

Friday 2 July 2021

Caldwell beats Crawford to P1 in the opening session at Spielberg by 0.004s

PREMA Racing's Olli Caldwell kicked off the weekend in first place at the Red Bull Ring, lapping at 1:19.970 in Free Practice. Just 0.004s separated the top two with Hitech Grand Prix's Jak Crawford taking second and Charouz Racing System driver Logan Sargeant in third.

Rain was staying away but the field were greeted by cool morning conditions in the Styrian hills as they set out for their first outing of the weekend.

As the initial fast laps began to pour in, Dennis Hauger led the pack with a time of 1:21.229, ahead of Sargeant and Matteo Nannini. All three were some way off Caio Collet's track record from pre-season testing, with the Brazilian setting 1:18.592 in very different conditions.

The MP Motorsport driver picked up from where he left off in Spielberg, dropping the first sub-1m 21s laptime to steal P1 from Hauger. The PREMA Racing driver responded but was still 0.172s off Collet.

After a brief check-up in the pits, Hauger returned to reclaim top spot at the second time of asking, recording 1:20.720 to put himself back ahead of Collet. The Norwegian then improved on this time on his next tour, taking it down to 1:20.589 and solidifying the position. There was another PREMA vs MP battle going on for third, with Olli Caldwell usurping Victor Martins for P3.

With a large chunk of the field switching to fresh tyres in the final five minutes, the order enjoyed an all-mighty shuffle. Caldwell and Jack Crawford briefly sat in first after breaking the 1m 20s barrier, but it looked like Jack Doohan was going to finish the session in fastest.

The Australian's tour of 1:19.745 was more than two tenths quicker than the rest of the field, but it proved too good to be true and was later deleted for exceeding track limits. That meant that the Australian plummeted out of the top ten and down to 22nd, with Caldwell and Crawford promoted to P1 and P2.

Meanwhile, Logan Sargeant was revelling on the new rubber, shooting up from 21st to third in the closing minutes, 0.008s ahead of Alex Smolyar.

Despite sitting first for large periods of the session, Hauger had dropped to sixth in the final classification behind his PREMA teammate Arthur Leclerc, who was another to benefit from a change of boots.



MEDIA RELEASE

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Jonny Edgar beat Frederik Vesti to seventh, despite the ART Grand Prix driver running inside of the top five for the majority of the session.

Amaury Cordeel finished in ninth after Doohan's deleted time was confirmed, ahead of his Campos Racing teammate Lorenzo Colombo. The top ten separated by less than three tenths.

CONTINUES



2021 FIA FORMULA 3 CHAMPIONSHIP – ROUND 3 FREE PRACTICE PROVISIONAL CLASSIFICATION

	DRIVER	TEAM
1	Olli Caldwell	PREMA Racing
2	Jak Crawford	Hitech Grand Prix
3	Logan Sargeant	Charouz Racing System
4	Alexander Smolyar	ART Grand Prix
5	Arthur Leclerc	PREMA Racing
6	Dennis Hauger	PREMA Racing
7	Jonny Edgar	Carlin Buzz Racing
8	Frederik Vesti	ART Grand Prix
9	Amaury Cordeel	Campos Racing
10	Lorenzo Colombo	Campos Racing
11	Kaylen Frederick	Carlin Buzz Racing
12	Calan Williams	Jenzer Motorsport
13	Matteo Nannini	HWA RACELAB
14	Jonathan Hoggard	Jenzer Motorsport
15	Enzo Fittipaldi	Charouz Racing System
16	David Schumacher	Trident
17	Juan Manuel Correa	ART Grand Prix
18	Caio Collet	MP Motorsport
19	Victor Martins	MP Motorsport
20	Filip Ugran	Jenzer Motorsport
21	Ido Cohen	Carlin Buzz Racing
22	Jack Doohan	Trident
23	Oliver Rasmussen	HWA RACELAB
24	Rafael Villagomez	HWA RACELAB
25	Clément Novalak	Trident
26	Roman Stanek	Hitech Grand Prix
27	László Tóth	Campos Racing
28	Ayumu Iwasa	Hitech Grand Prix
29	Tijmen Van der Helm	MP Motorsport
30	Reshad de Gerus	Charouz Racing System

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