

CAMARA TAKES HIS SECOND POLE OF THE SEASON AT SPA FRANCORCHAMPS

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The **Formula Regional European Championship by Alpine** returned to the track this morning for the second qualifying session at **Spa Francorchamps**. Over the more than 7 km of the Belgian circuit, considered the university of motorsport, **Rafael Camara** was the one to receive top marks, securing his fifth pole position in the international series and his second in 2024. The **Prema Racing** driver, fresh from his victory in the first race yesterday which allowed him to extend his lead in the championship standings, was the fastest in Group A this morning, recording the best time of 2'14"254.

The Ferrari Driver Academy representative snatched pole position from his teammate **James Wharton**, who led Group B, the first group on track this morning. The Australian driver, who will still start from the front row, redeemed himself from yesterday's unfortunate qualifying session which saw him exit at Eau Rouge, preventing him from participating in Race 1.





Spa (BEL) MAY 23-26, 2024 – Second round of the Formula Regional European Championship by Alpine 2024 at Circuit Spa-Francorchamps. James WHARTON #13, Prema Racing. © 2024 Dutch Photo Agency.

Behind the all-Prema Racing front row is another Ferrari Driver Academy driver, **Tuukka Taponen (R-ace GP)**, who was just under seven tenths behind Camara. Starting alongside the Finnish driver in the fourth spot on the grid will be McLaren Driver Development's **Ugo Ugochukwu** (Prema Racing), who was just under three tenths behind his teammate Wharton in Group B. **Alessandro Giusti (ART Grand Prix)** of the Williams Academy also confirmed his excellent form, starting from the third row this afternoon alongside **Noah Strømsted**. The **RPM** driver, demoted from second to fourth place in yesterday's race due to a penalty, once again demonstrated a great feeling with his car through the curves of the Ardennes forest, securing the third-best time in Group B.

Enzo Deligny, a Red Bull Academy driver, also impressed, starting from the fourth row alongside one of the weekend's standout performers, **Roman Bilinski (Trident)**, who was promoted to second position after the engines stopped following Race 1 and had also secured his first pole in the series. The fifth row will see rookies **Ivan Domingues (Van Amersfoort Racing)** and **Evan Giltaire** (ART Grand Prix) start side by side, both vying for the top of this group where they are tied with 25 points.

Starting behind them is **Brando Badoer** (Van Amersfoort Racing), currently second in the championship behind Camara, who will start Race 2 from the sixth row with **Théophile Naël (Sainteloc Racing)**. Notably absent is Mercedes Junior Programme's **Doriane Pin (Iron Dames)** due to discomfort from a recent flu-like illness.

Rafael Camara – Prema Racing

"We started the day off right. Yesterday we couldn't do the same in qualifying, but today we did everything well. The car was perfect. I simply did my job by bringing it to the top. From the first lap, I felt everything was under control and the track was already quite fast. Even though I encountered a bit of traffic on my lap, I managed the first and third sectors well, and I'm very happy about that. Prema did an excellent job, my engineers, my mechanics, everyone. Now we stay focused for the race."

All attention is now on the final race of the weekend, scheduled for this afternoon at 15:10, and as usual, it will be broadcast live on the official [YouTube](#) channel of the championship.

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