

Friday 10 September 2021

Ticktum leads Pourchaire in opening session at Monza

Carlin's Dan Ticktum was the fastest man in Free Practice for the second round in a row, getting his weekend off to the best possible start in Monza, beating ART Grand Prix's Théo Pourchaire and Carlin's Jehan Daruvala to first place.

The grid dusted off the cobwebs from the summer break and returned to track action in Italy, with Liam Lawson setting the benchmark at 1:34.363, some two seconds off last year's Free Practice time of 1:32.169 from Yuki Tsunoda.

There had been several changes in the paddock since Silverstone, with Jake Hughes returning to HWA RACELAB following an injury to Jack Aitken, while David Beckmann had swapped Charouz Racing System for Campos Racing, with Enzo Fittipaldi stepping up from Formula 3 to take his place.

Ticktum edged closer to the two-minute mark with 30 minutes to go, topping the timesheets with a lap of 1:33.042, ahead of Pourchaire and Daruvala.

A Virtual Safety Car was needed with just 11 minutes on the clock as Roy Nissany pulled onto the grass with smoke coming from the back of his DAMS. Running resumed with five minutes left to improve, although most were more focused on gathering data than setting lap times.

The top three remained unchanged, while Championship leader Oscar Piastri closed out the top five ahead of David Beckmann, the PREMA driver three tenths off the fastest lap.

Marino Sato survived a late wobble to take a P6 placing, with Christian Lundgaard in seventh and Bent Viscaal eighth. Richard Verschoor and Liam Lawson rounded out the top 10, with just six seconds separating them from Ticktum.

The Carlin driver will look to carry his Free Practice form into Qualifying when action resumes at 4.50pm local time.

CONTINUES

2021 FIA FORMULA 2 CHAMPIONSHIP – ROUND 5 FREE PRACTICE PROVISIONAL CLASSIFICATION

	DRIVER	TEAM
1	Dan Ticktum	Carlin
2	Théo Pourchaire	ART Grand Prix
3	Jehan Daruvala	Carlin
4	David Beckmann	Campos Racing
5	Oscar Piastrri	PREMA Racing
6	Marino Sato	Trident
7	Christian Lundgaard	ART Grand Prix
8	Bent Viscaal	Trident
9	Richard Verschoor	MP Motorsport
10	Liam Lawson	Hitech Grand Prix
11	Jüri Vips	Hitech Grand Prix
12	Ralph Boschung	Campos Racing
13	Guanyu Zhou	UNI-Virtuosi
14	Felipe Drugovich	UNI-Virtuosi
15	Lirim Zendeli	MP Motorsport
16	Jake Hughes	HWA RACELAB
17	Guilherme Samaia	Charouz Racing System
18	Robert Shwartzman	PREMA Racing
19	Roy Nissany	DAMS
20	Enzo Fittipaldi	Charouz Racing System
21	Alessio Deledda	HWA RACELAB
22	Marcus Armstrong	DAMS

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