

ROUNDS 19 & 20 – MONZA, ITALY RACE 2 REPORT

Weather: sunny, with a dry track
Crowd: 52,000 over the two days

GENÉ WINS, MULLER JOINS PRIAULX

In front of a large crowd Jordi Gené made it two wins for SEAT Sport this weekend, becoming the 11th driver to have scored a victory this season. The Spaniard started seventh but by lap 4 had captured the lead. Nicola Larini of Chevrolet crossed the line second after defending hard from James Thompson who took his second third place finish of the weekend.

Yvan Muller claimed a fifth place and 4 points that enabled him to join Andy Priaulx on top of the Drivers' Championship. Four other drivers still have chances to secure the world title in Macau: Augusto Farfus, James Thompson, Jörg Müller and Nicola Larini, who are 10, 12, 15 and 20 points behind the leaders respectively.

The Manufacturers' Championship is also closely fought, with BMW leading SEAT by 10 only points.

Farfus' race ended prematurely at the first chicane after he and Gabriele Tarquini made contact. The Brazilian's BMW was sent into a spin, bounced off the barrier and slid across the track, narrowly escaping a collision with the fast moving field. Tarquini retired two laps later. On lap 3 Larini took the lead from his team-mate Rob Huff. Alain Menu was in the thick of the action and despite reaching fifth, he retired on lap 5.

Lap 4 saw Gené promote himself to the front of the pack after he overtook Huff and Larini. Huff then had to defend from James Thompson but it was to no avail as the Alfa Romeo driver took the podium position on the next lap. Huff eventually finished fourth. Alessandro Zanardi and Tom Coronel fought a tough battle throughout the race but it was Zanardi who conquered as he crossed the line 0.046 seconds ahead of the Dutchman to claim sixth.

Jörg Müller and Priaulx had a scoreless weekend. Müller's race ended on lap 5 after an incident with Corthals. In a similar scenario as his team-mate Farfus, Müller spun and became stranded on the track. Priaulx's race was somewhat shorter than his BMW colleague's as he retired in the pits after lap 1 after obtaining damage.

The Independents' Trophy race was won by Pierre-Yves Corthals who managed to win a close fight with Stefano D'Aste. Race 1 winner Luca Rangoni was involved in a first lap incident and retired.

The Championship will resume at Macau, for the two final rounds, on November 18th.



BULLET NEWS

THREE DRIVERS DROPPED ON THE GRID

Three drivers received a drop of ten places on the grid for the second race: Roberto Colciago, Tiago Monteiro and Olivier Tielemans.

They were all penalised further to their teams requesting neutralization of the parc fermé in order to repair damage obtained during the first race.

THEY SAID, THEY SAID...

Jordi GENÉ

“Every year I’ve won a race but I didn’t think I would this season. This weekend it was my time. When I had the chance in Race 2 I thought: it’s now or never. I pushed so hard I think I bent my brake pedal at the end of the straight! When I was standing on the podium with the crowd on the track cheering it made me hope the series continues to grow and that I am a part of it for many years to come. This is the closest championship I have ever seen so Macau is set to be a good fight.”

Nicola LARINI

“I was lucky to avoid Augusto (Farfus) when he crashed. I had to move onto the grass and he came very close to hitting me. There was a period in the middle of the race where I felt I could overtake Gené but the yellow flags prevented me. I am going to Macau to win my first race of the season. I don’t think I can win the championship but I can certainly improve my position.”

James THOMPSON

“This championship is so close that to make the podium twice is immensely satisfying. As a team we have so much passion we have managed to close the gap in the championship. It shouldn’t be underestimated what a task it has been and I’m proud to be a part of it.”

Yvan MULLER

“It has been a perfect weekend because I was 14 points behind the lead in the championship before coming here and now I am joint leader. To make up that many points in one weekend is something special. In Race 2 I couldn’t have gone any faster. I had to avoid Farfus’ crash as well as many others so fifth was enough for me.”

Pierre-Yves CORTHALS

“The second race was tough because there were a lot of crashes I needed to avoid. I was passed by D’Aste during the race but managed to reclaim the position after pushing hard.”

Andy PRIAULX

“This weekend’s races are to be forgotten and I’m going to Macau leading the championship with every chance of winning. BMW don’t like losing so I’m sure there will be five weeks of hard work in preparation for the final round.”

2007 FIA World Touring Car Championship

RACE CLASSIFICATION - RACE 2

POS	NO	CL	DRIVER	NAT	CAR	TIME	LAPS	GAP	KPH	BEST
1	9		Jordi GENE	ESP	SEAT Leon TDI	18:21.957	9		169.31	2:01.270
2	7		Nicola LARINI	ITA	Chevrolet Lacetti	18:22.968	9	1.011	169.16	2:01.233
3	15		James THOMPSON	GBR	Alfa Romeo 156	18:23.246	9	1.289	169.12	2:01.055
4	6		Robert HUFF	GBR	Chevrolet Lacetti	18:24.470	9	2.513	168.93	2:01.538
5	12		Yvan MULLER	FRA	SEAT Leon TDI	18:29.863	9	7.906	168.11	2:01.673
6	4		Alessandro ZANARDI	ITA	BMW 320si	18:32.456	9	10.499	167.72	2:02.004
7	20		Tom CORONEL	NED	SEAT Leon	18:32.502	9	10.545	167.71	2:02.445
8	18		Tiago MONTEIRO	POR	SEAT Leon	18:36.893	9	14.936	167.05	2:02.258
9	23	I	Pierre-Yves CORTHALS	BEL	SEAT Leon	18:37.241	9	15.284	167.00	2:02.183
10	19	I	Roberto COLCIAGO	ITA	SEAT Leon	18:38.177	9	16.220	166.86	2:01.136
11	26	I	Stefano D'ASTE	ITA	BMW 320si	18:38.178	9	16.221	166.86	2:02.024
12	16		Olivier TIELEMANS	NED	Alfa Romeo 156	18:45.523	9	23.566	165.77	2:02.717
13	14		Fredrik EKBLUM	SWE	BMW 320si	18:46.209	9	24.252	165.67	2:02.565
14	10		Michel JOURDAIN	MEX	SEAT Leon	18:50.460	9	28.503	165.04	2:02.688
15	2		Jorg MULLER	GER	BMW 320si	18:54.746	9	32.789	164.42	2:02.294
16	33	I	Miguel FREITAS	POR	Alfa Romeo 156	19:31.742	9	1:09.785	159.23	2:04.225
17	17	I	Tomas ENGSTROM	SWE	Honda Accord-R	20:15.519	9	1:53.562	153.49	2:03.000
18	31	I	Sergio HERNANDEZ	ESP	BMW 320si	18:34.932	8	1 LAP	148.64	2:03.453

NOT CLASSIFIED

8			Alain MENU	SUI	Chevrolet Lacetti	8:28.051	4	D.N.F.	162.00	2:02.521
11			Gabriele TARQUINI	ITA	SEAT Leon TDI	6:41.333	3	D.N.F.	153.12	2:03.446
5			Felix PORTEIRO	ESP	BMW 320si	11:31.766	3	D.N.F.	88.83	5:40.009
1			Andy PRIAULX	GBR	BMW 320si	2:29.845	1	D.N.F.	131.75	
30	I		Luca RANGONI	ITA	BMW 320si		0	D.N.F.	N/A	
38			Oscar NOGUES	ESP	SEAT Leon		0	D.N.F.	N/A	
3			Augusto FARFUS	BRA	BMW 320si		0	D.N.F.	N/A	
22	I		Maurizio CERESOLI	ITA	SEAT Leon		0	D.N.F.	N/A	

FASTEST LAP

15			James THOMPSON		Alfa Romeo 156	2:01.055	8	172.27kph	107.04mph	
19	I		Roberto COLCIAGO		SEAT Leon	2:01.136	7	172.16kph	106.97mph	

Weather/Track: Sun 20°/Dry 24°

Monza
Circuit Length = 5.7930 km.
Start: 15:34 End: 15:52

Race Director:	Steward:	Timekeeper:
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2007 FIA WORLD TOURING CAR CHAMPIONSHIP - DRIVERS' CHAMPIONSHIP

position	# - driver	Curitiba (BRA) 10 / 11 March	Zandvoort (NED) 5 / 6 May	Valencia (ESP) 19 / 20 May	Pau (FRA) 2 / 3 June	Brno (CZE) 16 / 17 June	Porto (POR) 7 / 8 July	Anderstorp (SWE) 28 / 29 July	Oschersleben (GER) 25 / 26 August	Brands Hatch (GBR) 22 / 23 September	Monza (ITA) 6 / 7 October	Macau (CHN) 16 / 18 November	TOTAL											
1	1 - Andy PRIAULX (GBR)	8	8	1	4	4	6	3	8	0	2	2	10	0	0	4	8	3	10	0	0			81
2	12 - Yvan MULLER (FRA)	1	5	0	0	6	5	8	3	3	0	4	4	3	0	10	4	6	5	10	4			81
3	3 - Augusto FARFUS (BRA)	6	10	4	8	0	0	2	10	5	8	0	3	0	1	2	10	0	0	2	0			71
4	15 - James THOMPSON (GBR)	0	0	0	0	10	10	0	2	0	4	0	0	6	4	6	5	8	2	6	6			69
5	2 - Jörg MÜLLER (GER)	10	6	0	6	1	8	0	0	8	10	1	8	0	0	5	0	0	3	0	0			66
6	7 - Nicola LARINI (ITA)	0	0	8	5	8	4	0	0	4	3	6	0	2	8	0	0	0	0	5	8			61
7	8 - Alain MENU (SUI)	0	0	10	0	0	0	10	1	1	0	10	6	1	6	0	0	10	0	4	0			59
8	11 - Gabriele TARQUINI (ITA)	5	4	2	10	0	0	0	0	2	5	5	2	4	2	8	2	0	0	3	0			54
9	6 - Robert HUFF (GBR)	4	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	0	0	8	0	10	0	0	3	4	6	1	5			51
10	9 - Jordi GENÉ (ESP)	0	0	0	0	5	3	1	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	6	5	4	8	10			50
11	5 - Félix PORTEIRO (ESP)	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	10	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	8	0	0			30
12	18 - Tiago MONTEIRO (POR)	-	-	5	0	0	0	6	6	0	0	0	0	8	3	0	1	0	0	0	1			30
13	20 - Tom CORONEL (NED)	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	5	5	5	0	0	0	1	0	2			25
14	30 - Luca RANGONI (ITA)	0	2	6	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			15
15	4 - Alessandro ZANARDI (ITA)	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3			14
16	88 - Rickard RYDELL (SWE)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	10	-	-	-	-	-	-			10
17	19 - Roberto COLCIAGO (ITA)	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0			6
18	10 - Michel JOURDAIN (MEX)	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			3
19	23 - Pierre-Yves CORTHALS (BEL)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0			3
20	31 - Sergio HERNÁNDEZ (ESP)	0	0	-	-	0	1	0	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			1

2007 FIA WORLD TOURING CAR CHAMPIONSHIP - MANUFACTURERS' CHAMPIONSHIP

position	manufacturer	Curitiba (BRA) 10 / 11 March	Zandvoort (NED) 5 / 6 May	Valencia (ESP) 19 / 20 May	Pau (FRA) 2 / 3 June	Brno (CZE) 16 / 17 June	Porto (POR) 7 / 8 July	Anderstorp (SWE) 28 / 29 July	Oschersleben (GER) 25 / 26 August	Brands Hatch (GBR) 22 / 23 September	Monza (ITA) 6 / 7 October	Macau (CHN) 16 / 18 November	TOTAL											
1	BMW	18	18	10	14	7	14	7	18	18	18	7	18	5	5	9	18	5	18	5	5			237
2	SEAT	10	11	8	14	11	8	14	10	9	9	11	9	13	10	18	10	11	9	18	14			227
3	CHEVROLET	5	4	18	8	10	5	15	7	9	4	18	8	14	18	2	5	14	8	9	13			194
4	ALFA ROMEO	0	5	3	3	11	12	3	4	3	7	3	3	7	6	9	5	9	4	7	7			111