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CIK-FIA KF2-KF3 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP – PF INTERNATIONAL (GB), 20th-22nd JULY 2012

CRG MAIN PROTAGONIST IN KF2 WITH FELICE TIENE; ALEX PALOU IS THE RUNNER-UP OF THE KF3 CHAMPIONSHIP

THE KF2-KF3 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP IN GREAT BRITAIN HAS JUST FINISHED. FELICE TIENE IS THE GREAT WINNER OF THE LAST FINAL IN KF2. ALEX PALOU IS THE RUNNER-UP IN KF3 AT HIS FIRST SEASON WITH CRG. IN KF2 GOOD PERFORMANCE ALSO FOR VARLEY AND JOYNER WITH THE LH TEAM.



CRG and Felice Tiene were the great protagonists of the CIK-FIA KF2 European Championship, with the Italian driver who achieved a great win in the last final of the PF International Circuit of Brandon and, finally, fourth in the general ranking of the championship, while the young Spanish driver Alex Palou, at his first season with the CRG official Team, is the runner-up of the KF3. These are the verdicts for CRG of the second and last round of the KF2 and KF3 European Championship which took place in Great Britain: here, the drivers of the Italian Factory confirmed once again the outstanding competitiveness of the 2012 CRG chassis powered by Bmb engines prepared by the technicians of the Czech team KVS.

IN KF2 THE LAST VICTORY GOES TO TIENE. In KF2 the success in the last final of the European Championship went to **Felice Tiene**, great protagonist on his CRG-Bmb. He got on the highest step of the podium in the last final of the tournament after grabbing the fourth position in Final-1. We cannot help thinking of the last race in Wackersdorf, where the driver from Naples, under the rain and after a terrible series of unfortunate coincidences, did not manage to get any points, otherwise - very likely - **Felice Tiene** would have been able to celebrate a much better result in this KF2 European Championship.

On this occasion, **Tiene's** performance was outstanding, similar to the great recovery he did in val d'Argenton in the WSK Euro Series. In this British race **Tiene** started with the overall third time in the free practice, but he only managed to record the 24th fastest time in the time trials. Then he recovered as far as the 14th position at the end of the heats, where he achieved a win but was also forced to retire when his chain slipped off.

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Above, Alex Palou in action on the PF circuit of Brandon in KF3 (photo MRM). First page, Felice Tiene's victory in KF2 (photo KSP).

Finally, he pulled himself together in the Finals: in Final 1 he recovered as far as the fourth place and in Final 2 he won!

The European Championship went to Verstappen, but the title is still sub-judice, and at the moment **Tiene** is fourth in the provisional final ranking.

Luke Varley made himself conspicuous thanks to a series of interesting performances; on this circuit, very familiar to him, despite an unlucky 35th time in the time trials, **Luke** managed to redeem

himself in the heats, even achieving a good third place. He started from the 16th position in Final 1 but was slowed down by several contacts and finished 23rd. In Final 2 he placed 18th.

Also the participation of the French driver **Ingrid Girard** was good, even though she had troubles in the tussle of the heats and did not manage to enter the finals.

Among the best also the English **Tom Joyner**, with the **LH Racing** team; he achieved the 9th time in the time trials and, then, performed well in the heats. He won once and was always among the top drivers, even though he was forced to retire in one of the heats. After the first final, where he finished 9th, **Joyner** got involved in an accident in Final 2 when he was about to grab the fourth place. In the Championship **Joyner** finished 11th.

ALEX PALOU IS THE KF3 RUNNER UP. **Alex Palou**, the young Spanish driver from Barcelona, lacked some luck, especially during the time trials on Friday, which took place under heavy rain. Our skilful driver, leader of the ranking before this round, after his 15th time in the trials, had to recover in the heats but not all of them went as expected.

So, at the end of the qualifying heats, despite good results such as a second place, two third places and a fifth, he only achieved the 12th position on the starting grid of Final 1 because in one of the heats he went off the track. The sixth place of Final 1, with the fastest lap, allowed **Palou** to keep on fighting for the title.

In Finale-2 his start, this time, was not very good and the tussle of the first lap prevented the CRG driver from aiming at the win. Eventually, after another recovery, **Palou** finished fifth: a very good result, but it was not enough to win the European title, which went to Russel.

So **Palou** was the runner up thanks to his victory and his fourth place of Varennes. Now, **Palou** can have his return match on 23rd September for the World Cup on his home country circuit, in Zuera; or even before, in the WSK Euro Series at the beginning of August, always in Zuera, where he will participate as the leader of the ranking.

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THE INTERVIEWS

Euan Jeffery, CRG team manager: "We didn't manage to win the KF3 European Championship with Alex Palou, but we were always very performing and we fought until the end for the title. Once again we showed the great quality of our equipment. Anyway, it was a good experience for Palou: he is at his first season with CRG but has already showed his competitiveness qualities. He just needed some more luck to achieve victory. Another confirmation of the potentiality of our equipment came from the KF2 category and from Felice Tiene's good performance. He won the last final and was always among the top drivers. We are confident we can have another good chance in the World Cup in Spain in September, where we go with our drivers to win the two most important titles."

Felice Tiene (KF2): "I do want to say thank you to the KVS technicians for the good job they are doing for me. I'm really happy for the way the weekend ended: it was tough at the beginning, but it went better and better and, eventually, I grabbed the fourth place in Final 1 and I won in Final 2. In one of the heats my chain slipped off, otherwise I would have been able to start from a better position and to aim at the podium also in Final 1. I'm a bit disappointed for the results I achieved in Germany, because with the equipment I had at my disposal I could have won this Championship. Now there are other important appointments in my schedule: at the beginning of September there is the KZ2 World Cup in Sarno, then the KF2 World Cup in Zuera, not to mention the KF1 World Championship in October and which finishes in Macao. I do hope to get some good satisfactions!"

All the results of the KF2 and KF3 European Championship on www.cikfia.com

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Photos KSP – MRM Comunicacion

CIK-FIA European KF2 Championship (sub-judice):

1. Verstappen points 70; 2. Barnicoat 47; 3. Leclerc 41; **4. Tiene 38**; 5. Fuoco 38; 6. Nielsen 34; 7. Krebs 26; 8. Olsen 25; 9. Tliihonen 22; 10. Snell 21; **11. Joyner 20**; 12. Fioravanti 17; 13. Hubert 14; 14. Romanov 12; 15. Ippolito 12; 16. Fukuzumi 10; 17. Basz 10; 18. Cucco 10; 19. Gil 10; 20. Lavelli 8.

CIK-FIA European KF3 Championship:

1. Russell points 75; **2. Palou 48**; 3. Boccolacci 48; 4. Kodric 39; 5. Corberi 31; 6. Ferrucci 29; 7. Jupp 28; 8. Florescu 22; 9. Dionisios 20; 10. Ticktum 18; 11. Bonduel 18; 12. Mollanen 17; 13. Gill 16; 14. Aston 16; 15. Piccini 15; 16. Lappalainen 13; 17. Cunati 11; 18. Karbaley 10; 19. Ilott 9; 20. Aubry 8.

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