



GT NEWS

NEWSLETTER nr 16 - 25th SEPTEMBER 2007

WELCOME TO NOGARO !

With just a week between Brno and Nogaro, the FIA GT Championship has reached its top speed, and is heading straight for the end of the season – and the eventual naming of the 2007 Champions. This weekend's race, around the beautiful and popular Brno circuit, had the effect of dramatically closing up the Drivers' classifications, meaning that all eyes will be on Nogaro. Christian Montanari and Miguel Ramos claimed their first-ever FIA GT victory at Brno, while in GT2, an all-Ferrari podium was led by another one-two from AF Corse Motorola. The first of the titles were also decided, with AF Corse Motorola securing the GT2 Teams title, while Maserati and Ferrari claimed the GT1 and GT2 Manufacturers' Cups respectively.

So on to Nogaro, with everything to play for ! The circuit is new to the Championship, and is the fourth circuit in France to be visited by the FIA GT teams and drivers.

The event will be a busy one. The FFSA French GT Championship will also be holding a round during the event. The only SRO-promoted national Championship to run GT1, GT2 and GT3 categories, Nogaro will be the penultimate round for the 2007 season, which finishes in Magny-Cours in October. The fourth event of the GT4 European Cup will also take place in Nogaro, before carrying on to Magny-Cours where its season will finish within the context of the FFSA Super Série. The ecologically-minded Diester Racing Cup will also take part in the busy Nogaro weekend. Last but not least, the event will also feature exciting single-seater action from the Formula 3 Euro Series, which will be visiting Nogaro for the first time and will hold its penultimate event there. The Paul Armagnac circuit has been a regular feature on the calendar of the FFSA GT Championship, and regularly attracts large crowds, and it is hoped that this busy and exciting autumn meeting should be no different !



Nogaro

September 29th - 30th 2007

Web site : www.circuit-nogaro.com
email : circuit-nogaro@circuit-nogaro.com
Circuit length : 3636 m
Media Contact : Marie-France Estenave
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FIA GT statistics :

First FIA GT race at the circuit



WHAT THE DRIVERS THINK

"I'm looking forward to Nogaro: good food, good wine, nice people!"

Stephane Ortelli - nr 51 AF Corse Motorola Ferrari 430 GT2

"Nogaro is an interesting circuit as it has long straights, not extremely fast, with some slow corners. It is technical. I really like the track – I won my first Formula Three race there. There are always big crowds at Nogaro, which is a real bonus, and the spectators can really see the track. The organisers at the circuit really do a good job."

Christophe Bouchut – nr 7 All-Inkl.com Lamborghini Murciélago :



For more information on the teams,
drivers and everything about the
FIA GT Championship,
please visit :
www.fiagt.com



CLASSIFICATION AFTER BRNO**GT1 Drivers Classification**

Biagi	47
Bertolini/Piccini	47
Montanari/Ramos	44
Wendlinger/Sharp	43
Hezemans/Deletraz	40
Kumpen/Longin	34.5
Bartels	31
Davies/Babini	25

GT1 Teams Classification

Vitaphone Racing	91
Scuderia Playteam Sarafree	57
Jetalliance	46
Carsport Holland	40
Peka Racing	34.5
Aston Martin Racing BMS	30
All-Inkl.com	25

GT2 Drivers Classification

Müller/Vilander	63
Bruni / Ortelli	52
Collard/Malucelli	51
Zani	32.5
Bruni/Ortelli	44
Ruberti/Pasini	29.5
Mullen	29
Cressoni	27.5
Lieb	26
Busnelli	24.5
Edwards/Machitski	24.5

GT2 Teams Championship

AF Corse Motorola	115
BMS Scuderia Italia	51
Racing Team Edil Cris	47.5
Scuderia Ecosse	44.5
Ebimotors	32.5
Tech9 Motorsport	24.5

GT1 Manufacturers Cup

Maserati	152.5
Corvette	91.5
Aston Martin	77
Lamborghini	29

GT2 Manufacturers Cup

Ferrari	203.5
Porsche	131.5

Citation Cup Classification

Aucott	54
Cloet	44
Kutemann	39
Macari	34

ONE RACE ... AND EVERYTHING CHANGES

What a difference a race makes ! Brno, which saw Vitaphone Racing Team's Christian Montanari and Miguel Ramos take an excellent first FIA GT victory in their Maserati MC 12 not only closed up the points, but also greatly redistributed the handicap weights. With just two races to go, everything is wide open heading for Nogaro. Nearly 2000 kilometres separate the Brno

Circuit in the Czech Republic from the Nogaro - Paul Armagnac Circuit in the Gers region of France. With the races being just a week apart, the teams and drivers do not have much time to recover before the battle recommences.



And what a battle ! The top nine drivers in the GT1 classification are separated by just seven points : Maserati, Corvette and Aston Martin drivers, all fighting for the 2007 title. After two difficult races, long-time GT1 leader Thomas Biagi has now been joined at the top by Scuderia Playteam Sarafree drivers Andrea Bertolini and Andrea Piccini. With their first win crowning a season where they have scored points at every race, Christian Montanari and Miguel Ramos are joint second, three points behind. One point behind them are Jetalliance Aston Martin drivers Karl Wendlinger and Ryan Sharp. And a further three points behind, Spa winners Jean-Denis Deletraz and Mike Hezemans, with their Corvette C6.

However, a closer look at the handicap weight shows that the nr 33 Aston Martin now has 70 kg penalty weight, which could be penalising on Nogaro's tight and technical circuit. And both Thomas Biagi, in the nr 1 Vitaphone Maserati, and the Carsport Holland duo, have now lost all the penalty weight they accumulated in the Belgian Ardennes. The Scuderia Playteam Sarafree Maserati, finishing fourth, also lost weight, and will be able to fight to take the lead.

But they will not be the only ones looking for a win in France. Finishing third in Brno, PK Carsport are still in the title race with their Corvette C5-R. The All-Inkl.com Racing Lamborghini is in the hands of Christophe Bouchut, a triple FIA GT Champion, who knows the track well, having claimed his first-ever F3 victory there many years ago. Unfortunately, the Reiter Lamborghini will miss the event for safety reasons, further to the loss of a wheel in Brno. Aston Martin Racing BMS was one of the few teams to attend the official test day at the track in March, which could give them a welcome advantage. Whatever happens, the title fight is sure to go on to the final round, in Zolder !



In GT2, AF Corse Motorola has dominated the 2007 season, and apart from a slight hiccup at Spa, has won every race this season. Another one-two in Brno, with the fifth victory for Dirk Müller and Toni Vilander in the nr 50 Ferrari 430 GT2, allowed the Italian team to move out of reach of their rivals in the Teams classification. However, the fight is not yet over

in the Drivers classification. Müller and Vilander still lead, with a margin of 11 points over their team-mates Bruni and Ortelli. Fifth after the exclusion of the Edil Cris Racing, Collard and Malucelli are now one point behind Bruni and Ortelli. But they have also lost some of their penalty weight, and Nogaro could see a closer fight.

The rest of the GT2 teams would dearly like to step up to the top of the podium, and now there are only two opportunities left. Racing Team Edil Cris have finished second and third, but their first victory still eludes them. Scuderia Ecosse have had a very difficult season, but their luck appears to be turning, and the Scottish team is determined to finish the year on a high. Ebimotors has been extremely consistent, and with

NOGARO

Pompidou on home ground, a first podium of the season is long overdue. Advanced Engineering will return for this round, and will see the return of Philipp Peter to the GT2 category, racing alongside Rui Aguas. With two strong drivers and not much penalty weight, they could really create a surprise...



The Citation Cup has had six rounds to date, with two remaining. JMB Racing's Ben Aucott now has a six-point lead, after teaming up with experienced French driver Alain Ferté in the last two rounds. Their Maserati MC 12 has taken three wins, after the first three went to SRT's Corvette C5-R and Belgian driver Tom Cloet. The Corvette had engine problems

in Brno, but hopefully the problem will be fixed for the French round. The regulars are likely to be joined by two Ferrari 550 Maranellos for this round : the Solution F car seen earlier this season, and a new entry from multiple FIA GT Champion Larbre Competition. This car would be driven by Jean-Yves Adam and Philippe Dumas. A sixth Citation Cup car is the Red Racing Chrysler Viper, which will run in the G2 class, alongside the Gillet Vertigo.

Nogaro is the 37th different circuit to be visited by the FIA GT Championship in its 11 seasons of competition, as well as the fourth French circuit, after Dijon-Prenois, Nevers Magny-Cours and the Paul Ricard HTTT. It was also visited by the fore-runner to the FIA GT Championship, the BPR Global Endurance Series, in 1996. The race was won by the Gulf Racing McLaren F1 GTR of James Weaver and Ray Bellm, with the GT2 class being claimed by the Konrad Motorsport Porsche 911 GT2 of Franz Konrad and the late Bob Wollek. Having undergone massive renovations this year, the track is now one of the most modern in the country, and will certainly be a fine setting for the penultimate round of the 2007 FIA GT Championship.

What the drivers said :

Andrea Piccini - nr 11 Scuderia Playteam Sarafree Maserati MC 12 : "It's a long time since I've led the Championship - this is the first time since 2002 - and it's a nice feeling ! It will not be easy, but I think we have a good chance. The mood in the team is very good. We made a poor start to the season but we've made a great recovery. I'm looking forward to Nogaro - I don't know the track but it looks like one where the Maserati could be competitive. But the weather could be a factor.."

Jamie Davies – nr 23 Aston Martin Racing DBR9 : "We tested at Nogaro in March, but I don't think it will give us a big advantage as the weather was so poor during the test day, so it will hopefully not be representative of what we'll face next weekend ! I know the track as I'd done Formula 3 and F3000 testing there. The circuit is tight and twisty in places; I hope the Aston will be quick there but we'll have to see."

Philipp Peter – nr 59 Advanced Engineering Ferrari 430 GT2 : "I am definitely happy to be back in the GT2 category of the FIA GT Championship, especially with a team, car and co-driver who are all on the pace. Nogaro is a tight circuit, with not much room for mistakes, and overtaking will not be easy."

Darren Turner - nr 62 Scuderia Ecosse Ferrari 430 GT2 : "I've never been to Nogaro and don't really know much about the circuit but it's always nice to go to a new place and learn a new track. When this deal with Scuderia Ecosse came about I was quite excited about it, as much for driving with the team as for the prospect of learning three new circuits, Adria, Nogaro and Zolder. I'm really looking forward to the challenge. I know we don't have that much time in testing when we are there but hopefully it won't take me long to find my way around. I also hope it's a circuit which suits the Ferrari 430 and we'll have a winning combination."



PROVISIONAL HANDICAP WEIGHTS R9

nr 2 Maserati	+ 40 kg
nr 4 Corvette	+ 20 kg
nr 11 Maserati	+ 35 kg
nr 33 Aston Martin	+ 70 kg

nr 50 Ferrari	+ 50 kg
nr 51 Ferrari	+ 50 kg
nr 62 Ferrari	+ 10 kg
nr 59 Ferrari	+ 10 kg
nr 97 Porsche	+ 35 kg

All Maserati MC 12 cars have +25kg from the GT Bureau for performance balancing.

All newcomers, or cars which have missed a race have 40 kg in GT1 and 20 kg in GT2, plus any weight they might have from previous races in the Championship this season.

GT2 cars deemed to have two professional drivers have an additional 28 kg

NOTE : Weights from the GT Bureau can be changed up to the day before scrutining for the next event.

GIGAWAVE ESTABLISHES A NEW TEAM FOR THE FIA GT CHAMPIONSHIP



Gigawave, the company which runs the onboard cameras in the FIA GT Championship, has announced that it has established a separate company called Gigawave Motorsport Limited to field an Aston Martin DBR9 car in the leading GT1 class of the FIA GT Championship from the start of the 2008 season.

The all-new team will be based in the Gigawave Headquarters and Technical Centre complex in Colchester Essex, and will run the Aston Martin DBR9.

In the 2007 season this DBR9 has been race prepared and entered by Barwell Motorsport. For the rest of this season the Barwell Team Manager, Mark Lemmer, together with other Barwell personnel will assist the Gigawave Team for the final race of the 2007 season at Zolder. However from the start of the 2008 Season, the newly formed Gigawave Motorsport team will go solo for all ten rounds of the 2008 FIA GT Championship. Initial sponsorship comes from Gigawave HD Digital, DS Engineering, Zip Kart, NTT Electronics and APC Solutions. Other sponsorship will be secured for the 2008 season. The drivers will be Luke Hines of Britain and Philipp Peter of Austria, who finished second in Zhuhai this year.

GOOD MORNING BRNO - LIVE FROM THE CIRCUIT !

The FIA GT and GT3 European Championships said 'Good Morning' to the Czech Republic on the Friday of the Brno meeting, with the breakfast show on channel CTV1 coming live from the track. With footage from previous races, interviews with drivers such as Thomas Biagi, Karl Wendlinger and local stars Tomas Enge, Jarek Janis and Martin Matske, and racing cars from both GT and GT3 on display, the Brno Circuit was live from 6 until 8:30 in the local area, and showed in the whole country later that morning. Both the circuit and all of SRO would like to thank all the teams and drivers who took part in this promotion event, including Vitaphone Racing Team, Jetalliance, Scuderia Ecosse, Martini Callaway and S-Berg Racing, Thomas Biagi, Karl Wendlinger, Jarek Janis, Tomas Enge, Martin Matzke and Jiri Skula. - especially as they had to make an extremely early start to the day !



RETURN OF THE SALEEN TO GT1 !

The Saleen S7R, one of the starring cars of the 2006 season, made a welcome return in Brno, entered by new team RBimmo, and driven by Czech hero Tomas Enge and young Austrian driver Reinhard Kofler. Unfortunately, the car, which had 40 kg penalty weight as a newcomer, had a difficult race, with brake problems, and was classified 16th in GT1. With less than a week between Brno and Nogaro, there is no time for the car to be ready for the next round, but the team will make all efforts to be back for the season finale in Zolder.



FIRST TITLES DECIDED !



With two rounds remaining, the 2007 titles are beginning to be decided. AF Corse Motorola moved beyond the reach of their rivals in the GT2 Teams Classification. "This is the second season for AF Corse and to win the second title is great – I have no words," commented AF Corse Motorola Team Manager Antonio Cazzago. "We have done a great job all season with both cars. We've won all the races except for Spa, and finished first and second both here and in Adria. I'm proud of my guys. For me, personally, this is my second year in Motorsport and I've won two titles. Amato Ferrari is a great team principal as he is a great organiser and has a real eye for details. I am really proud to work with the team." Brno, where the top four cars in GT2 were all Ferrari 430 GT2 cars, also helped Ferrari secure the GT2 Manufacturers Cup. In GT1, Maserati secured the GT1 Manufacturers Cup - they are now five Maserati drivers in the top five of the GT1 Drivers Classification !

In terms of the GT1 Teams Classification, Vitaphone Racing Team has a commanding lead, but they will have to wait a bit longer for the title. The German team has a lead of 34 points over Scuderia Playteam Sarafree, with 36 still available.

A CAKE FOR MIKE !



To celebrate Mike Hezemans' 100th race in the FIA GT Championship, which took place in Adria, the driver from the Netherlands was presented with a celebratory cake during the qualifying press conference.

FIA GT CHAMPIONSHIP - NOGARO TV

For the Nogaro round, French channel Sport + will show the 9th round of the 2007 FIA GT Championship LIVE

FIA GT LIVE			
CHANNEL	COUNTRY	QUAL	RACE
7TV	Russia	-	Live
ART	Middle East	-	Live
Czech TV	Czech Republic	Live	Live
DSF	Germany, Austria, Swizerland, Lichchenstein	-	13.30 - 15.00
Men & Motors	United Kingdom, Eire	Live	Live
Premiere	Germany, Austria, Swizerland, Lichchenstein	-	Live
Sky Sports Italy	Italy, Switzerland, San Marino, Vatican	-	Live
Sport +	France and French-speaking countries	-	Live
Sport 1	Netherlands	-	Live
Sport TV	Portugal	Live	Live

FIA GT 52' HIGHLIGHTS

CHANNEL	COUNTRY	52' HIGHLIGHT (Local time)
ESPN STAR	Asia**	25/10/07 1800 + 2 repeats
Al Jazeera	Middle East***	Not available
FOX Sports	Australia	17/10/2007 1930
NTV Plus	Russia, CIS, Baltics	Not available yet
Nuvolari	Italy, Switzerland, San Marino, Vatican	29/09/07 1700
Sky Sports UK	United Kingdon, Eire	26/09/07 2300 + 3 repeats
Speed Broadband	USA	On Demand
Speed SA	South America	4 weeks after the race
Zee Sports	India, Pakistan, Bangladesh	13/10/07 2100 + 3 repeats

FIA GT 26' HIGHLIGHTS

CHANNEL	COUNTRY	26' HIGHLIGHT (local time)
Channel 4	United Kingdom, Eire	02/10/07 late night
RTL Club	Belgium	06/10/07 2230

FIA GT MAGAZINES

Maxpower	170	5'
Motorsport Mundial	73	5'
Planet speed	217	5'
Weekend Sportif	RTBF (Belgium)	5'
Speed Action	AB3 (Belgium)	7'

FIA GT NEWS

PROVIDER	COUNTRIES	DISTRIBUTION (m Homes)
SNTV	198	884

ROUND 8 - BRNO**QUALIFYING****GT1**

1. Michael Bartels - nr 1 Vitaphone Maserati MC 12
2. Christian Montanari - nr 2 Vitaphone Maserati MC 12
3. Karl Wendlinger - nr 33 Jetalliance Aston Martin DBR9
4. Hezemans - nr 5 Carsport Holland Corvette C6R
5. Kox - nr 28 Reiter Lamborghini Murciélago
6. Bertolini - nr 11 Scuderia Playteam Sarafree Maserati MC 12

GT2

1. Dirk Müller - nr 50 AF Corse Motorola Ferrari 430 GT2
2. Tim Mullen - nr 62 Scuderia Ecosse Ferrari 430 GT2
3. Gianmaria Bruni - nr 51 AF Corse Motorola Ferrari 430 GT2
4. Rui Aguas - nr 59 Advanced Engineering Ferrari 430 GT2
5. Paolo Ruberti - nr 52 Racing Team Edil Cris Ferrari 430 GT2
6. Andrew Kirkaldy - nr 63 Scuderia Ecosse Ferrari 430 GT2

RESULTS - GT1 *

1. Montanari/Ramos - Vitaphone Maserati MC 12
2. Wendlinger/Sharp - Jetalliance Aston Martin DBR9
3. Kumpen/Longin - PK Carsport Corvette C5R
4. Bertolini/Piccini - Scuderia Playteam Sarafree Maserati MC 12
5. Pier Guidi / Giannoccaro - Scuderia Playteam Sarafree Maserati MC 12
6. Bouchut / Mücke - All-Inkl.com Racing Lamborghini Murciélago

*provisional pending gearbox nr 33 GT2

1. Vilander / Müller - AF Corse Motorola Ferrari 430 GT2
2. Bruni / Ortelli - AF Corse Motorola Ferrari 430 GT2
3. Mullen / Turner - Scuderia Ecosse Ferrari 430 GT2
4. Aguas / Gattuso - Advanced Engineering Ferrari 430 GT2
5. Malucelli / Collard - BMS Scuderia Italia Porsche 997 GT3 RSR
6. Zani / Pompidou - Ebimotors Porsche 997 GT3 RSR



FFSA GT CHAMPIONSHIP : BACK TO THE BEGINNING

In April, the 2007 season of the FFSA French GT Championship got underway in Nogaro, during the Easter Cup, in front of a crowd of 39,341 people ; the event also saw the launch of the FFSA GT3 Championship. Six months later, ten races have taken place, and the competitors in both Championships will be back in the Gers region for the penultimate round of the season. The title fight is far from over in both Championships, so an action-packed event is on the cards !



GT1 : BROTHERS IN ARMS

The title of FFSA French GT Champion 2007 will be won by one of the two Saleen S7R cars entered by Oreca. However, which of them will carry off the trophy is yet to be decided. Soheil Ayari and Raymond Narac are leading with 235 points, 14 more than their team-mates Laurent Groppi and Bruno Hernandez. With 60 points still on the table, nothing is over yet. The handicap weights they are carrying will of course play their part in the battle, giving a slight advantage to Hernandez and Groppi who have only 80 kg for the first race, while Narac and Ayari will have to contend with 120 kg. On a circuit which Oreca knows well, and which had highlighted the performance of the Saleen back in April, the fight for the title between the two crews is sure to be exciting. But their rivals will be keen to play their part as well, and many of them will be keen to claim a win and finish the season on a positive note. So far this season's statistics, Oreca has won nine out of ten races...

The Corvette clan will be the most keen to overturn the current tendency. The Corvette C6.R of Yvan Lebon and Jean-Philippe Dayraut came close to victory in Albi, while the Luc Alphand Adventure drivers, Jérôme Policand and Gabriel Balthazard, are particularly fond of this track. Two other Saleen S7-R cars are potential race-winners. Olivier Thevenin and Eric Debard, driving the car prepared by Marcel Tarrès have been getting stronger race by race, while Dominique Dupuy and Thierry Soave are serious outsiders, with new suspension settings which could give their car a boost. The Aston Martin DBR9 of Frédéric Makowiecki and Patrick Bornhauser should not be forgotten, as the two men have just four races to claim their first win.

In the GT2 Trophy, the situation is clearer. Richard Balandras and Michel Lecourt have won every race since the start of the season, with their IMSA Performance Matmut Porsche 997 GT3 RSR. However, Estoril Racing, Nourry Competition and Red Racing have not lost hope of finally beating the Trophy GT2 leaders..

GT3 : FERRARI – LAMBORGHINI - FERRARI



For its inaugural season, the FFSA GT3 French Championship could still be won by either of the Sport Garage Ferrari cars, or the First Racing Lamborghini. Currently, Christopher Campbell has a comfortable lead of 29 points over his Sport Garage team-mates, Michaël Petit and Gilles Vannelet. Campbell, who is now sharing his Ferrari with Didier Moureu, could even manage to claim the title in Nogaro, should his rivals have a bad weekend. But Gilles Vannelet and Michaël Petit have no intentions of giving up. The combination of youth, in the form of 20-year old Michaël Petit, and the experience of Gilles Vannelet, who is also fighting for the FIA GT3 European Championship title, make them

a particularly efficient pairing. Bruno Dubreuil, driving with Ulric Amado in one of two First Racing Lamborghini Gallardo cars, needs to score big points. But there are plenty of other cars looking for a good result, like the Hexis Racing Aston Martin DBRS9, the Dodge Viper or the numerous Porsche 997 GT3 RSR cars.

All the ingredients are in place for an excellent weekend at Nogaro – a track which always delivers exciting races !



GT4 EUROPEAN CUP : HEADING SOUTH FOR THE FOURTH ROUND

The GT4 European Cup was launched early in 2007, an exciting new concept of sportscars close to their road-going origin, closely balanced according to the principles of weight/power ratios. Although tuners and manufacturers had little time to get prepared for the start of the season, the races to date have made up for the lack of quantity by the quality : extremely close racing and plenty of different makes taking part.

For the fourth meeting of its inaugural season, the GT4 European Cup will be heading south to the circuit of Nogaro, with the drivers keen to put on an excellent show for the French spectators.



The provisional entry list includes at least five different makes : Aston Martin N24, BMW Z4, Ford Mustang FR500 C, Nissan 350Z – and for the first time, a Ginetta G50, entered by experienced and successful British team LNT. They will take part in two 30-minute sprint races, with no driver changes and a standing start.

Four makes have won so far this year : the Aston Martin N24, the Ford Mustang, the Porsche Cayman and the Nissan 350Z. The incredibly close and exciting races have proved that the GT4 concept is successful, and that it is a perfect laboratory for tuners or smaller manufacturers to start racing at a low-cost level. For next year, grids between 16 and 22 cars are expected for every round.



Belgian driver Eric de Doncker has a commanding lead in the points classification, but with four races to go, everything is still open. His Motorsport 98 Mustang FR500 C will face strong opposition, not only from the other Mustang, driven by François Kicq, but from two Chamberlain Aston Martin N24 cars, raced by David Brooker Carey and David Scott. RJN Motorsport's Nissan 350Z will be in the hands of Alex Buncombe, younger brother of frequent FIA GT competitor Chris. A second Nissan is entered by French team Solution F, to be driven by Olivier Gomez and Jean-Luc Beaubelique, both experienced GT drivers, with a third from Christian Muratet. André Grammatico drives a BMW Z4. Last but definitely not least, LNT's team owner, Lawrence Tomlinson, will drive their Ginetta G50 on its GT4 debut. Missing from the grid is the GPR Porsche Cayman, victorious in Spa. The team is currently leading the Belcar Championship, and its penultimate round clashes with Nogaro. Alistair Mackinnon's Lotus Exige will also miss the round, due to technical problems, but definitely hopes to be back for the last meeting of the season.

During the Nogaro event, leading French motoring magazine Echappement will be doing a test of the GT4 cars, driving the Solution F Nissan 350Z, the Motorsport 98 Mustang and the Espace Bienvenue BMW Z4. A welcome boost for a category which is definitely on the up !

After Nogaro, the 2007 season of the GT4 European Cup will draw to a close at Magny-Cours, in the context of the last round of the FFSA Super Série, on October 13th – 14th, with the last two races of the year.

Championship points :	1	Eric De Doncker	40 -
	2	Guino Kenis	19
	3	Olivier Gomez / Maxime Soulet	18
	4	Jacob Nellermann / Alex Buncombe	16

FORMULA 3

EURO SERIES



FORMULA 3 EURO SERIES VISITS NOGARO FOR THE FIRST TIME



The last week of September will see something new for the Formula 3 Euro Series as it races at the circuit of Nogaro for the first time. After Mugello, this is the second new track the Formula 3 Euro Series drivers will face this season. The duel for the title between Romain Grosjean (ASM Formule 3) and Sébastien Buemi (Mücke Motorsport) will continue in the south of France. Only five points separate them, with just four races remaining.

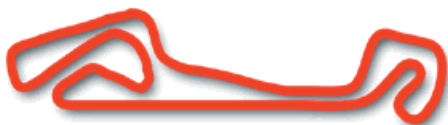
Buemi and Grosjean have dominated the 2007 Formula 3 Euro Series. This is the second season for both of them in the formula. Sixteen events have already taken place : young French driver Grosjean (21), who lives in Geneva, has finished on the podium on nine occasions, while his junior by one year, Swiss driver Buemi, has claimed eleven podium finishes, but has only once stepped onto the top step.

A French driver is also leading the Rookies classification. Franck Mailleux (Manor Motorsport) has a lead of eight points over Italian driver Edoardo Mortara (Signature-Plus). The latter, who also lives in Geneva, is the only rookie to have claimed two wins this season.

Romain Grosjean (ASM Formula 3) :

“Nogaro is a beautiful circuit where overtaking is possible. You have to take care of your tyres, as the asphalt is not very forgiving. After Magny-Cours, this is my second home race. Even if all the races have the same importance, it is still something special to be the local hero.

My aim ? Pole position and a win. I want to score as many points as possible in Nogaro.”



DRIVER CLASSIFICATION

1. Romain GROSJEAN	79
2. Sébastien BUEMI	74
3. Nico HULKENBERG	52
4. James JAKES	42
5. Kamui KOBAYASHI	41
6. Frank MAILLEUX	35
7. Yelmer BUURMAN	27
8. Edoardo MORTARA	26

TEAMS CLASSIFICATION

1. ASM Formule 3	180
2. Manor Motorsport	99
3. Mücke Motorsport	81
4. Signature-Plus	69
5. Prema Powerteam	26
6. Jo Zeller Racing	12
7. HS Technik	9
8. HBR Motorsport	4

For more information please see [www.f3euroseries.com /media](http://www.f3euroseries.com/media)

PRESENTATION

Track Length : 3.636 km

Fastest F3 lap : 1:20.45
(Renaud Derlot - 2002)

Race length : 30 laps

NOGARO TIMETABLE

Thursday 27th September 2007

10:30 hrs Pre-Test 1

14:00 hrs Pre-Test 2

Friday 28th September 2007

11:10 hrs Free practice

16:50 hrs Qualifying race 1

Saturday 29th September 2007

15:00 hrs Race 1

Sunday 30th September 2007

11:15 hrs Race 2

BELCAR UPDATE : GPR CLINCHES 24 HOURS OF ZOLDER - GOOSSENS CO-RECORD HOLDER

After a race which remained entirely open up until one hour before the chequered flag, Marc Goossens, Maxime Soulet and the Dumarey brothers, Guillaume and Maxime could finally celebrate after winning the 29th edition of the 24 Hours of Zolder. For Goossens this was a fourth victory and for young Soulet his second consecutive win at Zolder. AD Sport with the 996 Biturbo finished a brilliant second overall – and therefore also a worthy winner in D3 –and Prospeed appeared on the podium in third place. NGT won in D2, the team's fifth consecutive victory.

With just over one hour to go to the finish the First Motorsport Porsche 997 GT3, with Vancampenhoudt, Haane, Verbist and Stielstra, were still lying one lap ahead of the GPR Porsche. The performance put in by First was even more remarkable seeing the yellow Porsche actually started from the pitlane on Saturday afternoon. After the warm-up the team noticed an oil leak and in all haste the 997 was repaired, but was unable to make it to the start procedure in time.

60 minutes before the end the intense battle between GPR and First had an unexpected anticlimax. Verbist: "The gearbox literally exploded and I flew into the sand trap at the chicane. I still managed to rejoin the pits, but the adventure was over ... Undoubtedly this is the hardest moment in my career." This left the way open for Maxime Soulet & co, even though they would also have preferred fighting it out on the track. Maxime Soulet commented: "We drove a strong and sensible race, without a single problem. Our most serious worry was the gearbox and that held out. I'm really happy with this victory, a hard fought victory which was never quite definite." Goossens added: "I can but support my team mate and he's well on the way to making it four also..."

First and GPR were up front the last of the stayers after a race where any forecast was entirely unpredictable. The number of changes in the leadership board was difficult to recall and the difference between the protagonists was never more than some five minutes, a drop in the ocean in a 24 hours race. Roughly ten teams tasted the enjoyment of leading this edition of the 24 Hours of Zolder at some stage.

Right from the start of the race the GT3s started off at a high pace. The initial sprinters were the PK Corvette and both the MI Moslers, who very quickly drew away from the pack. But in the Mosler camp it wasn't long before there were two victims. Radermecker lost time with a wheel problem, while G&A were in fact the first to throw in the towel. This was followed by a sprint for the first points at 22.0hrs, a sprint that also claimed victims. The remaining Mosler also disappeared into the pit box and dropped back, and a great Duval who after four hours had become the proud leader, also saw his chances go up in smoke when the clutch of the 997 packed up. PK Carsport had the best calculation and the duo Mollekens-Hart – Longin and Kumpen were still at Adria – collected the points for the virtual first place. But this green American power beast also had its share of problems to overcome. Firstly a suspension bolt broke off and later the dreams of victory of Kumpen and co literally went up in smoke. Mollekens: "I came out of the chicane just before the rise and at that moment there was nothing wrong. I changed from 2nd to 4th, because we had lost 3rd a while back, when I was suddenly aware of some smoke. I realised that there was something wrong, I looked round and saw flames at the back of the car. I looked for a spot to safely park the car and made sure I got out of the Corvette as quickly as possible."

After the retirement of the Corvette and the Aston, and further to the problems encountered by the Moslers, the Porsches took over the reigns of power. Both GPR-Porsches – Duez & co would still drop out with a damaged gearbox -, the remaining Prospeed Porsche, the AD Biturbo and especially the canary yellow 997 of Jo Jammers all went on the warpath for victory.



RESULTS

1. #56 GPR - Porsche 997 GT3 Cup (overall winner) - 798 laps
2. #228 AD Sport - Porsche 996 Biturbo (winner DIII)
3. #51 ProSpeed Competition - Porsche 997 GT3 Cup
4. #28 AD Sport - Dodge Viper Competition Coupé
5. #111 NGT Racing - Porsche 996 GT3 Cup (winner DII)
6. #99 G-Force Racing - Porsche 997 GT3 Cup
7. #50 First Motorsport - Porsche 997 GT3 Cup (in the pits)
8. #25 Gravity Racing International - Mosler MT900R
9. #150 First Motorsport - Porsche 996 GT3 Cup (second DII)
10. #155 First Motorsport - Porsche 996 GT3 Cup (third DII)



Behind the winners Albert Vanierschot and Rudi Penders (Lamot –Dujardyn – Van Roij) fought it out right up to the line for the second place on the podium. Neither team owner was giving in an inch and finally Vanierschot won in his 29th (!) 24 Hours of Zolder by a few seconds. Heylen, the Wauters brothers and Raf Vanthoor in the AD Dodge Viper completed the success of AD with a third place in D1 and a fourth place overall, ahead of the NGT Porsche which finished fifth overall and also won the Division 2. NGT drove a spotless race and also spent the least time in the pitlane.

The pain for First Motorsport was somewhat alleviated by a second and third place in D2 while the Accent Racing Team Porsche was second in D3.

32.000 spectators found their way to the circuit of Zolder and witnessed one of the most open and unpredictable editions of this 24 Hours race.

The next race takes place at Spa this weekend, GPR Racing leads PK Carsport by just one and half points. The season finale will be at Zolder on October 21st, alongside the FIA GT Championship.



**ADAC GT MASTERS
- JUST ONE ROUND
TO GO**

5 rounds of the ADAC GT Masters have been completed, which means 1 round left to decide the Drivers Championship. Three drivers still have the chance to become the first champion of this new championship based on the successful FIA GT3 rules. The sole leader in the point standings is Christopher Haase, just 19 years of age, in his No. 7 Reiter Engineering Lamborghini Gallardo. The young German has won 5 of 10 races and collected 75 points. His main opponents are his Team mates Peter Kox and Albert von Thurn und Taxis in the No. 6 car, who have won 3 races so far. With just 11 points separating them, and 20 possible points in the last two races in Hockenheim, everything is open.

Third in the ADAC GT Masters are Jan Seyffarth / Frank Schmickler in a Porsche 997 Cup, Wolfgang Kaufmann / Alexander van der Lof and Gianni Morbidelli (all with Lamborghini), who still have the possibility to move up to second in the points. Single wins went to Wolfgang Kaufmann / Alexander van der Lof and Toni Seiler / Patrick Gerling (Martini Callaway Corvette).

The Teams Championship has already been decided : it was won after the ninth race by Reiter Engineering. The three teams of SMS Seyffarth, ARGO Racing and Martini Callaway Racing will fight for the vice-championship in this division.

After events at the Nuerburgring, in Oschersleben, Lausitzring, Zolder and Sachsenring the ADAC GT Masters will share their last meeting of its inaugural season with the DTM, in mid October in Hockenheim. Until now a field of more than 20 cars from a minimum of 7 manufacturers will fight in the last two races of one hour. A big number of spectators is certain for this event, so the opponents on the track will have a great audience and an exciting atmosphere in the Hockenheim Motodrom.



POINTS

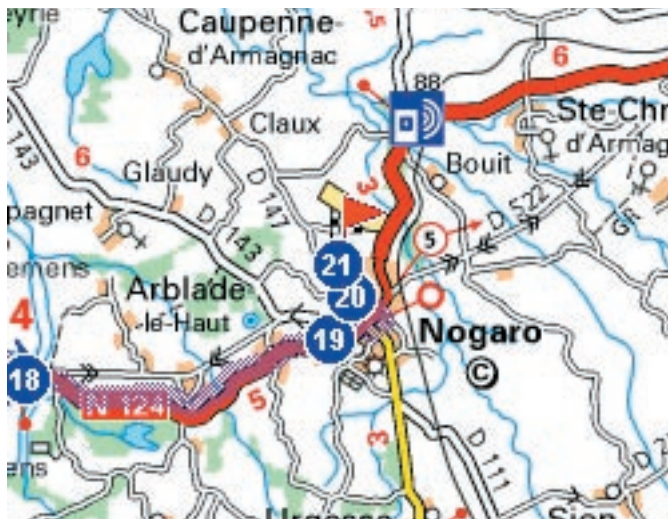
Christopher Haase	75
Peter Kox /Albert von Thurn & Taxis	64
Jan Seyffarth/ Frank Schmickler	46
Wolfgang Kaufmann/ Alexander van der Lof	45
Gianni Morbidelli	45
Toni Seiler / Patrick Gerling	35

TEAMS

Reiter Engineering	96
SMS Seyffarth Motorsport	53
ARGO Racing	50
Martini Callaway Racing	41
Waiblinger Motorsport Club	34
GS Motorsport	24
Kessel Racing Schweiz	23



ROUND 9 : NOGARO - PRACTICAL INFORMATION



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NEAREST CITIES :

Bordeaux 140 km
Pau 60 km - airport and railway
Tarbes Ossun 70 km - airport
Auch 60 km



MEDIA ACCREDITATION CENTRE

The Media Accreditation Centre is located on the left-hand side on the way to the circuit. It is well sign-posted.

The opening hours of the Centre are as follows:

Friday 28th September	:	08.00 hrs - 18.00 hrs
Saturday 29th September	:	08.00 hrs - 18.00 hrs
Sunday 30th September	:	08.00 hrs - 12.00 hrs

TELECOMMUNICATIONS IN THE MEDIA CENTRE

There is a wireless network, and a limited number of cable connections. Use is free of charge for accredited members of the press

LAST MINUTE MEDIA ACCREDITATION

Due to the short delay between Brno and Nogaro, last-minute accreditation requests will be accepted until Wednesday September 26th.

Forms can be downloaded from the FIA GT website, www.fiagt.com

Please note that only FIA GT race-by-race or permanent passes will be accepted - however, holders of permanent media passes for the FFSA GT Championship or the F3 Euro Series will be given an FIA GT pass on request.

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