



**VERMIN RACING TEAM 2013 SHOWCASE SIM SERIES
FORMULA FORD CHAMPIONSHIP**



Round 1: Aviano Race Report



A close battle ensued on the track and a nail biting end to a fantastic race at Aviano. Full race report:

Qualifying saw a dominate performance from Olivier Boissel to easily grab pole, with Tippet and Thiago Canola battling for 2nd, with Tippet just edging in front. Another close battle behind saw Andy Graydon pipped to 4th on the grid by Marco Boemi and Hugo Ramos bringing his car to 6th spot.

As the race got underway there was a near jump start from Canola, who managed to stop the car from rolling off the line but it looked as if that compromised his start as Graydon was able to slide up the inside of him into the first corner and made an impressive start from 5th to challenging for 3rd. Canola held his line into turn 1 maintaining 3rd place and set off after Tippet. Graydon made a small mistake running high on the inside curb through the sweeping corners of turns 4 and 5, unsettling his car and into the path of Boemi who braked to avoid contact but just nudged Graydon off track and into the gravel trap.

As Boissel pulled out a decent lead the battles between Tippet and Canola and Graydon and Boemi were exciting. Boemi Managed to pull out a lead over the recovering Graydon initially, then as the race settled in the gap stabilized for the majority of the race, with both drivers trading very close lap times Lap 5 saw some very close overtaking action between Canola and Tippet, with the latter having to defend hard after a slow exit off of turn 3 which allowed Canola to make a brave run around the outside of Tippet through the fast sweeping corners with Tippet just about holding off the attack through the high speed bends, only for Canola to power off the exit of the corner and take the position and dropping Tippet to 3rd. For the next few laps Canola was able to inch out a gap and lapped with incredible consistency, Tippet managed to close down the gap by lapping marginally faster but then his pace fell off slightly and was not as consistent. Behind the battle for 4th continued at a stale mate until an unfortunate moment for Boemi, as he ran wide in the final corner on lap 15 and mounted the serrated curbs which pitched his car into the wall and damaged the suspension which allowed Graydon to take 4th and dropped Boemi to 5th and a lap down but still ahead of Ramos who had retired his car earlier in the race.

Tippet had begun to pull back some time on Canola, although it was looking unlikely that he would close the gap enough to challenge, when his engine suddenly stopped on the beginning of lap 21, quickly recovering to the pits he dropped back into the sights of Graydon, coming out just in front and having to struggle on the final two laps to keep the podium. Olivier Boissel crossed the line to finish after a brilliant lights to flag victory securing the quickest lap of the race and the first round win. Thiago Canola finished second, 16 seconds down the road from Boissel, with Richard Tippet clinching the final podium spot just 2 seconds ahead of Andy Graydon.

Round 2: Prato Race Report



Again another amazing race on a track where the first corner can lead to some big accidents, everyone was clean and quick with few mistakes, the race craft was of excellent quality from all the racers. Looking forward to the next one

It was a close battle between Roberto Olivetti and Fulvio Genova for pole in qualifying with Genova putting in a very quick lap to snatch the position from Olivetti. Tippet managed to put in a decent enough lap for 3rd but quite a way off the pace of 1st and 2nd. Macro Boemi and Andy Graydon had a closer battle for 4th and 5th on the grid with Boemi taking the spot, whilst Hugo Ramos put in a good consistent pace for 6th but unable to close the gap to Graydon in qualifying.

As the lights turned green and the race started, it was once again Graydon who got another lightning start immediately taking 4th from Boemi. Everyone got a clean getaway with Genova leading, closely followed by Olivetti and Tippet. Olivetti covered his racing line on the exit of the chicane defending well from Tippet on lap 1 making sure there was no way he could overtake.

The leading three cars proceeded to pull out a gap from the battle for fourth, with Graydon holding off from Boemi for 3 laps until he ran up on the inside curb on the last corner coming onto the pit straight, which allowed Boemi to breeze by only to run wide a few corners later and allow Graydon to retake the place for another lap. Graydon then spun his car allowing Boemi back through.

Olivetti and Fulvio traded similar lap times up front as Tippet dropped back and settled in for a lonely race as the gap extended in front. With all the action happening Ramos was lapping steadily also having a very quiet race in 6th.

As the leader entered his final lap the gap to Olivetti was around 7 seconds with Tippet a further 24 behind and making a small mistake on his final lap to run up on the grass and fight to keep control of the car, luckily managing to keep the car from spinning, Fulvio crossed the line to take the win. Ramos finished on the lead lap but also made a mistake which unluckily put his car into a spin. Olivetti took 2nd with Tippet 3rd, Boemi, Graydon and Ramos rounding up the race.

Round 3: Aosta Race Report



The fast flowing circuit of Aosta really suits the 1600 Formula Fords and the times were relatively close throughout the field. Again the battle for pole was between Roberto Olivetti and Fulvio Genova. Olivetti put in a superb lap to just edge out Fulvio. Third spot was taken by Olivier Boissel, followed closely by Tippet in fourth and Marco Boemi in fifth. Andy Graydon and Ken Jagger completed the grid.

As the engine revs rose and the drivers took off, it was Genova who took the lead into turn one, with Olivetti slipping down to third as Boissel also slid down the inside, Behind Graydon managed to once again get a flyer off the line to immediately take fifth from Boemi and gave Tippet something to think about into turn one as Tippet struggled to get traction, but keeping position. Boemi ran slightly wide into turn 1 and had to correct the car out of turn 2 which allowed Jagger to overtake up the inside and chase after Graydon. As Olivetti made a move on Boissel, there was some minor contact dropping both drivers back, with Olivetti taking to the pit. Boissel was close behind Boemi and slipped up the inside into the hairpin after Boemi went wide. At the end of lap 1 the positions were Genova, Tippet, Graydon, Jagger, Boissel, Boemi and Olivetti.

Jagger and Graydon were very close on track going into lap 2, closely followed by Boissel who made a move on Jagger coming off of turn 3, unfortunately for Jagger, Boissel clipped his front wheel and it threw Jagger off the track and into early retirement a lap later. Boissel closed on Graydon and overtook on lap 3, just brushing wheels to pass and take third but seemed unable to gain any real ground on Tippet in second place. Boemi closed up on Graydon through the final corner managing to go side by side with him into turn one, Boemi unfortunately spun the car allowing Graydon to hold onto fourth.

As the race started to settle down, Tippet tried to apply pressure to Genova but couldn't match his lap times so the gap slowly extended. An error on Lap 7 saw Graydon lose out to Boemi who took fourth, another mistake from Graydon allowed Olivetti, who had been running very quickly out of position in last place, through into fifth and rapidly decreased the difference to Boemi. A small slide from Boemi allowed Olivetti to take advantage and grasp fourth place. With a clear track in front of him, Olivetti pushed hard and broke the R2P lap record but was unable to catch Boissel.

Boemi and Graydon traded position in the final laps as it looked like Boemi had no grip let and tagged the barrier, putting him behind Graydon. It was Genova's race though a super run to first and finishing 11 seconds ahead of Tippet with Boissel a further 7 seconds behind in third.

This Result means that Tippet and Genova go into the final round equal on points with 20 points each, Boissel is third only 4 points behind on 16, with Graydon, Olivetti both on 13 points and Boemi on 12.

Round 4: Newbury Race Report



Qualifying was the closest it had been since the beginning of the championship with the top 4 putting up lap times into the 1:05's, It was Laurent Resende who managed to snatch pole position, just pipping Fulvio and very closely followed by Olivier Boissel.

Tippet put up his own personal best lap of a 1:05.8 on the track to go fourth quite late into the session after lingering in 6th place for most of the session behind excellent lap times put in by Marco Boemi and Andy Graydon which saw them take fifth and 6th on the grid.

Hearing the revs drop for the final time in 2013, the race was underway and it was Genova who took over the lead by the first corner with Tippet taking third from Boissel, running side by side for two corners with Boissel regaining the position Tippet had to quickly slam the door on the fast starting Graydon who had slipped past Boemi for fifth and was having a look down the inside of Tippet.

Tippet tried to pressure Boissel for the first 2 laps but was unable to keep pace as the gap slowly extended and Graydon and Boemi were able to hang onto Tippet. Genova and Resende were trading lap times up in front, pulling away slightly from the pack.

As the race began to settle down, the battle for fifth was hotting up. Boemi had slipped back slightly from Graydon but had now managed to reel him back into his sights around lap 8 or 9 and the two set about having a battle between them, this allowed Tippet to break away from them but unable to catch the top three.

It was close up in front with roughly only 2 seconds separating Resende from Genova as crossed the line for the final lap. Genova held on to first position and crossed the line to win the race and secure the championship, an excellent display from Resende to finish a close second with another great performance from Boissel to take third. Tippet came fourth assuring him to claim second in the championship and Boissel third overall.

The battle for 6th came down to the line, with Graydon still leading the way, until the last 2 corners of the race when his car suddenly slowed, looking as if he had ran out of fuel and letting Boemi swoop past before the penultimate corner to take fifth.

At the end of an excellent race, the drivers celebrated by burning up some tyres and ruining some tarmac by doing doughnuts.

A brilliant end to a fantastic championship, congratulations to Fulvio. Excellent racing by all the racers who took part in the series. Getting second in the championship was an excellent result for me and the team in general. Thanks to Andy for organizing the racing.

