

# PREVIEW



## ROUND 9 LE CASTELLET FRANCE



ALL TIMES LOCAL **GMT** +2

### FRIDAY

Free Practice

18:30 Qualifying Session

20:30

Press Conference

### SATURDAY

18:00 Sprint Race

**21 Laps** 

45 min. +1 I an

Grid set by reversing Top 10 of Oualifying Results

Press Conference

### SUNDAY

Feature Race

30 Laps

60 min. +1 I an

Grid set by Qualifying Results

11:00

Press Conference

### THE STORY 50 FAR

It was an unforgettable weekend of racing last time out for Round 8 of the 2022 FIA Formula 2 Championship at the Red Bull Ring, with a new title contender throwing down the gauntlet and unpredictable weather delivering a Feature Race for the ages.

Jake Hughes set the pace in a hotly contested Free Practice session after a late effort saw the Van Amersfoort Racing driver clear the rest of the field by four-tenths. The Briton led the ART Grand Prix duo of Théo Pourchaire and Frederik Vesti, as a mere 0.230s separated the second-placed Frenchman from the tenth-placed Logan Sargeant.

Vesti followed up on his bestever Free Practice performance by claiming a maiden pole in the second tier on Friday afternoon. After having his first time deleted

for a track limit infringement, the Dane had just one run to deliver, eventually setting a blistering 1:14.123. Hitech Grand Prix's Jüri Vips was forced to settle for second, and Sargeant put himself firmly in the fight finishing third.

Marcus Armstrong unassailable in the Sprint Race on Saturday, commanding the field from lights to flag after a fantastic getaway from reverse grid pole. The Hitech driver took a second win of the season ahead of Pourchaire, who clung to second after immense late-race pressure from third-placed Jack Doohan.





Weather wrought havoc on tyre strategies before Sunday's Feature race had even begun, and it was a last-minute decision from Richard Verschoor to start on slicks that saw him rise through the field from eight to cross the line with a 13.7s lead. However, moments after triumphantly taking the chequered flag, the Dutchman came to a stop on track. It was later found that there was not enough fuel left in his Trident as required by

the Sporting Regulations, resulting in his disqualification.

Jehan Daruvala, who crossed the line second, was also demoted off the podium after receiving a post-race penalty for a starting grid infringement. The penalties promoted Sargeant, who delivered a remarkable recovery drive on the opposite strategy, not only to the Feature Race win but, crucially, to second in the Championship fight.

### THE CHALLENGERS

Felipe Drugovich continues to lead the way in the Drivers' Championship however a new title-contender rises to second, with Logan Sargeant moving ahead of Théo Pourchaire. Jehan Daruvala remains fourth with 80 points, while Enzo Fittipaldi moves up to fifth on 75 points.



It's now neck and neck in the Teams' Championship with Carlin not only overtaking ART Grand Prix for second place but also closing the gap to longtime leaders MP Motorsport. Just six points now separate the top three teams in the standings.



David Beckmann returns to Van **Amersfoort Racing** this weekend.

Hughes' black and orange car for Rounds 9 and 10 in Le Castellet and Budapest after the British driver tested positive for Covid-19.



### TRACK DATAS Circuit Paul Ricard

### **Ö LAP RECORD**

1:42.226 (205.732 KM/H) Lando Norris (Carlin) in 2018\*

ALL TIMES LOCAL GMT +2

**SATURDAY 18:00** 

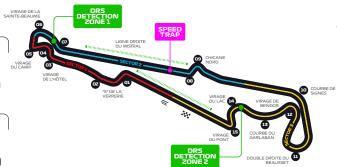
SPRINT RACE 21 LAPS >> 122.746 KM

45 min. +1 Lap

**SUNDAY 09:35** 

**FEATURE RACE** 

**30 LAPS >> 175.324 KM** 60 min. +1 Lap



5.842 KM Start/Finish offset + 0.064 km

#### © 2019 POLE POSITION 1:43.024 (204.138 KM/H)

Sérgio Sette-Câmara (DAMS)

MAXIMUM SPEED SPEED TRAP 319.4 KM/H

Lando Norris (Carlin) in 2018

#### ® COUMPOUND ALLOCATION







#### **2019 FEATURE RACE** TYRE WINNING STRATEGY

SOFT 8 Laps >> HARD 22 Laps

Nyck de Vries (ART Grand Prix) from P4 Grid Position

### FROM THE GRID



"I'm looking forward to

getting out on track at Paul

Ricard. I think it's a circuit

that has suited me in the

past. It's also been a good

track in terms of results and

I'm confident that Carlin

is going to put a good car

underneath me, as they have

"I particularly like the last

sector of the track, starting

with the flat-out right-hander

into the long double right of

Turn 11 which is one of the

most challenging corners we

face this year. I'd say that's

done every weekend so far.

### Logan SARGEANT

my favourite section and it's a place where there's a lot of time either won or lost.

expecting tyre management to be similar to what we've faced throughout the year so far. Management is important on the Pirelli tyres, but I feel like we've done a really good job at that at every round so I'm quite confident on that side of things. We're looking at some extremely high temperatures at Paul Ricard so that's an extra variable to think about, but I think it will be fairly similar to what we've been facing all year.

"Paul Ricard offers quite a few overtaking opportunities. Starting at Turn 1 it's a good opportunity, both the inside and outside line can work there. The chicane in the middle of the circuit is another great overtaking opportunity and if you are overtaken into that chicane, you can fight back into the exit. Then there are chances to make a move in the last sector as well, with many different lines to choose from. It's going to be a dicey pass in Sector 3 but it's definitely doable and I think you'll see some overtaking there too.

"This weekend I'm hoping to continue the momentum we built up in the last few rounds. I'm feeling really confident in the car and my driving so we need to aim for another good Qualifying and a good Feature Race result."

### YRE TALK

#### **Mario ISOLA**

Pirelli Motorsport Director

"With this being Formula 2's first race weekend at the Paul Ricard circuit since 2019.



it will be the first time we have seen the championship racing there on 18-inch tyres. The track will provide a varied challenge for the tyres with some long straights as well as several corners with high lateral loads, particularly in the final sector. At the same time, the surface roughness is about average, and this means that degradation should be generally low on the hard tyre. High temperatures are a given in the south of France in July so the drivers will need to manage the P Zero Red soft tyre carefully, while the extra step to the P Zero White hard tyre should provide some exciting differences in strategy, as we have seen in several rounds already this season."

### **TAT PACK**

Logan Sargeant is on a charge after back-toback Feature Race wins, scoring 77 points in the last three rounds - more than double the number of points he scored in the first five rounds of the season.

Felipe Drugovich is the only driver to have scored points in every round of the campaign so far, with 14 points finishes from 16 races.



Olli Caldwell collected his maiden points in the second tier after his sixth-place finish in the Feature Race at Red Bull Ring, meaning there are now 20 points scorers on the current Formula 2 grid.



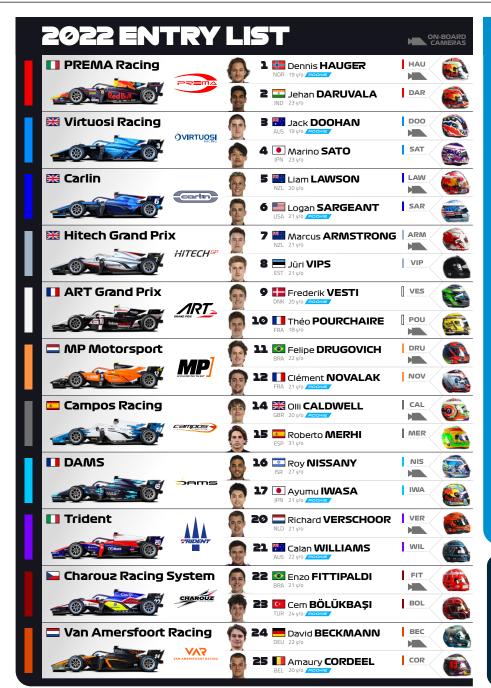
A victory for Felipe Drugovich in Le Castellet would see the Brazilian driver equal the record for race wins in Formula 2, an accolade currently jointly held by 2019 F2 Champion Nyck de Vries and Artem Markelov.



The lap record at Le Castellet is 1:42.226. set by Lando Norris with Carlin in 2018.

The 5.842 KM long Circuit Paul Ricard re-ioins the Formula 2 calendar in 2022. The Championship last visited the French circuit in 2019





### **2022 STANDINGS**

#### **DRIVER STANDINGS**

POS.	DRIVER	SPRINT₹	FEATURE₹	PTS	SHUFFLE
1.	Felipe Drugovich	1¥	3¥	154	
2.	Logan Sargeant ROOKIE		2¥	115	+1
3.	Théo Pourchaire		2¥	114	1
4.	Jehan <b>Daruvala</b>			80	=
5.	Enzo Fittipaldi			75	+4
6.	Marcus Armstrong	2¥		69	=
7.	Dennis Hauger R	1¥	1¥	67	+3
8.	Jüri Vips			67	1
9.	Jack <b>Doohan</b>	1¥		63	1
10.	Liam Lawson	1¥		60	5
11.	I Frederik Vesti R	1¥		56	=
12.	Richard Verschoor	1¥		45	=
13.	Ayumu Iwasa R			44	=
14.	Ralph Boschung			34	=
15.	Jake Hughes			26	+1
16.	Clément Novalak R			22	1
17.	Roy Nissany			16	=
	Roberto Merhi				
19.	Olli Caldwell R			8	+3
20.	Marino Sato			6	2
21.	Calan Williams R			5	2
	David Beckmann				
	Cem <b>Bölükbaşı</b> R				
24.	Amaury Cordeel			0	-1

#### TEAM STANDINGS

POS. TEAM	$SPRINT\Psi$	FEATURE	PTS	SHUFFLE
1. MP Motorsport	1¥	3¥	176	
2. Carlin				
3. ART Grand Prix				
4. PREMA Racing	1¥	1¥	147	=
5. Hitech Grand Prix				
6. Charouz Racing System	1		79	+1
7. Virtuosi Racing				
8. DAMS				
9.   Campos Racing				
10. Trident				
11. Van Amersfoort Racing				

### **MEDIA PLATFORM**

The FIA Formula 2 Media Kit and stats sheet are now available via our media platform, along with a selection of driver interviews.

FIA F2 MEDIA ASSETS CLICK HERE

SEA	SON RECAI		POLE Position	SPRINT RACE WINNER $\Psi$	FASTEST LAP  ⊕ FL BONUS POINT	FEATURE RACE WINNER ₹	FASTEST LAP  ⊕ FL BONUS POINT
18-20 March	Sakhir BAHRAIN Bahrain International Circuit		Jack <b>DOOHAN</b> Virtuosi Racing	Richard <b>VERSCHOOR</b> Trident	Amaury <b>CORDEEL</b> Van Amersfoort Racing	Théo <b>POURCHAIRE</b> ART Grand Prix	Jüri <b>VIPS</b> Hitech Grand Prix
25-27 March	Jeddah SAUDI ARABIA  Jeddah Corniche Circuit	~	Felipe <b>DRUGOVICH</b> MP Motorsport	Liam <b>LAWSON</b> Carlin	Jüri <b>VIPS</b> Hitech Grand Prix	Felipe <b>DRUGOVICH</b> MP Motorsport	Jack <b>DOOHAN</b> Virtuosi Racing
22-24 April	Autodromo Enzo e Dino Ferrari	NEW	Jüri <b>VIPS</b> Hitech Grand Prix	Marcus <b>ARMSTRONG</b> Hitech Grand Prix	Jüri <b>VIPS</b> Hitech Grand Prix	Théo <b>POURCHAIRE</b> ART Grand Prix	Jehan <b>DARUVALA</b> PREMA Racing
20-22 May	Barcelona SPAIN Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya		Jack <b>DOOHAN</b> Virtuosi Racing	Felipe <b>DRUGOVICH</b> MP Motorsport	Felipe <b>DRUGOVICH</b> MP Motorsport	Felipe <b>DRUGOVICH</b> MP Motorsport	Jack <b>DOOHAN</b> Virtuosi Racing
26-29 May	Monte Carlo MONACO Circuit de Monaco	r	Felipe <b>DRUGOVICH</b> MP Motorsport	Dennis <b>HAUGER</b> PREMA Racing	Jack <b>DOOHAN</b> Virtuosi Racing	Felipe <b>DRUGOVICH</b> MP Motorsport	Richard VERSCHOOF Trident
10-12 June	Baku AZERBAIJAN Baku City Circuit	0=	Jüri <b>VIPS</b> Hitech Grand Prix	Frederik <b>VESTI</b> ART Grand Prix	Dennis <b>HAUGER</b> PREMA Racing	Dennis <b>HAUGER</b> PREMA Racing	Jüri <b>VIPS</b> Hitech Grand Prix
01-03 July	Silverstone GREAT BRITAIN Silverstone Circuit	R	Logan <b>SARGEANT</b> Carlin	Jack <b>DOOHAN</b> Virtuosi Racing	Ayumu <b>IWASA</b> DAMS	Logan <b>SARGEANT</b> Carlin	David <b>BECKMANN</b> Van Amersfoort Raci
08-10 July	Spielberg AUSTRIA Red Bull Ring	P	Frederik <b>VESTI</b> ART Grand Prix	Marcus <b>ARMSTRONG</b> Hitech Grand Prix	Felipe <b>DRUGOVICH</b> MP Motorsport	Logan <b>SARGEANT</b> Carlin	Jack <b>DOOHAN</b> Virtuosi Racing
22-24 July	Le Castellet FRANCE Circuit Paul Ricard		<b>20</b>	:	:	:	:
29-31 July	Budapest HUNGARY Hungaroring	I	) :		:		:
26-28 August	Spa-Francorchamps Circuit de Spa-Francorchamps	BELGIUM	3 3	:	:	:	:
02-04 Septemb	er <b>Zandvoort</b> NETHERLANDS Circuit Zandvoort	NEW VENUE		:	:	:	:
09-11 Septemb	Par Monza ITALY Autodromo Nazionale Monza		<b>,</b>	:	:	:	:
18-20 Novemb	Yas Island ABU DHABI, UAE Yas Marina Circuit		<b>≥</b> .	:	:	:	: