

SPEED

INTERNATIONAL
FORMULA
MASTER

EUROSPORT
YOKOHAMA

6

FIRST FOR JD MOTORSPORT



Fast but not furious



Race at F1 rounds

PERFECT SCORE FOR JD MOTORSPORT



Josef Kral



Sergey Afanasiev

Round 09

JD Motorsport's Josef Kral clinched his first win of the season in front of the Formula 1 teams for round nine at the Hungaroring in Hungary. Starting first on the grid, Kral led the race from start to finish to score his and JD Motorsport's first win this year.

Despite a good start, Jenzer Motorsport's Fabio Leimer was unable to pass the young Czech and settle for a second-place finish, earning his fifth podium of the season. ISR's Alexander Rossi enjoyed an equally strong start, passing TSP's Earl Bamber on the first lap to take third.

"I had a fantastic start; it was the main thing to get right for the race because you can't really overtake here," said Kral.

"After that I was struggling with the brakes for the first few laps and the track was really slippery, but then I found a really good balance with the brakes and the car felt much better. "I started to push really hard and focused on doing very constant laps in the 1mins39s for the next six laps so that I could pull away. I kept to those times to make a gap to Fabio [Leimer] and that was it! The car felt really good; it's the first time it is 100% on set-up."

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Michele Caliendo

29/07/87 – 22 years old

Marco Mapelli

01/08/87 – 22 years old

Kasper Andersen

03/08/84 – 25 years old

Esteban Gutierrez

05/08/91 – 18 years old



Round 10

JD Motorsport claimed their second win of the weekend, with Sergey Afanasiev scoring his first victory of the season in round ten. Starting from the front row, Afanasiev took the lead from ISR's Erik Janis at the start and kept it for the 17-lap race.

AR Motorsport's Paul Meijer secured second place on his first weekend in Formula Master, earning his team their second podium-finish. The Dutchman passed Janis on the first lap and remained there unchallenged until the chequered flag. ISR's Janis eventually finished in third place.

"I made a few mistakes in the previous round so this is a good way to make it up to my team," said Afanasiev. "I knew I could win the start and keep the lead. It's a good feeling; I'm really happy for my team! This is the best result this year; two races and two JD Motorsport drivers at the top."

WHAT'S THE POINT

ROUND 09

1. Josef Kral (CZH), JD Motorsport (#3)
2. Fabio Leimer (SUI), Jenzer Motorsport (#6)
3. Alexander Rossi (USA), ISR (#16)
4. Alexander Sims (GBR), TSP (#40)
5. Earl Bamber (NZL), TSP (#42)
6. Paul Meijer (NED), AR Motorsport (#33)
7. Sergey Afanasiev (RUS), JD Motorsport (#2)
8. Erik Janis (CZH), ISR (#20)

ROUND 10

1. Sergey Afanasiev (RUS), JD Motorsport (#2)
2. Paul Meijer (NED), AR Motorsport (#33)
3. Erik Janis (CZH), ISR (#20)
4. Alexander Sims (GBR), TSP (#40)
5. Fabio Leimer (SUI), Jenzer Motorsport (#6)
6. Earl Bamber (NZL), TSP (#42)

DRIVERS CLASSIFICATION (TOP EIGHT)

1. Fabio Leimer (SUI), Jenzer Motorsport (#6), 62 points
2. Josef Kral (CZH), JD Motorsport (#3), 40 points
3. Pål Varhaug (NOR), Jenzer Motorsport (#7), 36 points
4. Sergey Afanasiev (RUS), JD Motorsport (#2), 34 points
5. Alexander Rossi (USA), ISR (#16), 27 points
4. Vladimir Arabadzhev (BUL), JD Motorsport (#1), 25 points
7. Erik Janis (CZH), ISR (#20), 21 points
8. Alessandro Kouzkin (RUS), Cram Competition (#47), 18 points

FAST BUT NOT FURIOUS

Round 10 on Sunday saw Talent Support Programme (TSP) driver Alexander Sims, together with Jenzer Motorsport's Fabio Leimer and fellow TSP racer Earl Bamber, fight feverishly throughout the 30-minute race, attempting several overtaking moves on each other. Some of the season's cleanest yet most entertaining racing ensued, keeping all watching enthralled until the very last lap.



Alexander Sims

LAP-BY-LAP ANALYSIS

Grid: Bamber is fourth, Sims fifth and Leimer seventh

Lap 1: Sims is sixth, Bamber seventh and Leimer eighth

Lap 4: Close battle between Sims, Bamber & Leimer for sixth

Lap 5: Bamber attempts overtaking move on Sims but no chance and runs wide / Leimer able to benefit from Bamber move

Lap 6: Leimer passes Bamber for seventh place

Lap 7: Bamber and Reiterer both pass Leimer back for seventh and eighth place

Lap 8: Leimer retakes eighth place from Reiterer

Lap 10: Leimer overtakes Bamber for sixth place

Lap 13: Leimer pressuring Sims for fourth place

Lap 16: Sims, Leimer & Bamber still fighting for position

Lap 17: Final lap / Gap between Sims and Leimer is 0.388 seconds with Bamber 0.265 behind

FIRST POLE FOR KRAL

JD Motorsport's Josef Kral scored his first IFM pole position last Friday in Hungary, completing the Series' fastest lap in 1:38.216 and becoming only the third driver of the season to top the qualifying timesheets.

"We've been planning this the whole season and it came now so it took a few races," explained Kral.

"It's good for our championship bid now; we've caught up with the level of Jenzer Motorsport and Fabio [Leimer]. He had an advantage this season since it is his second year with the same team whereas I changed to come to JD Motorsport.

"But now I think we have found what is right for me and the car and qualifying on pole will come easier. . We'll see what happens in Spa! The team is a lot happier now in any case, and we will work even more because we were all waiting for this..."



Josef Kral



Paul Meijer



MEET PAUL MEIJER

Dutchman Paul Meijer completed his first race weekend with Formula Master in Hungary, after testing with the Series in pre-season. AR Motorsport's Meijer was immediately on the pace, featuring at the top of the timesheets during qualifying and climbing on the podium for a second-place finish in Race Two last Sunday.

"The competition here has been really nice here and I'm looking forward to Spa next month," said Meijer. "The weekend's gone well; in the first session we were in the top five immediately. I think if we had gained 0.150seconds we would

have been P2 so it's frustrating but that's how close the field is. In Sunday's race, I had good start; I took second place after the first corner and then made sure I was on pace and as consistent with my lap times as possible. I felt really confident in the car and its balance."



Paul Meijer



IFM'S TALENT SUPPORT PROGRAMME: RACE AT F1 ROUNDS

British Alexander Sims, Italy's Samuele Buttarelli and New Zealander Earl Bamber became the first IFM drivers to join the Series under a new development scheme known as the IFM Talent Support Programme.

The scheme saw the three talented young drivers race with Formula Master in Hungary as the Series partnered the FIA Formula 1 World Championship for the first time last weekend.

Currently competing in Formula 3 Euroseries, 21-year-old Sims graduated from Formula Renault UK in 2008 where he had driven for the previous two years.

Italian Samuele Buttarelli has also been chosen to take part in the programme and is combining his Formula 3 Open Series Championship commitments with the two Formula Master race weekends.

Former ADM Motorsport driver Earl Bamber

completes the trio of supported racers. The 19-year-old

began the season with ADM but had to miss the last two race weekends in Brno and Brands Hatch.

The IFM Talent Support Programme aims to give young drivers the opportunity to perform in front of motorsport's highest representative during the Series' two race weekend with Formula 1. All three drivers will also race with IFM at the Belgium GP at the end of August.

"International Formula Master has always been committed to the development of upcoming and talented drivers, taking a close look at all the opportunities available to assist young racers and give them the chance to develop their careers," said Alessandro Alunni Bravi, IFM's General Manager. "The Talent Support Program is simply the natural consequence of our philosophy."



TSP: ALEXANDER SIMS



Alexander Sims

Alexander Sims competed in his first IFM rounds this weekend, finishing both races in fourth place despite racing on an unknown track. The 21-year-old acquainted himself with his car quickly to deliver some stunning on-track battles, impressing all present. "This programme fits perfectly with my F3 campaign this year as I believe the cars are quite similar in performance, which is great," said Sims who won the highly-regarded McLaren Autosport BRDC Young Driver

of the year accolade last year.

"To be able to learn a new car and a new track is a fantastic opportunity, particularly with it being a support to Formula 1. The weekend has been interesting; I've only ever had to go straight into qualifying once before in my career and it has been a challenge. It's a good experience to have under your belt.

"The team's done a very good job with the car; it's pretty competitive as we saw in the race, we were able to move forward and set reasonably good laps. It's a pretty decent car overall, challenging and making you learn the right techniques for what you need to do."

TSP: EARL BAMBER

2008 IFM race winner Earl Bamber competed in the first two Formula Master events this season before having to sit out the next two. The young New-Zealander came back at Brands Hatch as a guest Eurosport commentator but this weekend marks his return to racing in the Series, through the Talent Support Programme. "It's a great opportunity to get back into racing with Formula Master," said Bamber. "It was a shame to miss the last few rounds; I commentated for the Series on Eurosport during the Brands Hatch rounds and I was itching to get back into the car!

"I had been really looking forward to this weekend, and running alongside Formula 1 is very exciting. It has been a challenge as there is limited track time and I had never raced on the track before but it's all part of racing and I'm glad to get back to it all.

"The weekend's been really good; it's a fantastic programme and the team has been great, taking a brand new car and getting it on the pace straight away.



Earl Bamber



We saw that in qualifying where I secured third. That was the highest I've qualified all season so from that point of view it's been really good.

"The races were solid and we now have Spa to look forward to. Hopefully we can be there with an even stronger package."

2009 CALENDAR



Rounds	Date	Venue	Partnering
01&02	16-17 May	Pau, France	WTCC
03&04	30-31 May	Valencia, Spain	WTCC
05&06	20-21 June	Brno, Czech Republic	WTCC
07&08	18-19 July	Brands Hatch, United Kingdom	WTCC
09&10	25-26 July	Hungaroring, Hungary	F1
11&12	29-30 August	Spa-Francorchamps, Belgium	F1
13&14	05-06 September	Oschersleben, Germany	WTCC
15&16	19-20 September	Imola, Italy	WTCC

SPA-FRANCORCHAMPS: BELGIUM

Lap distance: 7.004 km

Race distance:

Race 1: 12 laps

Race 2: 12 laps

Location: Eight kilometres from the town of Spa and 1h30 drive from Brussels

Official website: www.spa-francorchamps.be

IFM LAP RECORDS:

New venue for 2009



CIRCUIT PREVIEW: SPA-FRANCORCHAMPS

Known as most drivers' favourite track, Belgium's Spa-Francorchamps circuit features the famous Eau Rouge as part of its mix of challengingly fast corners and long straights.

The field of young Formula Master drivers tested at the track last June, after an earlier attempt in March had to be cancelled due to heavy snow fall.





RISING STAR: ERIK JANIS

First steps

"I started my career when I was six years old; my dad was a racer, he started in motocross but swapped for motorsport later where he went to go-karts. Later he taught everything he knew to my older brother and I was interested too so he helped me."

Getting serious

"I continued with karts until I was 17 years old and got to be quite successful. I then had the possibility to drive in Formula BMW but just for three races as we had a limited budget. I finished fifth in the last races which wasn't bad!"

Touring cars

"I then started racing with touring cars so I didn't actually start with single-seaters. My main experience is from the touring car category and I won the Czech championship in Skoda Octavia. I then did GT3 with a Lamborghini Gallardo and was quite successful again but could only do three or four races."

A1GP

"This was a big step for me; I was given the opportunity to find my skills in single-seaters, see how good I was. I had no testing and only experience in touring cars, which are great cars but completely different to single-seaters. And A1GP was a really fast car at the time so I didn't know what to expect. I got to finish the first race in the points though, I got 10th and managed to qualify in P6 in Zandvoort which was amazing!"

Full season

"I switch to Formula 3 Euroseries for last season and it was a hard year. I gained a lot of experience though, more than ever before. You need a lot of experience to do well in that series, the competition is really high and newcomers always struggle. Most of the time I finished 10th overall; I focused on finishing as many races as possible and it led me to the rookie championship title."



Formula Master

"The car is slightly different to Euroseries so you have to improve your skills again and concentrate on sorting our performance so that we can aim for a win in the next few races. It's important for me to finish races and keep doing things right this year. You put the pieces together like this and leads to one big result!"

The future

"Everyone aims for Formula 1 but I know how it is now; it's very difficult to put everything together and be at the right time in the right place to reach the championship. It's very hard but I do still believe in having the chance to get there. Having said that, I am realistic and would

like to drive in 24 Hour races or DTM or the FIA WTCC. As long as you can compete with the top teams and on a high level, it's just great to drive!"

TF Fact!

Fastest laps from the weekend, all set during qualifying sessions:

- Formula 1: 1:20.358 – Mark Webber
- GP2 Series: 1:27.867 – Lucas Di Grassi
- Formula Master: 1:38.216 – Josef Kral
- Formula BMW: 1:50.420 – Michael Christensen

CHAMPION SPEAKER

As reigning Formula BMW world champion, Alexander Rossi was invited to speak at the Formula BMW Europe hospitality during the weekend, looking back on his career and the step he had taken in graduating to International Formula Master this year.

"We didn't know for about five months after finishing the season, which would be the best option," said Rossi when asked how he had chosen IFM as his next step in his career. "We considered many different championship and we were really looking at the best place for me to begin my career in Europe. I knew after winning the Formula BMW World Final that I wanted to race in Europe, the goal is to reach formula 1 and I know that you have to be in Europe for a

chance to get there.

"I did a test with Trident Racing at the beginning of the year and I immediately knew that the IFM car was perfect for me and the series was fantastic so from then on I knew that this was right for me in 2009.

"It's the best place to make the step up from Formula BMW, preparing me for the higher levels. The IFM car was designed for this; it's designed based on the GP2 car, everything was taken from that car and put on the IFM car on a smaller scale. So it teaches drivers the technique and the skills needed for the GP2 and that has proven itself very well already with Chris van der Drift and Jérôme D'Ambrosio."



Alexander Rossi



OOPS!!

JD Motorsport team member Alex made the unfortunate promise at the start of the season to shave his hair off should his driver Sergey Afanasiev win a race during the season.

Afanasiev duly won his race on Sunday, taking a masterful lead at the start, which he kept until crossing the finish line. A few hours later and Alex had to face facts; it was time to say goodbye to his hair!

FOLLOW IFM ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER

For a backstage peek into the world of International Formula Master, follow the Series on Facebook via <http://tiny.cc/FacebookIFM>. With the latest photos and videos from our two rounds in Hungary, catch up on what the drivers got up to away from the track, post your own shots from the weekend and let us know what you thought of the races! You can also follow the Series on Twitter at www.twitter.com/FormulaMaster.



THANK YOU



Many people helped Formula Master feel welcome during its first weekend as an F1-support series and this issue wouldn't be complete without expressing thanks. To the organisers, circuit representatives, fellow support series and the

many, many friendly faces that popped round for an espresso and a few minutes of blissfully air-conditioned motorhome air... You know who you are and we thank you, it wouldn't have been the same without you!

PHOTO GALLERY



Fabio Leimer



Josef Kral



Alessandro Kouzkin



Tiago Petiz



Podium race 1



Podium race 2



Patrick Reiterer



Samuele Buttarelli



Sergey Afanasiev



Vladimir Arabadzhiev



Kelvin Snoeks

