

Friday 7 July 2023

Fornaroli takes maiden pole for Trident at Silverstone

Leonardo Fornaroli headed up a Trident 1-2 around Silverstone, taking his maiden Formula 3 pole position with a 1:45.520. Teammate Oliver Goethe followed in second after making a late improvement, while Josep María Martí led the Campos Racing effort in third.

The Spaniard was narrowly ahead of teammate Christian Mansell, who secured his best F3 Qualifying result in fourth. Championship leader Gabriel Bortoleto rounded out the top five on a good day for the Trident team.

Gabriele Minì set the early pace with a 1:46.619 which was swiftly beaten by teammate Luke Browning to the tune of three-tenths. The Tridents of Gabriel Bortoleto and Oliver Goethe crossed the line to split the two Hitech Pulse-Eight drivers, with the top three covered by just 0.120s.

With 10 minutes gone, Paul Aron became the driver to beat, setting a 1:46.191 in the #1 PREMA Racing car. Just beyond halfway through the session, the lead changed hands once again as Leonardo Fornaroli put his Trident onto provisional pole with a 1:45.717 to head the field by over four-tenths. MP Motorsport's Franco Colapinto closed the gap down to 0.375s to slot into P2.

The track filled up once more after a swap to fresh tyres with less than 10 minutes remaining of Qualifying.

Minì, Browning and Aron each improved on their next efforts but only the Estonian got to within a quarter of a second of Fornaroli's provisional pole time.

The Italian was able to find even more margin and lowered his personal best to a 1:45.520. Teammate Goethe slotted into second with his last lap, 0.126s back in P2.

Josep María Martí and Christian Mansell popped up to third and fourth respectively for Campos Racing on their last laps, with Bortoleto ensuring all three Tridents were in the top five with fifth. Aron ended up sixth for PREMA ahead of Minì and Browning for Hitech. Colapinto slotted into ninth ahead of British duo Taylor Barnard and Jonny Edgar in 11th.

Sebastián Montoya will line up on reverse grid pole for Hitech Pulse-Eight in the Sprint Race on Saturday, set to get underway at 09:20 local time.

CONTINUES

2023 FIA FORMULA 3 CHAMPIONSHIP – ROUND 7 QUALIFYING PROVISIONAL CLASSIFICATION

| | DRIVER | LICENCE | TEAM | LAPTIME |
|------------------------------|--------------------|---------|-----------------------|----------|
| 1 | Leonardo Fornaroli | ITA | Trident | 1:45.520 |
| 2 | Oliver Goethe | DEU | Trident | 1:45.646 |
| 3 | Josep María Martí | ESP | Campos Racing | 1:45.874 |
| 4 | Christian Mansell | GBR | Campos Racing | 1:45.909 |
| 5 | Gabriel Bortoleto | BRA | Trident | 1:45.910 |
| 6 | Paul Aron | EST | PREMA Racing | 1:45.945 |
| 7 | Gabriele Mini | ITA | Hitech Pulse-Eight | 1:46.040 |
| 8 | Luke Browning | GBR | Hitech Pulse-Eight | 1:46.046 |
| 9 | Franco Colapinto | ARG | MP Motorsport | 1:46.064 |
| 10 | Taylor Barnard | GBR | Jenzer Motorsport | 1:46.155 |
| 11 | Jonny Edgar | GBR | MP Motorsport | 1:46.169 |
| 12 | Sebastian Montoya | COL | Hitech Pulse-Eight | 1:46.249 |
| 13 | Grégoire Saucy | CHE | ART Grand Prix | 1:46.270 |
| 14 | Hugh Barter | AUS | Campos Racing | 1:46.277 |
| 15 | Zak O'Sullivan | GBR | PREMA Racing | 1:46.332 |
| 16 | Mari Boya | ESP | MP Motorsport | 1:46.346 |
| 17 | Caio Collet | BRA | Van Amersfoort Racing | 1:46.468 |
| 18 | Kaylen Frederick | USA | ART Grand Prix | 1:46.620 |
| 19 | Nikita Bedrin | ITA | Jenzer Motorsport | 1:46.732 |
| 20 | McKenzy Cresswell | GBR | PHM Racing by Charouz | 1:46.906 |
| 21 | Rafael Villagómez | MEX | Van Amersfoort Racing | 1:46.971 |
| 22 | Tommy Smith | AUS | Van Amersfoort Racing | 1:47.037 |
| 23 | Nikola Tsolov | BGR | ART Grand Prix | 1:47.054 |
| 24 | Maxwell Esterton | USA | Rodin Carlin | 1:47.107 |
| 25 | Oliver Gray | GBR | Rodin Carlin | 1:47.270 |
| 26 | Ido Cohen | ISR | Rodin Carlin | 1:47.447 |
| 27 | Alejandro García | MEX | Jenzer Motorsport | 1:47.560 |
| 28 | Sophia Floersch | DEU | PHM Racing by Charouz | 1:47.613 |
| 29 | Roberto Faria | BRA | PHM Racing by Charouz | 1:48.428 |
| NOT CLASSIFIED - 107% | | | | |
| | Dino Beganovic | SWE | PREMA Racing | 2:45.962 |

ENDS

About the FIA Formula 3 Championship™

THE F3 FIA FORMULA 3 CHAMPIONSHIP LOGO, FIA FORMULA 3 CHAMPIONSHIP, FIA FORMULA 3, FORMULA 3, F3 AND RELATED MARKS ARE TRADEMARKS OF THE FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE L'AUTOMOBILE AND USED UNDER LICENCE. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.