



PRESS RELEASE

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Slater takes maiden F3 pole on home turf



Freddie Slater delivered when it mattered, earning his maiden Aramco Pole Position Award in the Championship and TRIDENT's first of the 2026 season. Theophile Nael wound up P2 with a late lap under pressure having been down in P29 ahead of the final run. Louis Sharp secured third place on the grid for PREMA Racing.

Tyre prep complete and it was an early PREMA 1-2-3 headed by José Garfias, but the TRIDENTs of Slater and Matteo de Palo topped the times after several improvements from others. The home driver lost his effort though for exceeding

track limits at Copse corner to leave the Italian P1 on a 1:46.383, with Ernesto Rivera 0.096s behind in P2.

After a short stint in the pitlane, the drivers returned to the track and De Palo improved to a 1:46.334. But that was shortly beaten by Rivera, who went 0.031s clear to go to provisional pole. The fast times were coming in thick and fast, as Maciej Gladysz took over at the top with a 1:46.293. But a few moments later Slater beat that time by just 0.061s to take P1.

In the fight for the championship, once again Ugo Ugochukwu and Nael lost their times for breaching track limits, leaving them at the back ahead of their final lap of the day. With the pressure laps underway, Nael and Slater found time, but it was De Palo who went purple through the first sector.

Through Sector 2 and Slater delivered a session-best middle sector. Nael crossed the line first to go to provisional pole, until Slater delivered a 1:45.620 to take top spot on home soil. Nael wound up second with Louis Sharp third for PREMA. Rivera delivered a late improvement of his own to go to P4 ahead of De Palo in fifth.

Fionn McLaughlin secured his best Qualifying result in F3 so far with P6 ahead of Noah Stromsted, Gladysz, James Wharton and Alessandro Giusti, who rounded out the top 10. 11th was Yevan David for AIX Racing, while Ugochukwu could only manage P12 on his final attempt, making it inside the reverse grid spots by just 0.066s.

Up next is the Sprint Race, set to get underway at 09:35 local time on Saturday, with the Championship leader Ugochukwu going from reverse grid pole.

FIA Formula 3 - Silverstone - Provisional Classification - Qualifying

	DRIVER	LICENCE	TEAM	LAPTIME
1	Freddie Slater	GBR	TRIDENT	1:45.620
2	Theophile Nael	FRA	Campos Racing	1:45.880
3	Louis Sharp	NZL	PREMA Racing	1:45.881
4	Ernesto Rivera	MEX	Campos Racing	1:45.906
5	Matteo De Palo	ITA	TRIDENT	1:45.931
6	Fionn Mclaughlin	IRL	Hitech	1:45.933
7	Noah Stromsted	DEN	TRIDENT	1:45.957

	8	Maciej Gladysz		POL	ART Grand Prix		1:45.996	
	9	James Wharton		AUS	PREMA Racing		1:46.015	
	10	Alessandro Giusti		FRA	MP Motorsport		1:46.089	
	11	Yevan David		SRI	AIX Racing		1:46.215	
	12	Ugo Ugochukwu		USA	Campos Racing		1:46.218	
	13	Kanato Le		JPN	ART Grand Prix		1:46.284	
	14	Mattia Colnaghi		ARG	MP Motorsport		1:46.301	
	15	Jin Nakamura		JPN	Hitech		1:46.308	
	16	Taito Kato		JPN	ART Grand Prix		1:46.381	
	17	Bruno Del Pino		ESP	Van Amersfoort Racing		1:46.401	
	18	Hiyu Yamakoshi		JPN	Van Amersfoort Racing		1:46.487	
	19	Jose Garfias		MEX	PREMA Racing		1:46.490	
	20	Tuukka Taponen		FIN	MP Motorsport		1:46.517	
	21	Pedro Clerot		BRA	Rodin Motorsport		1:46.644	
	22	Brando Badoer		ITA	Rodin Motorsport		1:46.660	
	23	Gerrard Xie		CHN	DAMS Lucas Oil		1:46.696	
	24	Enzo Deligny		FRA	Van Amersfoort Racing		1:46.734	
	25	Nicola Lacorte		ITA	DAMS Lucas Oil		1:46.807	
	26	Christian Ho		SGP	Rodin Motorsport		1:46.893	
	27	Nandhavud Bhirombhakdi		THA	DAMS Lucas Oil		1:46.943	
	28	Woohyun Shin		KOR	Hitech		1:46.970	
	29	Fernando Barrichello		BRA	AIX Racing		1:47.210	
	30	Ricardo Escotto		MEX	AIX Racing		1:48.276	

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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