



## Presse- und Öffentlichkeitsarbeit

Formula BMW Talent Cup

### **Ready, steady, go: first race simulation in the Formula BMW Talent Cup**

Munich, 7th May 2012. Another important section of the learning curve has been mastered: the young drivers in the 2012 Formula BMW Talent Cup successfully completed their first race simulation in Sturup/Sweden, and in doing so took a big step towards the Grand Final in Oschersleben. The programme devised for the 14 to 19-year-olds not only featured extensive test sessions on the narrow, winding track in Sturup, but also the first simulation of a qualifying session, practice starts and a test run.

In the Formula BMW Talent Cup, the junior racing drivers – most of whom come from a karting background – are given a unique step-by-step introduction to the demands of professional motor racing. The first race simulation at the second on-track event of the year represented another milestone in their development, after the 16 drivers from 11 countries had previously completed a fitness week, extensive roll-out and several media training courses. The training programme is aimed at the main goal in September: the Grand Final. BMW will fund the winner of the three races in Oschersleben for a season in a higher-level racing series in 2013.

The first qualifying and race simulation in Sturup/Sweden gave the first indication of the strength in depth of the field in the 2012 Formula BMW Talent Cup. Just one second separated pole-sitter Callan O'Keefe and the tenth fastest driver in qualifying. Callan O'Keefe (ZA) went on to narrowly defeat Alfonso Celis (MX) and Louis Deletraz (CH) in the practice race.

### **Dirk Adorf, BMW works driver and head instructor**

"The participants in the Formula BMW Talent Cup once again gained an enormous amount of experience at the on-track event in Sturup. This time the timetable included a simulation of a qualifying session and a race, as well as practice starts. Right across the board, the young drivers mastered the new influences and impressions with great ambition and a hunger to learn, and they picked up a lot over the course of the three days. I think it was an important step in their development as professional racing drivers."

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### **Callan O'Keefe, first place in the qualifying and race simulations**

"This weekend was very informative and a bit of a mixed bag for me. I ruined the tyres in the free practice and was unable to clock any fast times after that. This meant I did not really know how I compared to the others. I was back in business once I got the fresh set of tyres for the qualifying simulation, however. The pole position, fastest lap and first place in the race simulation might make it look as





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though it was easy for me. That was definitely not the case, however. It was hard work. Especially at the beginning."

### **Alfonso Celis, second place in the qualifying and race simulations**

"Second place in the first race simulation is obviously a good result, but I would have liked to go one better. Unfortunately I made a lot of little mistakes at the start, which allowed Callan to pull away. However, that just makes me even more motivated to get my nose in front next time. I will work hard in the break before the next on-track in Valencia, and will put everything I learned this weekend into practice."

### **Result of race simulation, Sturup (accumulated).**

Pos.	Name, Surname (Country)	Laps, Time
01. #14	O'Keeffe, Callan (ZA)	15 laps in 18:16.773 minutes
02. #04	Celis, Alfonso (MX)	15 laps in 18:17.767 minutes
03. #03	Delétraz, Louis (CH)	15 laps in 18:18.295 minutes
04. #02	Viidas, Tristan (EE)	15 laps in 18:18.952 minutes
05. #05	Boschung, Ralph (CH)	15 laps in 18:19.633 minutes
06. #12	Ercoli, Gianmarco (IT)	15 laps in 18:20.379 minutes
07. #08	Stefan, Ioan Mihnea (RO)	08 laps in 08:25.661 minutes
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08. #15	Dienst, Marvin (DE)	15 laps in 15:46.341 minutes
09. #09	Schiller, Fabian (DE)	15 laps in 15:50.934 minutes
10. #17	Jäger, Lukas (AT)	15 laps in 16:02.414 minutes
11. #06	Cracco, Pieter-Jan-Michiel (BE)	15 laps in 16:02.614 minutes
12. #10	De Sadeleer, Hugo (CH)	15 laps in 16:09.792 minutes
13. #19	Läsch, Marco (DE)	13 laps in 16:10.156 minutes

You can find more information on the Formula BMW Talent Cup and the 2012 season at [www.formula-bmw.com](http://www.formula-bmw.com).

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