



PRESS RELEASE

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Slater makes statement of intent to kick off home weekend fastest



Freddie Slater was on it from the green light at Silverstone, setting a 1:46.161 to end Free Practice fastest overall for TRIDENT. The Briton set his first flying lap time, and his benchmark remained unbeaten throughout, as he was followed by Campos Racing's Ernesto Rivera and teammate Matteo De Palo in third.

Tuukka Taponen set the initial benchmark time to beat early on, logging a

1:47.652 inside the opening 10 minutes before the track got busier. Jin Nakamura was next to lead the way, 1:47.337 putting him P1 ahead of Taponen's initial effort with 30 minutes to run.

Slater was flying from the first lap of his weekend as he went to the top on a 1:46.161, over half a second quicker than next-best Rivera. The Mexican driver cut the deficit to 0.266s on his next flying lap, with de Palo a further two-tenths back in third place with over 20 minutes to go.

Both Rivera and De Palo delivered improvements with 12 minutes to go, but neither could better Slater's initial time, closing the gap down to 0.15s and 0.212s respectively whilst staying P2 and P3. Van Amersfoort Racing teammates Hiyu Yamakoshi and Enzo Deligny continued the team's impressive performances of late, slotting into fourth and fifth at the midway stage.

Campos Racing teammates Théophile Nael and Ugo Ugochukwu looked set to deliver an improvement in the final five minutes, but a Virtual Safety Car test meant they had to abandon their laps. The VSC ran to the end of the session, leaving the top 10 unchanged with Nael sixth, Fionn McLaughlin seventh for Hitech and Ugochukwu in P8. TRIDENT driver Noah Stromsted was ninth ahead of Louis Sharp, who rounded out the top 10 for PREMA Racing.

Qualifying is set to get underway at 14:00 local time.

FIA Formula 3 - Silverstone - Provisional Classification - Practice

	DRIVER	LICENCE	TEAM	LAPTIME
1	Freddie Slater	GBR	TRIDENT	1:46.161
2	Ernesto Rivera	MEX	Campos Racing	1:46.319
3	Matteo De Palo	ITA	TRIDENT	1:46.373
4	Hiyu Yamakoshi	JPN	Van Amersfoort Racing	1:46.512
5	Enzo Deligny	FRA	Van Amersfoort Racing	1:46.677
6	Theophile Nael	FRA	Campos Racing	1:46.688
7	Fionn McLaughlin	IRL	Hitech	1:46.691
8	Ugo Ugochukwu	USA	#N/A	1:46.724
9	Noah Stromsted	DEN	TRIDENT	1:46.798
10	Louis Sharp	NZL	PREMA Racing	1:46.802
11	Jin Nakamura	JPN	Hitech	1:46.874
12	Yevan David	SRI	AIX Racing	1:46.910
13	Alessandro Giusti	FRA	MP Motorsport	1:46.917

	14	Mattia Colnaghi		ARG	MP Motorsport		1:47.006	
	15	James Wharton		AUS	PREMA Racing		1:47.205	
	16	Nicola Lacorte		ITA	DAMS Lucas Oil		1:47.280	
	17	Bruno Del Pino		ESP	Van Amersfoort Racing		1:47.319	
	18	Maciej Gladysz		POL	ART Grand Prix		1:47.331	
	19	Nandhavud Bhirombhakdi		THA	DAMS Lucas Oil		1:47.372	
	20	Jose Garfias		MEX	PREMA Racing		1:47.449	
	21	Taito Kato		JPN	ART Grand Prix		1:47.478	
	22	Gerrard Xie		CHN	DAMS Lucas Oil		1:47.493	
	23	Brando Badoer		ITA	Rodin Motorsport		1:47.499	
	24	Tuukka Taponen		FIN	MP Motorsport		1:47.652	
	25	Kanato Le		JPN	ART Grand Prix		1:47.654	
	26	Woohyun Shin		KOR	Hitech		1:47.667	
	27	Pedro Clerot		BRA	Rodin Motorsport		1:47.729	
	28	Ricardo Escotto		MEX	AIX Racing		1:47.902	
	29	Fernando Barrichello		BRA	AIX Racing		1:48.082	
	30	Christian Ho		SGP	Rodin Motorsport		1:48.119	

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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