



PRESS RELEASE

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Impressive Slater takes pole with title rival Ugochukwu down the order in Monza



Freddie Slater took the Aramco Pole Position Award in phenomenal style in Monza, completing a 1:38.114 in Group B to beat TRIDENT teammate Matteo De Palo to the top prize. De Palo set the pace in Group A with a 1:38.143, where Slater's title rival Ugo Ugochukwu hit trouble and wound up in P10. The Italian will line up on the front row, while Nicola Lacorte will start in third after finishing second in Group B.

GROUP A

It was a slow start to the session but the drivers started to venture out with five minutes to go. This gave most of them time for just one flying lap, with Hiyu Yamakoshi fastest on a 1:38.261. Taito Kato was just 0.014s behind but ahead of Fernando Barrichello in P3.

Critically, title contender Ugo Ugochukwu had a wide moment at Turn 1, and as a result ended up ninth. Unfortunately for the Campos Racing driver he had no time to start another lap, having taken the chequered flag. Matteo De Palo was one of the few who was able to get a second lap, and he went to P1 with a 1:38.143, beating Kanato Le to provisional pole by 0.020s.

Kato wound up third ahead of Yamakoshi and Barrichello, as Tuukka Taponen rounded out the top six. With the final runs complete, Ugochukwu wound up in P10, leaving him with an uphill task for both races.

GROUP B

De Palo's 1:38.143 was the time to beat, and just like the previous group, the drivers stayed in the pitlane until the final few minutes of the session. They all had time for just one flying lap and it was Freddie Slater that shone the brightest with a 1:38.114, beating Nicola Lacorte by 0.236s.

Ernesto Rivera was third ahead of MP Motorsport duo Alessandro Giusti and Mattia Colnaghi as Pedro Clerot rounded out the top six. Slater's time was good enough to take pole position ahead of his TRIDENT teammate De Palo, with Lacorte set to start P3.

For Saturday's Sprint Race, Taponen will start from reverse grid pole, with Clerot joining him on the front row. That wraps up the Monza action for today, with the drivers set to return to the track tomorrow for the Sprint Race at 09:30 local time.

FIA Formula 3 - Monza - Provisional Classification - Qualifying

Group A

	DRIVER	LICENCE	TEAM	LAPTIME
1	Matteo De Palo	ITA	TRIDENT	1:38.143
2	Kanato Le	JPN	ART Grand Prix	1:38.163
3	Taito Kato	JPN	ART Grand Prix	1:38.222

	4	Hiyu Yamakoshi		JPN	Van Amersfoort Racing		1:38.261	
	5	Fernando Barrichello		BRA	AIX Racing		1:38.340	
	6	Tuukka Taponen		FIN	MP Motorsport		1:38.458	
	7	Brando Badoer		ITA	Rodin Motorsport		1:38.703	
	8	Bruno Del Pino		ESP	Van Amersfoort Racing		1:38.880	
	9	Noah Stromsted		DEN	TRIDENT		1:38.940	
	10	Ugo Ugochukwu		USA	Campos Racing		1:39.039	
	11	Nandhavud Bhirombhakdi		THA	DAMS Lucas Oil		1:39.105	
	12	Jose Garfias		MEX	PREMA Racing		1:39.546	
	13	Alex Powell		USA	PREMA Racing		1:39.650	
	14	Fionn McLaughlin		IRL	Hitech		1:41.099	
	15	Ricardo Escotto		MEX	AIX Racing		1:41.257	

Group B

		DRIVER		LICENCE	TEAM		LAPTIME	
	1	Freddie Slater		GBR	TRIDENT		1:38.114	
	2	Nicola Lacorte		ITA	DAMS Lucas Oil		1:38.350	
	3	Ernesto Rivera		MEX	Campos Racing		1:38.360	
	4	Alessandro Giusti		FRA	MP Motorsport		1:38.626	
	5	Mattia Colnaghi		ARG	MP Motorsport		1:38.628	
	6	Pedro Clerot		BRA	Rodin Motorsport		1:38.658	
	7	Gerrard Xie		CHN	DAMS Lucas Oil		1:38.857	
	8	James Wharton		AUS	PREMA Racing		1:38.904	
	9	Maciej Gladysz		POL	ART Grand Prix		1:38.951	
	10	Yevan David		SRI	AIX Racing		1:39.156	
	11	Enzo Deligny		FRA	Van Amersfoort Racing		1:39.332	
	12	Woohyun Shin		KOR	Hitech		1:39.397	
	13	Christian Ho		SGP	Rodin Motorsport		1:39.804	

NOT CLASSIFIED

		Theophile Nael		FRA	Campos Racing			
		Jin Nakamura		JPN	Hitech			

ENDS

About FIA Formula 3:

2019 marked the launch of the FIA Formula 3 Championship. An ambitious new project from the FIA and the former GP3 Series Organisation to form an official third rung of the Road to F1 ladder. Combining GP3 and European F3, the idea was to create a defined entry point for young and ambitious drivers to join the Formula 1 circus, and to give them the chance to take the path to join their

heroes in the main paddock. With some of the world's best racing teams on board, and the hottest junior motor racing talent from across the globe filling their race seats, Formula 3 promised to be one of the most exciting championships in motorsport.

Designed as the perfect training ground for both F2, and ultimately, F1, our young drivers must showcase their skills both in speed and in tyre management, just like they will have to do when they move up the motorsport ladder. Notable F3 alumni include 2020 Champion Oscar Piastri, F1 rookie Arvid Lindblad and of course the F1 rookie class of 2024 that included F3 Champion Gabriel Bortoleto, Oliver Bearman, Franco Colapinto and Isack Hadjar. The Championship benefits from the FIA's excellence in the scrutineering of cars and the overseeing and running of events, while FOM's (Formula One Management) unparalleled expertise in broadcasting and marketing ensures that the Championship has a truly global reach and appeal. 2026 promises to be a thrilling spectacle from start to finish.

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