

VERMIN RACING TEAM 2018 FORMULA TROUT FORMULA 3 CHAMPIONSHIP



Formula Trout 2018 F3 Round 5 & 6 – Austria



Qualifying

It was the Inforward racing cars that would start a chain reaction of cars piling out of the pits desperate to put in some qualifying times. As expected Jaap Wagenvoort was the first to top the time sheet posting a 1:22.595, followed by Arttu Nieminen in his Scuderia Toto Rosso who was around 0.200ths slower at this stage of Qualifying.

The sister Inforward Racing car of Martijn Van'T Land would quickly knock Nieminen to third place, before Nieminen lost another position to his team mate Sammy Salem. Oscar Williams made a huge effort and posted the 2nd fastest time to be within 0.150ths of Wagenvoort's time. Nieminen then put in a skilfully and excellently time fast lap to beat Wagenvoort with a time of 1:22.065, with around 50 seconds remaining in the session.

Williams tried to push his car further but ran wide on the final turn, remaining in 3rd. Wagenvoort put in a brave and fast final lap to improve to a 1:22.108, but to no benefit as he still would be lining up behind the rear end of Nieminen. All the way down the field the times were close and the level of driving on display was amazing.

Top 3:

Nieminen: 1:22.065

Wagenvoort:1:22.108

Williams: 1:22.327

Race 1:

The deafening thunderous roar of 20 cars revving their engines as the lights fade and the wheels spin up... There are a few cars that get too much wheel spin and collide with the outside wall, one unfortunate driver being Salem, who started in 5th. All cars are able to continue on however despite a few minor contacts. Wagenvoort has to defend from the feisty fast start of Williams. Nieminen has a text book get away and leads the pack into Turn 1. As the cars speed down towards Turn 2, Archii in the third Inforward car slips into 4th place, getting past Fox Gek and Van'T Land, out breaking himself and drops back down to 8th.

Williams Manages to make his move into Turn 2 and comes out of the corner in 2nd place ahead of

Wagenvoort. Williams defending into turn 3, loses the position again from a well executed overtake down the inside into Turn 3 was Wagenvoort tucked up the Vermin drivers rear wing and dived out of it into the braking zone. As the pack settled slightly, there were some great focused battles throughout on lap 1 with no real contact or issues. Mizzy, driving a car very similar in colour to the Vermin livery, running right behind Quizno, capitalizes on the Octan Jr driver's mistake as Quizno catches his car mid corner off of Turn 1. A unusual error by Van'T Land sends him bouncing hard over the grass on the inside of Turn 4, He tries to recover to the track but ends up directly in the path of Mizzy, who has no time to react or avoid, the pair make heavy contact and both end up in the gravel.

Mizzy and Van'T Land rejoin in 19th and 20th places. Archii made a mistake and contact with the tyres would drop him further back after he had been recovering well. As he rejoined the track, forcing Decovarion to have to react fast and avoid him. The top 3 had now pulled a nice gap, with Gek just about hanging within striking distance in 4th if anyone was to make a mistake. The top 4 covered by under 5 seconds, there was a gap of 5 seconds from Gek in 4th to Clive Melbourne running 5th.

Further back Salem was dropping places and found himself outside the down to 11th as he lost out to Archii and Jack Smith on the same lap within a couple of corners. Wagenvoort made a mistake allowing Williams to snatch away 2nd unseen by the stream cameras. Salem, obviously driving his car hard was now chasing down Smith and now was running 10th having passed Archii again. Nieminen now had a 4 second lead over Williams who was holding the gap for the most part, even beginning to catch the first place man. With just under 9 minutes left, a small group of cars were now starting to create a train on track, Melbourne dropped his car at the exit of turn 1 and was punished heavily for the mistake as the train passed him and drops him down to 10th when he had been running nicely in 6th. Smith took 7th away from Archii as the two continued to race trading positions throughout each lap. Melbourne continued to struggle with Salem overtaking him into turn 1, Melbourne tried to cut back but could not get the power down and ran off the track, avoiding any contact.

Going in to the final 5 minutes of the race, Nieminen had managed to extend his gap to Williams to just over 3 seconds. The Archii/Smith battle continued to rage on, with Smith overtaking for 7th as they cleanly and fairly executed overtakes with each other, however these two fighters were now joined by Salem as they all raced down to Turn 2, 3 cars wide on the track. Salem stuck his car in the middle of the track, sandwiched by the Vermin and Inforward cars, Archii had to run a little wider to avoid any contact, slotting in behind Salem who had a better drive off the exit than Smith with them now neck and neck approaching Turn 3, with Salem hanging on around the outside to gain the position on Smith. Archii was able to then take advantage of Smith losing grip into Turn 4 and running slightly wide. Syntax, who had been running a very lonely but clean 5th was now being caught by several drivers behind.

With less than a minute on the clock, Smith was desperate to re gain at least 8th from Archii, his first attempt saw him run on the outside and lacking grip just kissing the grave, his next attempt would see him pass Archii down the straight to turn 2, only for Archii to slip back past when Smith had a tiny oversteer moment. Williams and Nieminen crossed the line for the final time, Nieminen dominated the race, but Williams had managed to stay within range throughout. Wagenvoort managed to keep hold of 3rd with Gek in 4th. A clean and sensible race by almost everyone and the pace was relentless.

Top 3:

Nieminen

Williams

Wagenvoort

Race 2:

After a short break to catch a breath, it was time for the second race. With a mixed up grid, it was Archii who found himself going into turn 1 leading. Smith overtaking Melbourne into the same corner snatched him 2nd place, only for him to clatter the curb on the exit of 2 and let Melbourne get on the inside for Turn 3, Smith held the outside line but again ran up the curb and Melbourne was able to breeze past into 2nd. Smith's mistake began a slew of cars coming past as he recovered from being off line and with dirty tyres. Battling with for 4th with Salem. Salem and Smith run wide.

The opportunistic Williams got excellent drive out of the final corner to pass Salem and slot in behind his team mate. Melbourne made a a mistake, letting Decovarion and Smith pass him as he recovered just in front of Williams. Nieminen had a steady start to the race running in 8th and slowly working his way up the numbers and having to dodge his team mate Salem sliding into the side of Melbourne in front of him. Melbourne had made good use of the slipstream down the straight and past Salem, Salem decided to try down the inside into Turn 3 and touched the rear wheel of Melbourne sending them both sliding through the corner and rewarding Nieminen's excellent avoiding action by giving him 2 positions and now running in 5th.

The midfield from 7th down to 15th was very close on track with many drivers trading places multiple times per lap. Syntax made his move for 7th stick down the inside of Salem into turn 1, losing speed down the straight towards turn 2, Salem got back past dragging along the Inforward racing car of Wagenvoort who seemed to be struggling slightly at this stage and could not make the pass stick on Syntax. However Wagenvoort managed to pull a move on Mizzy as his team mate, Van'T Land watched on and began to set up his own move on Mizzy. Syntax entered the penultimate corner trying a pass on Melbourne, He clipped the curb, sending him into a high speed slide and forcing Melbourne wide. Although it was a close call for the drivers behind, everyone picked their way through. Van'T Land almost had a similar accident watching this unfold directly in front of him but kept the car pointing in the correct direction and onwards. The unlucky Melbourne who had managed to just save the car lost the back end through the final corner and ended up spinning off.

The biggest benefactors of all this action were, DJB, Mizzy and Vyachaslav Potapenko, who had all now been promoted into the top 10. It was a brief entry into the top 10 for Potapenko as Van'T Land took that position a corner later. DJB was now chasing down Mizzy, who was having a scruffy lap. DJB tried a move on him, only for them to collide wheels when Mizzy turned sharply into the side pod of DJB. Van'T Land took advantage and came out ahead after another 3 car wide fight. DJB had to drop further back when Gek flew past for 10th. Mizzy's continued scruffy driving, must have been down to earlier contact as he lost another places due to running wide and being unable to do anything but watch Gek overtake him on the outside into turn 4, then having another half spin mid corner in turn 5 and 6.

Towards the rear end of the field, the racing was still as furious as it was towards the front. Maurizio Gioi attempted a move down the inside of Quizno for 13th place. Gioi hit the rear of Quizno, then hit him again as Quizno tried to save his car. Quizno held his position with an excellent save. A lap later an aggressive but fair overtake was made by Gioi to get in front of Quizno. Quizno then made heavy contact with Gioi's gearbox in turn, taking them both into the gravel trap. Back at the front, Williams had now closed the gap to Archii to under 2 seconds with just under 7 minutes remaining in the race. Decovarion and Van'T Land were going neck and neck down into Turn 2, Decovarion maintained the spot but Van'T Land had gone for the early switch back and managed to just make it through into turn 3 with both drivers showing each other equal respect and no contact. Decovarion had a mid corner wobble, Gek drove around the outside of him out of Turn 6 for 7th.

Potapenko who had kept his head down and now had made it back into the top 10. Behind Potapenko, Mizzy and Melbourne were close on track, Melbourne had out braked himself into Turn 3 which gave Mizzy a good look at overtaking him. Mizzy then lost grip on the final corner and hit the pit wall on the straight, losing a lot of time but able to continue but he was now in the clutches of Syntax. Syntax was able to slipstream past as they went wheel to wheel for a lap. Mizzy had another spin whilst trying to follow Syntax through Turn 4. A rare mistake from Williams dropped him from 2nd to 5th, dropping the car on an exit of a corner and behind Wagenvoort. Nieminen was now running 2nd and catching Archii quickly with Smith slowly catching.

As the leaders entered the final lap, it was Nieminen applying hard pressure to Archii, looking for anyway past him, coming close out of turn 1, but it wasn't enough as Archii took a well driven win, just 0.148 ahead of Nieminen and Smith bringing his Vermin Car home in 3rd. Wagenvoort just ahead of Williams for 4th and 5th. Another impressively fast and furious race with mostly clean racing up and down the pack.

Top 3:

Archii

Nieminen

Smith

Formula Trout 2018 F3 Round 6 & 7 – Imola



Race 1

With qualifying over in almost a blink it was Arttu Nieminen who managed to wrestle his car to the top spot, with Jaap Wagenvoort and Oscar Williams snapping at his heels. Through the heat haze the cars set off from the grid with a furious roar! Nieminen holding his lead into turn 2 Tamburello, however he had picked up a drive through penalty as he dropped the clutch a fraction too soon, knowing this he set about building the biggest cushion of time he could within 3 laps. As Nieminen pulled away, the rest of the pack were fiercely battling, A great start from Wagenvoort and Williams as the pair began the start of a long battle for 2nd. As all the drivers filtered into Tamburello, Jelle Lamers turns in a bit early and makes contact with Samuel Hytönen's front wing, pushing Lamers into the side of Roel Postma who manages to just catch the slide. Colton Fox makes a great move on Vyacheslav Potapenko, Fox then picks up a bit of under steer and nudges into Syntax. As both drivers slide, Syntax collects Potapenko, then is unavoidably hit by Quizno, sending Potapenko into a spin as well. As Potapenko pirouettes his gearbox tags the back wheel of Hamburgers car, pitching him into a slide as well. Alex Demoney bumps over the grass to avoid any contact with the Tamburello accidents, with Karlisk also avoiding the carbon fibre chicane of carnage. Hytönen's quick reactions avoid him collecting Syntax, but means another journey over the grass and gravel. Hamburgers is now dead last place and pointing in the wrong direction, a quick spin around and he is on his way to try and catch up.

Cross, a debutant of the F3 series, is running a very impressive 6th place and is also managing to keep up with Martijn Van T Land who is running 5th. Clive Melbourne clatters over the curbs at Variante Alta, losing a place to Syntax, but just manages to maintain his position ahead of Potapenko. A lock up from Lamers sees him collecting some sand and gravel as he skates off the track at Rivazza, then applies a little too much throttle for his dirty dusty tyres, spinning his wheels and sliding into the side of Demoney's car. The contact ploughs Lamers back into the gravel and pointing in the wrong direction. Spinning the car back the right way, again a squeeze of too much throttle sees him half spin and touch the barriers, before he slowly takes to the asphalt again. With the race settling in, it's the battle at the front which is very much the main focus. Wagenvoort expertly placing his car in every defensive position against the equally impressive advances of

Williams. Each driver within inches sometimes millimetres of each other, but never making contact as they battle side by side. Further down the order, Postma gets sideways on the entrance of Acqua Minerali, turning his car into a torpedo, unable to control his car, he narrowly misses spearing the back end of Quizno and his car comes to rest beached in the gravel trap. Fortunately after losing a large portion of time, he manages to get the car moving again. Hytönen comes into the top part of Piratella ahead of Karlisk. Hytönen's car is suddenly catapulted violently through the air and into the tyre barriers, completely destroying his car and he is forced to retire as his steering seems broken. Nieminen having tried to increase a gap to Wagenvoort, is finally serving his drive through penalty, with the pit lane being so long he comes back on track around 16th place. Wagenvoort inherits the lead but is still being hounded by Williams in almost every corner.

A struggling Lamers, takes another grip across the gravel after out braking himself and coming into Tamburello. This is enough to distract the recovering Hamburgers, who makes a minor mistake, half spinning his car. Lamers takes advantage and drives past. Nick and DJB are scrapping nice and clean, but a better exit from the final corner gives Salem just enough to overtake on the start/finish line. Another strange gremlin strikes as Clive Melbourne seems to lose power and steering, before he hits a wall, losing several places. He recovers to the track and is able to continue on. Maurovr pulls aside letting his team mate Gek come pass after Maurovr has a slide through Rivazza. Postma had been chasing down Fox, but a small mistake out of Piratelli eases the pressure off of Fox and puts a vermin colour scrape mark against the wall down towards Acqua Mineralli as Postma loses a little time. Just ahead there is a cloud of dust after Karlisk takes a chunk of curb into Acqua Minerali and has to slowly return to the track. Lamers scrappy afternoon continued as he ran wide at the exit of Variante Alta onto the slippery green surface, losing the rear end under acceleration.

Up front the pressure is still on Wagenvoort with Williams climbing all over his rear end, but still unable to find a way through. Each driver's precision in judging where to place their car on track without making contact is flawless.

Postma is showing some signs that his car is struggling with its handling, spinning off and unable to find any grip he has minor contact with Lamers and he decides to retire his car.

Williams who has been staring at the gearbox of Wagenvoort the entire race, makes a small mistake at Tamburello, taking a little too much curb, which launches his car off track. Luckily he avoids any contact with anything and is able to keep the car going around the outside of the gravel, unluckily he drops down the order behind the hard driving Cross and Onlyvision. who are battling for 6th. With the grip ebbing away from all the drivers. Hamburger has to park his car at the side of the track going into Tosa, he returns to the track and then retires to his pit. DJB has a small spin at Variante Alta, lacking any grip.

Syntax had been reeling in Potapenko until Syntax runs wide and loses out to Melbourne. With Potapenko now on the gearbox of Quizno who goes defensive up the hill, but Potapenko swoops around the outside, the pair make contact at the chicane when Melbourne makes a dive at Quizno and Potapenko, in an over optimistic move, Melbourne pushes the rear of Quizno into the back of Potapenko. sending all three drivers across the grass and gravel with Melbourne and Quizno losing a place to Syntax

A quiet afternoon for Nieminen, who after recovering from his early penalty has battled his way into 10th position, Passes Maximillion Jungers for the top 10 spot, Jungers who valiantly tries to keep up, loses grip and slides off at Villeneuve.

Potapenko gets on the slippery part of the track and slides off, releasing Syntax to chase DJB.

With Williams now up to 4th behind Van T Land and Salem. Salem who is under incredible pressure from Van T Land and with his tyres wearing thin, he starts sliding badly in many of the

corners, a final slide and mistake allows Williams to clinch 3rd place in the final corner of the last lap. Wagenvoort crosses the line in 1st and wins a race that will be remembered for the amazing battle and respect between Jaap Wagenvoort and Oscar Williams for the first 15 minutes of the race. Van T Land picks up a well deserved and driven 2nd place.

Top 3:

Wagenvoort

Van T Land

Williams

Race 2.

With Race 1 full of thrills and spills, Race 2 would need to provide something special. With Nieminen on pole for Race 2, it was always going to be difficult for anyone to challenge that, especially with a great getaway. Jakoman started 2nd and was able to hold on to that ahead of Demoney. In the mid pack, Nick came into Tamburello and made contact with Salem, who had to take a rough ride through the gravel, rejoining the track side by side with Potapenko. With a lot of chaos on the track through Tamburello, the pair connect, sending Potapenko into a spin and Salem back across the grass again. The chaos starts with a minor mistake from Karlisk, who runs on the grass and just clips the rear end of Quizno, then the domino effect happens as Quizno, over corrects and hits the rear of DJB, sending all three clattering across the gravel. Nick continues on only to run wide at Villeneuve and allow several cars through, picking up the pace just in front of Potapenko, who gets a better drive up the hill, Nick runs wide again allowing Potapenko to go around the outside of him at Acqua Minerali. Lamers is unable to keep his car on track after putting two wheels onto the grass, he heads straight on and gently into the barriers at the exit of Acqua Minerali but retiring from the race moments later. At almost the same time, Fox does the exact same mistake, this time managing to avoid contact with anything, going around the outside of the gravel to get back on track.

Wagenvoort and Gek glide past Van T Land and Syntax through the corners of Rivazza, with Wagenvoort getting the best exit off the corner and onto the straight. Lining up a pass on Gek down the inside towards Tamburello, Gek takes an abnormal line to defend, continuing to squeeze Wagenvoort in an aggressive manner as they enter the braking zone for the corner. Gek causing contact with Wagenvoort, gains a huge advantage of track space rejoining the track around 2 or 3 seconds ahead of Wagenvoort and does not lift off. Gaining advantage through his reckless move and staying ahead of Wagenvoort.

Williams has had a great start up and has progressed to 4th by lap 2, Catching Mauvovr after getting a brilliant exit from Acqua Minerali, he is alongside Mauvovr as they enter Variante Alta. Mauvovr turns in on Williams and causing them both to back up and lose time through the chicane, Williams is then tagged accidentally from behind by Onlyvision, this sends Williams into a spin and drops him down to 16th. Maurovr continues on in 3rd only to lose out to Cross, who manages to eek past him, after avoiding the collision between Maurovr and Williams. Potapenko runs wide which forces Nick take avoiding action into the path of Williams who cannot avoid a small touch of Nick's rear tyre.

Salem makes the same move on Syntax that Wagenvoort tried on Gek, with the exception of Syntax giving Salem the room and respect for him to make the move stick. Onlyvision has been driving an impressive defensive race against the advances of Van T Land who is virtually glued to the rear end of Onlyvisions car.

Maurovr lets Gek pass with ease on the straight after Maurovr has a small slide at Rivazza. Having recovered from the earlier accident, Wagenvoort was now filling Maurovr's Mirrors, with an impressive Demoney tucked in behind Wagenvoort. Maurovr was now leading a small train of cars. Once Wagenvoort made it past however, Maurovr started to lose positions as he seemingly struggled for pace and grip.

With Wagenvoort now right back on the rear of Gek, gaining better traction up the hill towards Piratella and positions his car down the inside of Geks. Refusing to give up the place, Gek tags his front left wheel with Jaaps right wheel through the corner and the pair fight to stay in control of their cars. With both managing to stay on the track, the two rivals enter Acqua Minerali. Gek hits the gearbox of Wagenvoort as they brake into the entry point of the corner, this sends Wagenvoort wide and off the track, however he maintains the position ahead of Gek. The battling allows for Onlyvision to catch and make a pass at Variante Alta on Gek. Onlyvision locks a wheel into Rivazza which Gek takes advantage of and re-passes. Onlyvision tucks tight into the hole in the air punched through by Gek's car, and slipstreams cleanly past into Tamburello, leaving room for Gek on the inside. Gek manages to tag the rear wheel of Onlyvisions car and sends him into the gravel trap. Van T Land and Salem are now caught up and breathing hard down his neck, however a mid corner slip up from Salem puts him into the gravel and Van T Land runs wide on the exit of Villeneuve, allowing Gek some space.

Wagenvoort now has clear air in front of him and he quickly gains time on Cross who is running very impressively in 3rd, just behind an equally impressive performance by Jakoman in 2nd. It's not long before Wagenvoort has made his way past both drivers though and sets off after Nieminen.

With Williams quietly making his way through the pack. He flies past Maurovr who is really struggling all over the track to find any grip, sliding his car out of almost every corner exit. A similar but slightly more controlled story is happening to his team mate, as Gek is now also sliding on the exits of most corners and losing time to Williams and Van T Land.

A bit further down, Salem is pressuring Demoney, who is defending nicely but eventually makes a small error on the exit of Villeneuve, which allows Salem to then squeeze past him as they battle up the hill towards Piratella. Salem manages to just stay ahead.

Williams now closer to Gek, is able to cleanly pass him, as Gek struggles for lack of grip out of Variante Alta, Promoting Williams to 4th.

An unlucky Quizno makes a mistake going into Villeneuve and ends up beached in the gravel trap and into retirement. But as the timer counts down to zero, it's a commanding victory from Arttu Nieminen, with a great fight back by Jaap Wagenvoort in 2nd and Oscar Williams recovery to 4th, and an excellent drive by Cross for 3rd.

Top 3:

Nieminen

Wagenvoort

Cross

Formula Trout 2018 F3 Round 9 & 10 – Nurburgring



Qualifying

Onlyvision led the pack pits and was first to set a time, which was quickly topped by Van T Land. It was Williams who first dipped into the 1:30's and gradually the times came down as many drivers would stay out to set a time on one set of tyres. Van T'Land lowered the goalpost a bit more with just under a minute on the clock.

Williams crossed the line for his final attempt with just seconds left. With Van T Land unable to improve on his final lap, Williams was over 0.200 up in the first sector alone. With an amazing final lap Williams managed to pinch the pole away from the Inforward driver and set a 1:29.736 being the only driver in Qualifying to set a time under 1:30. Onlyvision snatched 3rd away from Syntax in the dying moments.

Top3:

Williams

Van T Land

Onlyvision

Race 1

With most drivers enjoying their time away, the grid only consisted of 9 drivers for both races. A chance for many to close the gap up in the championship for some.

Oscar and Martijn lead the pack with everyone making the first corner. Apart from Melbourne who might have had some contact or lost control into turn 1. The calm start to the race would set a pattern for race 1, the lack of drivers did not mean a lack of racing as battles however, as small pockets broke out throughout the field as they spread out.

Syntax and Onlyvision fighting for 3rd, with Syntax closing in and able to follow closely and pressure Onlyvision into a mistake and tries for the outside at Turn 2. Onlyvision made an error and slides wide and Syntax cuts back underneath and takes 3rd away. Up front Williams and Van T Land are maintaining the gap to each other with amazing lap time consistency.

Fox and Lamers are very close on track as the timer on Race 1 ticks down, they make contact

coming into the stadium, Fox acknowledges it was his mistake as he pulls aside for Lamers to retake the place. With Syntax and Onlyvision about to lap Fox and Lamers, it is Onlyvision who seizes the opportunity through the back markers and glides beautifully down the inside of Syntax, not to be beaten and never giving up Syntax would fight Onlyvision until the end, coming close on the final lap, both showing each other a huge amount of respect as they were side by side but Onlyvision held off the challenge and remained 3rd. But it was Williams who took a very controlled victory in a very calm but controlled race by all drivers.

Top 3:

Williams

Van T Land

Onlyvision

Race 2

As the second race got under way with Fox and Lamers lining up 1 and 2 on the reverse grid, it was Fox who got the faster start, Lamers had a dive down the inside into turn 2 which punted Fox off the track, he quickly rejoined and found himself side by side with Melbourne and Syntax down the straight. As the trio entered the braking zone for the hairpin, Melbourne's car jinked towards Fox and collided with his car, this sent both drivers out of control as Melbourne slammed into the side of Syntax and Fox unable to take the correct line and carrying too much speed, hit the rear of Lamers. These accidents triggered one of the biggest pile ups of the season so far, with cars sprawled across the track and making it unavoidable for the cars behind. All 9 drivers were damaged in the mass pile up and the race had to be red flagged. With all the drivers returning to the pits, quickly fixing their damage ready for the restart.

Quizno found himself the lead car controlling the pace behind him as the restart would be a rolling start. As they set off it was Quizno from Fox from DJB. Williams was all over the rear of Van T Land on the restart. Quizno outbraked himself into the hairpin, distracting Fox who made the same mistake, both allowing DJB to slip down the inside and tuck in behind Fox who was now leading. DJB unfortunately had too much wheelspin which put him off track. His team mate Quizno had a coming together with the West cork car of Melbourne, sending him sliding off track backwards.

Fox continued to hold the lead which Syntax and Onlyvision in 2nd and 3rd. Van T Land had managed to stay head of Williams. The pair quickly scythed through the traffic, both dispatching Syntax within 2 corners. Behind it was Lamers time to make a move on Quizno, with a snatch of his front left brake, Lamers past Quizno who had ran slightly wide at the hairpin. Williams made a move on Van T Land coming to the hairpin, with Van T Land fighting hard back to maintain the position, they exited the corner side by side, Williams had the outside line for the next corner but they remained side by side, nearly clashing wheels, with Williams on the outside he would be on the inside for the next corner and managed to just eek past into 2nd place with another fantastic display of fair sportsmanship and respect.

Fox made an error coming into the stadium section and got two wheels in the gravel which, Syntax, Van T Land and Williams all took advantage passing him quickly. With Onlyvision's lead being eaten into by Williams and Van T Land it would only take a few more laps before they would be on the back of Onlyvision. With a clean sweeping pass into the chicane, Williams took the lead with Onlyvision trying to cut back and out accelerate him, but Williams had a great exit and was able to pull away from the JungerGP car. Onlyvision tried to stick to the back of Williams but ran off track and dipped a wheel into the gravel, slowing him down and letting lose Van T Land.

Syntax eyed up a pass on Onlyvision into turn 1 but backed out wisely but would keep hounding Onlyvision lap after lap as they battled over 3rd. Another battle had developed for 7th between Quizno and the two West Cork racing cars chasing hard. A slide from Melbourne put him hard into the barrier then sent him spinning perilously close to taking out his team mate Lamers, just missing his rear wheel by inches, Melbourne had to pit his car after the incident fixing the damage but coming out a long way back in 9th. Fox running in 5th was being slowly caught by DJB, with Fox locking up into several corners each lap, DJB was able to pressure him hard as the race entered it's final 3 laps.

Out in the lead Van T Land had kept within 1 second of Williams throughout most of the race, but never managed to mount a challenge as Williams, but kept up the pressure on him and was impressive how close the pair were, but it was Williams who would take a clean sweep, both race victories and the fastest lap, the first driver to do all three at one round this season in the F3's. Syntax still trying hard to find a way past Onlyvision as the pair seemed to be so evenly matched and Onlyvision defended his 3rd place it was a close fight but Onlyvision kept ahead at the chequered flag. DJB pushed Fox all the way to the line, it was Fox who would take home the number 5 spot.

Van T'Land takes over the lead of the drivers championship as we head into the summer break with Williams second and Wagenvoort 3rd, with just 8 points covering them and Macau looks set to be one of the most challenging circuits on the calendar, it's going to be a very interesting race.

Top 3:

Williams

Van T Land

Onlyvision

Formula Trout 2018 F3 Round 11 & 12 – Road America



With the Formula 3 cars returning to a nicely flowing track layout of Road America the racing would be a lot closer than the last race at Macau. Qualifying saw some tactics being used by the Inforward guys as they slip streamed their way up the grid, Martijn Van T Land and Jaap Wagenvoort taking 3rd and 4th respectively: Oscar Williams without that luxury at the moment as he was the only available Vermin Racing driver for this race managed to get his car into 2nd by the end of the session. But it was the single lap king that is Arttu Nieminen who took another Pole, his 4th of the Season!

Race 1

The tyres squeal into life as the grid sets off for race 1, Nieminen leading with a great start, Williams having to go defensive behind as Wagenvoort has a sneaky look but not a serious challenge into turn 1, with Van T Land unable to hold position as he runs off track ahead of Sammy Salem who inherits the 4th place. The top 4 manage to pull a good distance ahead of the rest. Syntax and Alex Cochran's battle for 6th is very close as they match each other on track lap after lap. Jelle Lamers has an issue and retires his car to the pits, a lap later Assetto Drifter retires a lap after Lamers, leaving only 8 runners left.

Meanwhile, Oscar is mounting more and more pressure on Nieminen has him covered for now. Each lap Williams applies a bit more pressure which allows him to capitalize on a mistake by Nieminen, as he looks to overtake around the outside of one corner, Nieminen defends well but with Williams tucked up close behind, its almost inevitable that he will take 1st place with a great slipstream. Williams and Nieminen are almost touching rims as they go side by side, the precision, respect and skill is evident as Williams just manages to swoop his way into the lead around the

outside. Nieminen has a small error on the exit of the next corner which allows Wagenvoort to slip past with much more ease into 2nd place. Nieminen looks to retake the place around the outside of a corner but backs out and settles down behind Wagenvoort.

With Nieminen's car looking increasingly difficult to drive, running wide and sliding a lot he manages to stick with Wagenvoort for around a lap and a half before the car throws itself off the track and promotes Salem and Van T Land into 3rd and 4th and the struggling Nieminen to 5th.

With just over 10 minutes left in the race, the cars and drivers began to settle down and into a very consistent pace. Van T Land and Salem having a very good battle on track, but it was the battle for 6th as the struggling Nieminen who had slipped back further managed to overtake Cochran for 6th. Williams pulled out a decent lead over Wagenvoort but dropped some time due to a slight mistake meaning the last 2 laps would see Williams under more pressure. Van T Land took advantage of Salem making a mistake and grabbed 3rd with less than 3 minutes left. Salem would try to gain the position back, tucking in tight and following closely as the pair made it down the start finish line it was Salem who managed to snatch away 3rd on the line as he slip streamed his way past.

All in all a very incident free race with some excellent showcase driving on display from all. Another win by Oscar Williams and Vermin Racing Team, but a shame about Nieminen who had probably his worst race of the season after taking pole.

Top 3:
Oscar Williams
Jaap Wagenvoort
Sammy Salem

Race 2:

With Nieminen starting first again in race 2, this time due to the reverse grid rule. He was hoping for a stronger finish, a chance to pull a gap on Clive Melbourne and Syntax who were 2nd and 3rd. Some minor contact at the back set back Williams who had to run on the grass but still remained in the pack of cars but running in last place. Poor luck struck Nieminen again as a slow exit drops him from 1st place to 5th on lap 1 and allows Melbourne to take the lead with Van T Land and Wagenvoort now running 2nd and 3rd. Williams had been quietly moving up the field and passes Nieminen for 5th place.

The Inforward cars swap positions using slip streaming so Wagenvoort can apply pressure to Melbourne who is coping impressively with the two Inforward cars filling his mirrors. Van T Land makes a mistake and runs off track out braking himself and dropping down to 7th with Williams now in 4th chasing Salem. Wagenvoort makes his move on Melbourne taking the lead. Melbourne keeps pace Wagenvoort for several laps, keeping him insight but losing time to Salem and Williams behind him.

Cochrane has a huge accident as his throttle jams open sending him into the wall hard and beached on the inner part of the track and eventually pulls into the pits to retire. Salem tries to make a pass on Melbourne around the outside but the pair make contact sliding off track just ahead of Williams who inherits 2nd place because of the accident. Salem is able to continue on just behind Nieminen who is struggling to run in 3rd place.

The final 6 minutes left, Williams really pushed as hard as he could to close down the gap to Wagenvoort, running wide at one section and nearly hitting a wall. But still closing down the gap little by little each lap. A huge incident with Nieminen's car forces him to call it a day and retire

from what turned out to be a horrible weekend for him, but gifting his team mate Salem 3rd place. As the last minute of the race clocks down Williams gets the gap down to just over a second as Wagenvoort's car seems to lack grip on the last lap. However Wagenvoort has enough of a cushion and is able to maintain the gap and come through as the winner of Race 2. The unfortunate Melbourne beaches his car on the final lap only managing to pick up 7th place after some impressive form early on in race 2.

Top 3

Jaap Wagenvoort

Oscar Williams

Sammy Salem

Formula Trout 2018 F3 Round 13 & 14 – Macau



After the great achievements of the previous race weekend, we came into the weekend with pride thanks to Oscar Williams and his fantastic double back-to-back wins in Germany. It was yet another superb drive from Oscar Williams here at Macau, coming home with a double podium for Vermin and some very valuable championship points. Slava, after a well driven race came home with P9 in race one, and a very respectable P7 in race two. Both were great efforts from our drivers, especially on an unforgiving track such as this. To see how the races unfolded, the race report is below:

Qualifying got underway then with Martijn Van T Land leading the pack through the tight walls of Macau, however a mistake from the leader going into the hairpin hinders his first lap. Tommi Tantu takes advantage of Van T Land's mistake, posting a 2:12.847. Oscar Williams swiftly follows in second with a 2:13.812 but that is quickly taken away from him by Sammy Salem with a 2:13.406. On the next lap the drivers had to show their worth as only a few would make it for a third attempt before time was up. Van T Land soars up the time sheets, placing himself in second with a 2:13.139. However, it would be Junger GP's OnlyVision who steals the top spot on the next lap with a 2:12.750. Sammy Salem is next to take a bite at the top spot and does so with ease placing in a 2:12.185, a good 0.565 seconds ahead of OnlyVision's lap time.

Stakes were higher than ever then as Van T Land had found 3 tenths on his best heading into the hairpin, but calamities as he hits a crashed NGP car, ruining his chances at pole. OnlyVision was next pushing his hardest, which turned out to be a little too hard as he touches the wall, losing him valuable time and leaving him with no choice but to retire. Qualifying was over then, and it was an eventful session indeed. It was a fantastic effort from Sammy Salem who took the top spot followed by OnlyVision and Tantu. Van T Land Van T Land was next in 4th followed by Oscar Williams and Nick. A disappointing result for Jaap Wagenvoort placed him down in 7th position with Clive Melbourne right behind him. Syntax Ohl places his car 9th with Alex Cochrane looming behind. Vyacheslav Potapenko places his Vermin car 11th with djb265 and Jelle Lamers right behind, and

Colton Fox brings up the rear in 14th.

RACE 1

After a short break for the drivers, the cars lined up on the grid. Tensions arose as five red lights illuminated over the track. Lights out and an instant mistake from pole sitter Sammy Salem as he wheel spins into the wall, allowing OnlyVision and Tantt to take advantage. Van T Land and Oscar also weave their way through to P3 and 4 respectively. Potapenko took to a flying start moving up to P9 and a contrasting start for Wagenvoort meant that he lost a position to Clive Melbourne placing him in 8th.

Heading down past turn one and cars were moving left and right all trying to find a gap. Unfortunately, one driver pushed it a little too far causing half the pack to crash in a spectacular pile up heading into T3 leaving the marshals no choice but to red flag the session. A quick reset and all the cars were brought back to the grid ready for attempt number two.

Five red lights once again as stakes were now higher than ever. Lights out for the second time here in Macau and a great start from Salem this time around, retaining the lead. A better start from Jaap saw him move up to 6th position, however the same cannot be said for Potapenko as he unfortunately gets a bad start moving down to P13. Heading through T2, Williams manages to push his way into P3 Davenport also making progress moving into P5, taking over from Van T Land who now settles for P6 for the time being.

Heading into T3 and OnlyVision has a moment, hitting the left-hand wall and losing time, allowing Williams to steal P2. Then, another mistake from OnlyVision forces him to retire his car. He is followed by djb265 and Lamers, both needing to retire from the race. However, these retirements are music to Potapenko's ears as he manages to move up into P8.

Melbourne also made great progress, taking Wagenvoort for P5. Wagenvoort could not seem to make it back past Melbourne as the race went on. Lap number two and the order stays the same. Salem began to form a gap of 1.6 seconds between him and Oscar Williams, and Tantt keeps hold on P3 0.9 seconds behind Oscar. Wagenvoort, who seemed to lose pace had dropped to P10. Potapenko was now under pressure from Syntax who now only ran 0.2 seconds away from him. Syntax took advantage of the draft from Potapenko's car and breezed past him into T3 to take P7. Fox is the victim of Macau as a mistake glitches his car past the track walls, forcing him to retire with major damage. Further on up the field, Williams had found a second wind and began closing the two-second gap between him and race leader Salem. However, with Tantt looming behind him, that gap needed to close quicker than it was doing. Van T Land decided he wanted a slice of the cake and began closing in on Tantt. The top four were now separated from the rest by 11 seconds. Van T Land continued to breathe down the neck of Tantt, however dirty air from Tantt's car caused major under steer and Van T Land headed straight for the wall. Two seconds now separated Tantt and Van T Land. Further down the order Clive Melbourne had managed to hold P5 ahead of the rest of the pack.

Onlyvision had a few exciting moments on his own at the rear of the pack, just a few spins and some minor damage, but was still soldiering on. Unlike the 2 retirements for the race who had now been joined by Colton Fox, taking the number of drivers out of the race up to 3.

Van T Land began to have a couple of sniffs at passing Tantt for 3rd. Equally, Tantt had been pressuring Williams, It wouldn't be too long before Van T Land would get past using a good tow down the straight and into turn 1 around the outside and would set off after Williams, a possible result, but with not long left on the clock it looked increasingly likely.

A Brilliant and well performed Victory for Salem, He seemed very comfortable in the lead and had the pace to maintain the gap to 2nd place Williams

Top 3:

Sammy Salem

Oscar Williams

Martijn Van T Land

RACE 2

The second race would see a more cautious start from every one with Alex Cochrane now poised to lead the pack down into turn 1. A great start from Nick would see him challenging the lead with Potapenko on his outside and Cochrane on the inside as the pack hurtled down towards Turn 1. Nick just squeezed through into the lead with Potapenko following him taking 2nd and Wagenvoort already putting his car into 3rd. Behind A trio of cars tried to make the first corner side by side and it was inevitable there would be some contact. As Salem became sandwiched between Syntax and Tantt. Syntax was squeezed into the barrier and Tantt nudged by Salem. The nudge made Tantt hit Williams rear wheel and pushed him into the barrier on the inside of the track losing a lot of time and places. Melbourne ran off track at turn 1 but would continue on. Colton Fox was also caught up in the pendulum effect of the Salem, Tantt, Syntax collision and is spun around after a collision with the recovering Williams.

Nick would now begin to pull a small lead over Potapenko, who was doing a brilliant job of defending against the advancing Wagenvoort. A minor nudge at the slow chicane would bunch the pack slightly but allowed Potapenko to pull away from Wagenvoort. The Inforward car would out drag the Vermin car down the straight but Potapenko bravely retook the position from Wagenvoort around the outside into turn 1.

Cochrane had also been holding his own in 4th, with Van T Land breathing down his neck, followed by Williams. Cochrane hit the wall and Van T Land did a similar mistake dropping him down several places. With Cochrane now pressured by Williams he made another error and slid off into a small escape route which allowed Williams to take 4th.

Wagenvoort managed to slipstream his way past Potapenko for 2nd but a great display of determination was shown as he kept pace with Wagenvoort for the remainder of the lap, only dropping back due to a mistake. Potapenko allowed Williams to pass for the final podium slot. A slight scrape with the armco sent Potapenko back into 6th place behind Salem. Another mistake from Potapenko would release Tantt who set about catching Salem ahead. A huge error from Van T Land would force him into retirement, clipping the inside of the barrier on an apex sent his car across the track and heavily into the outside barrier. Leaving only 11 runners after an early retirement from DJB.

The luck of Van T Land's team mate was more promising as Wagenvoort had been chipping into the lead of Nick and was now slowly starting to mount some pressure on him. Williams who had been struggling with a heavily damaged car had now been caught by Salem who was starting to line up some moves but unable to pass, Williams manages to keep 3rd just ahead of Salem as the chequered flag is waved. However following a complaint from Salem, Oscar would lose the place, promoting Salem to the final podium spot.

Wagenvoort's solid performance pays off as he is able to snatch the victory away from Nick on the final lap. Nick still finished a very well driven and deserved but no doubt in his eyes a somewhat

disappointing 2nd place.

Top 3

Jaap Wagenvoort

Nick

Oscar Williams *Sammy Salem



Formula Trout 2018 F3 Round 13 & 14 – Donington Park

Qualifying

One of the most prestigious circuits in the UK became the latest stop on the F3 calendar for the penultimate round of the championship. It would be one of those weekends many drivers would not forget and some drivers that would like to forget. Going into Qualifying it was clear it was going to be a close battle between 4 drivers. Arttu Nieminen was looking the favourite for the pole if his perfect practice lap was anything to go by, but with the grip levels being lower than expected, it was going to be about who could master the slippery conditions best. Jack Smith's smooth style gets him the initial pole position, followed by Oscar Williams by just 0.095 behind his team mate, and the ever consistent Martijn Van T Land in third. Clearly as the cars were fuelled up to go the full 7 minutes without stopping and with the track rubbering in, the times would topple. Williams' next lap put him ahead of his team mate by over half a second.

The one lap wizard that is Nieminen would just nip in front of Williams' time by 0.070's, but with Williams on another fast lap would only take another lap for him to regain the top spot. An Excellent lap from Jaap Wagenvoort catapulted him to the top of the time sheet as the time ran out in qualifying. It was now down to anyone who had started their hot lap before the chequered flag had fallen to improve their times. The last person across the line just before the timer ran out was Williams. Who put in a brave lap improving on Wagenvoort's time sector by sector. Williams crossed the line and snapping at pole but would miss out by just 0.0071. Wagenvoort took his first pole position of the season with a 1:18.413. Williams second with Van T Land putting his car on third 0.174 behind. Just 0.750 would split the top 5.

Top 3:

Wagenvoort

Williams

Van T Land

Race 1

With the British weather holding up, track up to temperature and a lot of pressure on the championship contenders as the race grows into action. Sammy Salem's car was taken out of the race due to a technical issue so sadly Salem missed the start. Wagenvoort has a good start as does Nieminen, with Williams slightly bogging down off the grid, he would have to defend into the first corner. With everyone cleanly away, the top 4 come running down the hill all nose to tail looking for any sniff of a gap. As they approach the end of lap 1 the top 4 cars go into the hairpin as a quartet. Smith misses his braking point and collides with Oscar. The contact between the team mates resulted in both drivers losing a place, Williams dropped to 3rd and Smith to 5th. Luckily the two cars were not damaged too much, and Smith was soon back past Van T Land. Van T Land stuck in close behind Smith and had a few looks into getting back past, but Smith started to pull a gap. The top 3 were close, moving and looking for any way to overtake each other, Jaap keeping his cool managed to stay focused and ahead under the pressure of Nieminen and Williams. Williams made a move on Nieminen down into the tight hairpin, the pair collide heavy but are able to continue on, battling into the final corner again making more contact. With Nieminen staying ahead.

With all the action at the front, there were some close battles going on in mid field, Colonel Blimp had managed to make a move for 8th position on Vyacheslav Potapenko, who had a throttle issue throughout the race and qualifying, taking advantage of Blimp's move, Tippet followed him through and also past his team mate for 9th place. Salem was now back in the race 2 laps down but reporting no further issues and driving well to UN-lap himself from several of the slower cars towards the rear end of the field. The ever unlucky Melbourne retired his car from the race and would now watch the rest of race 1 from the garage.

Back at the front, the continuing battle of Nieminen and Williams, as Williams managed to stay glued to the back of the Toto Rosso. Trying another move at the hairpin, the pair would go in side by side and Williams but Nieminen would not give up into the final corner and would remain in front. All the time Smith catching the pair but an error would put him off the track and allow Van T Land into 4th just ahead of Smith. Under pressure Nieminen makes a small mistake clipping the curb which allows Williams to squeeze past and into 2nd again, Nieminen fighting hard all the way down the back straight and into the hairpin, where he almost retook the position from Williams, again they go into the final turn almost side by side. With Van T Land getting a huge amount of wheel spin off the hairpin, Smith regained his 4th place back. Again the battle for 2nd place is so close, it almost looks as if Nieminen has superglue his car to back of Williams, coming down the hill, it's now Williams who makes a mistake and Nieminen slips past back into 2nd.

Alex Cochrane and Niko Anders find themselves on their own in 6th and 7th, a long way behind Van T Land, but Anders soon makes a pass on Cochrane for 6th down at the hairpin. DJB who had already had a moment trying to pass Blimp and Tippet was not pulling a gap over Potapenko who was still struggling due to his throttle issue down in 11th.

Williams now back on the rear end of Nieminen with less than 8 minutes, tries a move but Nieminen blocks his attempt and the pair continue to run nose to tail. Williams' tyres start to slide and allows a bit of breathing room for Nieminen who sets a fastest lap of the race. The gap starts to widen as the fuel levels come down with now 3 seconds covering the top 3 and less than 3 minutes left to run.

Cochrane had been chased down by Blimp, the two running closely for laps. Blimp finally was able to make his move around the outside of the Hairpin. With Tippet chasing DJB for 0th, slip

streaming all the way down the hill, he would have to back off the throttle slightly but then forced DJB into a slight mistake and would take 9th.

As the flag signalled the end to a very intense and exciting race. Wagenvoort's calm and smooth driving was key to his victory. The collisions between Nieminen and Williams somewhat compromised their chances of the win, but still scoring solid points with 2nd and 3rd Respectively. Some impressive displays from Blimp and Anders in their debut races could be something for them to build upon in the future.

Top 3:

Wagenvoort

Nieminen

Williams

Race 2

The Octan team found themselves on pole for race 2, with DJB looking to maximise any points for the struggling but popular outfit. Tippet was in second after a bit of a no man's race in race 1 and not the return to racing he wanted, and Alex Cochrane starting in 3rd. It was Tippet who got a lightning start and was entering Turn 1 side by side with DJB, who had the inside line so remained in the lead on the exit of turn 1. At the back a misjudged braking point by Potapenko, sends Wagenvoort, Nieminen and Sammy Salem into each other, the accident not causing too big an issue for Wagenvoort and Nieminen, but it's Salem who ends up losing the most time, taking a long trip through the gravel and rejoining in last place.

A brilliant start from Williams would already see him in 5th by the end of lap 1, followed close by Van T land and Smith. The recovering pair of Wagenvoort and Nieminen saw them battling down towards the fast chicane 4 cars wide, with Melbourne defending the lead of this small group, Nieminen who had opted to take the outside line into the chicane under braking has to back out after some paint exchange with Melbourne, which sadly would put another premature end to Melbourne's race. The contact released Nieminen and Wagenvoort, the latter of the two making a great move into the Hairpin and getting past Nieminen and setting off after Smith.

Up in the lead with DJB still leading and managing to maintain a gap to Tippet as they roar into lap 2. Cochrane with a good amount of slipstream down the hill decides to take a very over optimistic overtake on Tippet into the fastest right hand corner on the track. As the pair bump, Cochrane now jumps into 2nd. Tippet struggling not to lose control backs off but maintains his line as to avoid the stream of cars behind taking avoiding action. Unfortunately it would be Williams who would be driven off the track by the avoiding action of Blimp. Which would cause Williams to bounce across the grass and drop down just in front of Wagenvoort, who made a quick pass. Nieminen trying to get past Williams, tags the rear tyre of the Vermin car, sending Williams back into the gravel trap and beaching his car and becoming an innocent victim of the race as he had no other option but to retire from the race.

Tippet had now dropped down to 6th after the contact with Cochrane, behind Wagenvoort. Van T Land holding up his team mate, Wagenvoort briefly as he looks to make a move on Smith for 4th. As they reach the fast chicane it's a quartet of cars jostling for 2nd place. Cochrane finding himself swamped on the exit of the chicane, with Smith having a good look down the inside of the now in 2nd place, Wagenvoort at the hairpin, Wagenvoort maybe defending a little too hard as he just closes the gap but connects rubber to rubber, scraping Smith's front left tyre with his rear. Now 6 cars have a good look into the final turn, Wagenvoort makes another error and spins his rear tyres allowing Smith to sail through into 2nd place and catch DJB.

Van T Land now defending off Cochrane, Blimp and Tippet, took the inside line into the fast

chicane as Cochrane just caught his wheel on the Inforwards car, once again sending him off through the stones and rattling over the bumps, with Tippet and Blimp also coming through.

Smith hammering after DJB had now caught the leader up, and a daring and brilliant move down the inside of the fast chicane allows Smith to take the lead, Wagenvoort, who had also caught DJB and Smith, waited patiently as Smith ran a touch deep through the corner, setting up a 3 way battle side by side into the hairpin. Wagenvoort takes a nice tight line and would overtake both the cars in front, promoting himself from 3rd to 1st with one move. DJB who had been doing a brilliant job for Octan gets a touch of over steer out of the hairpin and slides off the track and down to 9th.

Anders who is now an impressive 3rd place, is being hunted down by Nieminen. Both trading places throughout the next lap, when Anders refuses to let Nieminen stay ahead and re pass down at the bottom of the hill, Nieminen who is looking for any kind of way through, tries to get a tow up the hill but with a hill, Nieminen has to back off the throttle, which sends him into the clutches of Van T Land. Van T Land goes for a move down the inside of the 2nd fast right hander but there is huge contact, with both cars careening through the sand and grit. Both get back on track slowly, but bizarrely Nieminen's car spins off again under acceleration and he decides to call it a day and retires from the race. Through the havoc, Tippet has managed to keep his nose clean and head down and is briefly rewarded with 4th place. Blimp and Melbourne are able to overtake him in the next sequence of corners ,dropping Tippet back down to 6th.

With around 7 minutes left in the race, Smith is remaining in contention for the lead by around 0.600's and not letting Wagenvoort break away. Van T land looking determined had now caught and latched on to the rear wing of Tippet, unable to pass down the hill, patiently waiting until he picks up the slipstream from Tippet's car down towards fast hairpin, making his move down the inside. Tippet makes a small error off the hairpin and Salem follows and takes 7th place. Salem and Melbourne have a huge coming together, which allows Tippet back into 6th with under a minute to go, Van T Land and Anders make more contact proving a very challenging race for Van T Land, behind Tippet closes up the gap to less than a second to Van T Land, but unfortunately only able to secure 6th on his return to racing. Wagenvoort's domination of the weekend concludes with another good win. Smith coming second is a bit of a morale booster for the Vermin team as a whole but no consolation for Williams bad luck. This result means that the title still goes down to the wire but with a much larger gap in points to Wagenvoort and sees Williams now entering the finale as the underdog. A superb drive from Blimp to bring his car home in 3rd, after this promising weekend he will be a driver to watch.

Top 3:

- 1. Wagenvoort**
- 2. Smith**
- 3. Blimp**

OKY

Qualifying

The atmosphere was so electric, Oscar Williams needing somewhat of a miracle to take the championship from Jaap Wagenvoort. Qualifying pace was absolutely stunning throughout the entire field, with the top 7 covered by less than a second by the end of the session. Williams looking strong favourite for pole with a 1:19.861 as the clock ran out,

Wagenvoort and Williams both had one more chance to improve. Wagenvoort snatched the pole by just 0.076, with Williams unable to improve on his time. Martijn Van T Land managed to secure a top 3 start just pipping Nieminen at the flag. With Wagenvoort only needing to finish 2nd in race 1 for the title to be his, he looked very well poised to lift the trophy.

Top 3

Wagenvoort

Williams

Van T Land

Race 1

As tyre smoke shrouds the track as the race gets underway, Wagenvoort gets a good start, Williams bogging down slightly and Van T Land has a look at him into turn 1, but Williams brakes much later and sets off catching his rival ahead. The field are all cleanly through turn 1, Vyacheslav Potapenko having to start from the pit lane due to accumulating 5 penalty points, joins the track in last place. Van T Land has a lock up and avoids collecting the rear end of Williams after going in a bit hot, dropping him down to last place. Potapenko had made it past DJB and was now on the rear end of Syntax.

With Williams all over the gearbox of Wagenvoort, The vermin driver determined to maximize his chances of closing the gap to Wagenvoort in the championship and going all out for the win. Nieminen was starting to fall back in 3rd as the lead pair set about a scorching race pace. Colonel Blimp had some technical issues which would drop him all the way to the rear end and eventually end up in retirement.

Niko Anders tries move down at the Hairpin on Clive Melbourne, for 5th place. Anders out brakes himself and Melbourne snatches a front brake for a dramatic looking lock up but is able to easily switch back past and retain the position. Williams with an excellent drive off of the 3rd corner is able to attack Wagenvoort, but Wagenvoort holds a defensive position, squeezing Williams slightly under braking there is a brush of contact but nothing more than rubber scuffs against paintwork as Wagenvoort just runs a little deep.

Melbourne is sticking all over the back of Anders as they constantly are swapping places. Van T Land is recovering slowly and slips a beautiful move on Syntax. Whilst again Williams tries to pass down at the hairpin and Wagenvoort just defends again maintaining the status quo for another lap, battling nose to tail. Again for a third lap in a row Williams tries to make his move down at the hairpin, Wagenvoort goes very defensive on the inside, but locks up with a mistake, Williams takes the tighter line and performs a brilliant pass, switching back down the inside and into the Lead. It's not long before he has pulled a very nice gap to Wagenvoort. With that battle over, Wagenvoort's mirrors are full of Nieminen's car who has closed right up in 3rd place, however Nieminen's car suddenly snaps away in the final corner sending him into the gravel trap. Sammy Salem takes over his team mates position.

Melbourne has an off and hits the wall, dropping down to 9th, behind Potapenko. Great racing from Potapenko and Melbourne as Melbourne applies pressure, forcing a mistake, he is able to take 7th from Potapenko around the outside of turn 2.

Williams takes the victory for a brilliant race. Wagenvoort however is crowned champion as the pair show each other mutual respect and either one would have been a deserving champion.

Top 3

Williams

Wagenvoort

Salem

Race 2

Now with the pressure off for the drivers championship it would be all out racing in race 2. DJB would start on pole with Syntax 2nd and Potapenko 3rd. DJB would lead into turn 1 with Melbourne and Syntax, who had a lightning start up to 3rd, Potapenko dropping to 4th. Melbourne makes a daring move around the outside for the lead, but unfortunately slides off the track dropping to 4th. Potapenko finds himself sandwiched between several cars, Van T Land catches Potapenko's rear wheels sending them both off track and benefiting Williams who is now in 6th, with the newly crowned champion Wagenvoort 7th.

Melbourne takes too much kerb on the exit of a corner and ends up over steering into a wall and down to last spot. Nieminen manages to slither past Syntax and up into 2nd and focuses on DJB up ahead, overtaking him for the lead of the race down the straight. DJB finds himself travelling backwards fast as a stream of cars come through, Syntax, Salem and Williams all passing the Octan within a couple of corners. Anders has a similar mistake to Melbourne's earlier crash but ends up hitting the opposite side of the track off of the same corner, freeing up Wagenvoort, now running 6th. As Salem and Syntax battle for position, Williams sneaks a move around the outside of Salem for 3rd place at the slow "S" bend, and with a better drive off the final corner, breezes past Syntax on the straight taking 2nd. Wagenvoort eyeing up the action in front between Salem and Syntax takes a similar advantage of that battle to pull off a double overtake on the pair, catapulting him into 3rd place.

Van T Land who had been having a bit of a nightmare weekend was now trying to find a way past DJB for 7th, eventually passing him. Anders again had another off hitting the wall, as he chases down Potapenko to retake the place Anders catches a huge sideways moment, as he closes in on Potapenko again Anders slides off track and into retirement.

Potapenko and DJB begin to battle for the 8th place honour, Potapenko slowly applying pressure on DJB, as both begin to struggle with tyre wear, sliding and losing grip, DJB has a moment, letting Potapenko through.

Williams now closing down the gap to Nieminen lap after lap, gets his car within 3 seconds with a minute left in the race, but he takes too much kerb on the exit of the final corner and spins his car, allowing Wagenvoort to steal away 2nd place. But it's Nieminen who wins the final race of the season with a superb drive and also stealing 2nd place in the team championship from Vermin Racing with that result. Wagenvoort 2nd and Williams 3rd.

Top 3

Nieminen

Wagenvoort

Williams