì was doing his best to join the lead fight, passing Sprint Race winner Franco Colapinto with DRS on the Hangar Straight on Lap 11.

Aron was the closest to the driver in front in the lead pack and with DRS on Lap 15 and tried to pass Martí around the outside at Stowe. The PREMA Racing man didn't have room to complete the pass and had to fall back in line behind the Spaniard. Up in front, Goethe was able to pass his teammate to take the lead of the race.

On Lap 17, rain began to fall and Robert Faria went off into the barriers at Woodcote. He was out of the car and OK, but the Safety Car was called upon once more.

As the rain intensified, Tommy Smith was the only taker for wet tyres with three laps remaining, rejoining in 28th position.

The Safety Car was called in on Lap 20 with Goethe leading the way on a greasy track surface.

Van Amersfoort Racing's Collet was able to make great progress despite running the slick hard tyres, taking multiple positions on the penultimate lap to rise up to the points positions. Teammate Smith was able to take full advantage of conditions on the wets, going from 28th to 12th in the space of a lap and a half.

Goethe was able to cling on to victory ahead of teammate Fornaroli, with Martí third for Campos. Aron ended up fourth ahead of Mansell and Botoleto. Minì followed his title rival home in seventh with Sprint winner Colapinto eighth. Collet was able to climb up to ninth in the end ahead of Grégoire Saucy, who denied Smith his maiden F3 points by just over a tenth in a drag race to the line.

KEY QUOTE – Oliver Goethe, Trident

"I'm delighted to be honest. It was a really tricky race, it started raining at the end and we stayed on slicks. It was a scary one but so happy with the win here."

THE CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS

Gabriel Bortoleto keeps the lead in the Drivers' Championship, now on 128 points. Josep María Martí's podium finish closes the gap to the Trident driver, with the Spaniard now on 92 points. Gabriele Minì moves up to third position in the Championship, with 77 points, tied with Paul Aron in fourth. Dino Beganovic couldn't fight back to points and is fifth in the standings with 75 points.

In the Teams' Standings, Trident climb up to the top spot with 238 points, overtaking PREMA Racing, now on 225. Hitech Pulse-Eight retain third, on 143 points.

UP NEXT

Formula 3 has a one-week break before heading to Budapest for Round 8 of the 2023 season, from 21-23 July.

CONTINUES

2023 FIA FORMULA 3 CHAMPIONSHIP – ROUND 7 FEATURE RACE PROVISIONAL CLASSIFICATION

	DRIVER	LICENCE	TEAM
1	Oliver Goethe	DEU	Trident
2	Leonardo Fornaroli	ITA	Trident
3	Josep María Martí	ESP	Campos Racing
4	Paul Aron	EST	PREMA Racing
5	Christian Mansell	GBR	Campos Racing
6	Gabriel Bortoleto	BRA	Trident
7	Gabriele Mini	ITA	Hitech Pulse-Eight
8	Franco Colapinto	ARG	MP Motorsport
9	Caio Collet	BRA	Van Amersfoort Racing
10	Grégoire Saucy	CHE	ART Grand Prix
11	Tommy Smith	AUS	Van Amersfoort Racing
12	Sebastian Montoya	COL	Hitech Pulse-Eight
13	Nikola Tzolov	BGR	ART Grand Prix
14	Mari Boya	ESP	MP Motorsport
15	Hugh Barter	AUS	Campos Racing
16	Dino Beganovic	SWE	PREMA Racing
17	Rafael Villagómez	MEX	Van Amersfoort Racing
18	Nikita Bedrin	ITA	Jenzer Motorsport
19	Zak O'Sullivan	GBR	PREMA Racing
20	Kaylen Frederick	USA	ART Grand Prix
21	Oliver Gray	GBR	Rodin Carlin
22	Taylor Barnard	GBR	Jenzer Motorsport
23	McKenzy Creswell	POL	PHM Racing by Charouz
24	Sophia Floersch	DEU	PHM Racing by Charouz
25	Ido Cohen	ISR	Rodin Carlin
26	Alejandro García	MEX	Jenzer Motorsport

NOT CLASSIFIED

DNF	Roberto Faria	BRA	PHM Racing by Charouz
DNF	Maxwell Esterson	USA	Rodin Carlin
DNF	Jonny Edgar	GBR	MP Motorsport
DNF	Luke Browning	GBR	Hitech Pulse-Eight

OVERALL FASTEST LAP

Zak O'Sullivan	GBR	PREMA Racing
1:47.309 (Lap 9)		

FASTEST LAP ELIGIBLE FOR POINTS

Josep María Martí	ESP	Campos Racing
1:47.425 (Lap 9)		