

Thursday, March 22nd 2024

Gabriele Minì leads the way in Melbourne

PREMA Racing's Gabriele Minì set the early pace in Melbourne as the Italian driver topped timesheets in Free Practice ahead of Qualifying thanks to a time of 1:33.225.

Minì proved to be the one to beat for the majority of the morning session with compatriot Leonardo Fornaroli his nearest challenger, ending up three-tenths off his time. PREMA teammate Dino Beganovic wound up third.

But at the start of proceedings, it was an all-PREMA top three as Minì hit the ground running with a lap of 1:34.874, leading Beganovic by three-tenths, as Arvid Lindblad tucked into third.

Soon after, Hitech Pulse-Eight's Cian Shields spun into the barrier at the final corner, bringing out the Red Flags after 15 minutes of running.

The drivers were back out on track with half of the session remaining and once again it was Minì who set the pace, strengthening his grip on P1 thanks to a 1:33.847. Trident's Fornaroli was now his closest challenger in second, two-tenths off the top.

The PREMA driver continued to post eye-catching times as he later crossed the line to complete a lap of 1:33.225, with Fornaroli once again in second, this time 0.345s behind.

With three minutes left in the session, another Red Flag was waved after ART Grand Prix driver Nikola Tsolov collided with MP Motorsport's rookie Alex Dunne. The Irishman ended up in the barriers, and the session was not resumed.

This left Minì with the fastest time with Fornaroli in P2 as Beganovic rounded out the top three.

Qualifying is scheduled for 14:00 local time at the Albert Park Street Circuit.

CONTINUES

2024 FIA FORMULA 3 CHAMPIONSHIP – ROUND 2 PRACTICE PROVISIONAL CLASSIFICATION

	DRIVER	LICENCE	TEAM	LAPTIME
1	Gabriele Mini	ITA	PREMA Racing	1:33.225
2	Leonardo Fornaroli	ITA	Trident	1:33.570
3	Dino Beganovic	SWE	PREMA Racing	1:33.880
4	Arvid Lindblad	GBR	PREMA Racing	1:33.884
5	Luke Browning	GBR	Hitech Pulse-Eight	1:33.885
6	Sami Meguetounif	FRA	Trident	1:33.892
7	Charlie Wurz	AUT	Jenzer Motorsport	1:33.960
8	Christian Mansell	AUS	ART Grand Prix	1:34.091
9	Noel Leon	MEX	Van Amersfoort Racing	1:34.229
10	Nikola Tsolov	BGR	ART Grand Prix	1:34.294
11	Mari Boya	ESP	Campos Racing	1:34.331
12	Oliver Goethe	DEU	Campos Racing	1:34.334
13	Laurens van Hoepen	NLD	ART Grand Prix	1:34.494
14	Nikita Bedrin	ITA	PHM AIX Racing	1:34.506
15	Joshua Dufek	AUT	PHM AIX Racing	1:34.508
16	Santiago Ramos	MEX	Trident	1:34.669
17	Tim Tramnitz	DEU	MP Motorsport	1:34.693
18	Sebastian Montoya	COL	Campos Racing	1:34.726
19	Alexander Dunne	IRL	MP Motorsport	1:34.783
20	Max Esterson	USA	Jenzer Motorsport	1:34.849
21	Kacper Sztuka	POL	MP Motorsport	1:34.966
22	Martinius Stenshorne	NOR	Hitech Pulse-Eight	1:35.296
23	Sophia Floersch	DEU	Van Amersfoort Racing	1:35.345
24	Callum Voisin	GBR	Rodin Motorsport	1:35.545
25	Tasanapol Intraphuvasak	THA	PHM AIX Racing	1:35.655
26	Piotr Wisnicki	POL	Rodin Motorsport	1:35.801
27	Joseph Loake	GBR	Rodin Motorsport	1:36.240
28	Tommy Smith	AUS	Van Amersfoort Racing	1:36.355
29	Matias Zagazeta	PER	Jenzer Motorsport	1:37.229
30	Cian Shields	GBR	Hitech Pulse-Eight	1:37.697

ENDS