

26th of April, 2009

## **Eventful second round of the Northern European Cup in Hockenheim**

**Antonio Felix Da Costa took the first victory in the race during Hockenheim Historic at the famous German track in Baden-Wurttemberg, extending his lead in the championship to 99 points. The second race in Hockenheim was for Columbian rookie Juan Esteban Jacobo, who launched himself from the seventh to the second place in the current rankings.**

The weekend started on Friday, the 24th of April, with two free practice sessions on Friday, marked by the fastest times for Brazilian Luis Derani, who would for the first time be in front this weekend. Furthermore, there were remarkably good results for Koiranen's Jesse Laine on fifth place.

The weekend in southwestern Germany was joined by two new drivers. Robert Siska (USA), who also participated in NEC races in the season of 2008, now starts in Hockenheim with the Danish team of KEO Racing. The other new competitor, Daniel Schellnegger, joins the Northern European Cup for the rest of the season. Adding his Austrian nationality to the entry list of NEC, makes an impressive fifteen nationalities in 22 cars

The first time to beat during the 30 minute qualification session, was set by Nigel Melker for MP Motorsport, but was half way was superseded by the times of the lap times of Kevin Magnussen and Felix Da Costa, who were very competitive and beating eachothers times by tenths of seconds every lap. This resulted in a best time for Portugese Da Costa, which was just a thousand of a second faster than Danish Magnussen. Unfortunately for the leader in the championship, Antonio Felix Da Costa's time was cancelled because of leaving the track in the Nordkurve.

Kevin Magnussen left from Pole at the start of Race 1, but couldnot stand the pressure of the two Motopark colleagues (Da Costa and Quaife-Hobbs) in the first round and lost many places. After that, he fought back from 7th position to the podium with a third place. After Felix Da Costa and Quaife-Hobbs passed Magnussen in the first corners, they took the distance and scored maximum points on the Saturday of Hockenheim Historic.

The reversed grid regulation put South African Arnold Neveling for SL Formula on pole position for race 2. Right beside him on the first row was Finnish Daniel Aho for Koiranen brothers, who had a very good weekend by any means.

The first lap was marked by an incident involving team members Luis Derani and Kevin Magnussen. The young Danish driver who booked such success on Saturday, hit the backend of the Brazilian Formula Renault 2.0 and thereby eliminated both drivers. Kevin got away with a sore leg, whilst Derani could park his car next to the track without injuries.

Arnold Neveling lost his first place to Juan Jacobo, driving for Motopark, but Daniel Aho was able to keep his second place, and made his team exceptionally proud. As Neveling fell back to third place, the top three did make a significant gap to the rest of the field, leaving all the battling for places 4 till ten far behind.

With three different teams on the podium at Hockenheim, the Northern European Cup can look back on a very successful weekend and at the same time look forward to the next round in Finland, Alastaro, from the 12th to the 14th of June, 2009.

Results race 1: 1. Antonio Felix Da Costa (Motopark Academy), 2. Adrian Quaife-Hobbs (Motopark Academy), 3. Kevin Magnussen (Motopark Academy), 4. Marco Sorensen (Motopark Academy), 5. Luis Derani (Motopark Academy), 6. Juan Jacobo (Motopark Academy)

Results race 2: 1. Juan Jacobo (Motopark Academy), 2. Daniel Aho (Koiranen Bros), 3. Arnold Neveling (SL Formula), 4. Marco Sorensen (Motopark Academy), 5. Nigel Melker (MP Motorsport), 6. Antonio Felix Da Costa (Motopark Academy)

Standings Northern European cup after race 4: 1. Antonio Felix Da Costa (99), 2. Juan Jacobo (72), 3. Marco Sorensen (69), 4. Adrian Quaife-Hobbs (64), 5. Kevin Magnussen (64), 6. Arnold Neveling (59)

Further information about the Northern European Cup Formula Renault 2.0 can be found on the official websites [www.renault-sport.de](http://www.renault-sport.de) and [www.necup.com](http://www.necup.com).

For any questions, please contact Claire Dubbelman ([claire@mdh.nl](mailto:claire@mdh.nl) tel: +31 654 782 300) and Ralph Weishaupt ([ralph.weishaupt@renault.de](mailto:ralph.weishaupt@renault.de), tel: +49 22 32 / 73 92 21).