

Tuesday, 08/06/2021

David Beckmann makes second FIA Formula 2 podium appearance of 2021 in Azerbaijan

- David Beckmann finishes the second race of the weekend in the runner-up spot
- The 21-year-old from Hagen has his first experience of leading the field
- David Beckmann: "I was able to get established among the front-runners because we kept optimising the performance and balance of the car throughout the weekend"

Last weekend, David Beckmann celebrated his best FIA Formula 2 result to date – a P2 finish in the second of the three races that were contested as part of the support programme to the Formula 1 race event in the Azerbaijani capital of Baku. His previous best was a P3 at the season opener in Bahrain.

The Charouz Racing System driver delivered a strong performance in the first race on Saturday morning to set himself up nicely for the subsequent race on this high-speed street circuit. Beckmann started from twelfth position. He took a fairly cautious approach to the start, steering clear of any trouble and even managing to gain a couple of places. Beckmann retained tenth position for much of the race and was classified ninth at the end of the 21 laps, a result that booked him P2 on the grid for the second race.

This was held over the same distance. The 21-year-old from Hagen made optimum use of the formation lap to warm up his tyres and brakes, enabling him to go on the attack as soon as the gantry lights went out. On the first lap, he demonstrated his determination and racing intelligence in a battle for position that was drawn out over several corners. He positioned himself skilfully to ensure that he was on the inside at the decisive moment and was able to overtake the pole-sitter, thereby adding his name to the list of contestants who have led a Formula 2 race this season. The race was repeatedly interrupted by safety car deployments, which gave Beckmann's pursuers the opportunity to close the gap on him each time. Eventually, one of them managed to get a tow in his slipstream on the 2.2km home straight and overtake with the use of DRS. Beckmann had to settle for the runner-up spot but at least had the satisfaction of making a second podium appearance of the campaign.

On Sunday morning, Beckmann started the third of the three races from 13th position. He gave yet another demonstration of his mastery of the start, emerging from the first lap in tenth, a position he then retained through to the finish line at the end of the 28 laps. Because of a mistake during the pit stop, however, the race stewards imposed a time penalty which dropped him down to twelfth in the final classification.

The gratifying points haul last weekend has moved Beckmann up two positions in the overall standings – after nine out of 24 races, he is in eleventh position. The next race weekend (16th - 18th July) of the most prestigious Junior championship in single-seater racing will be hosted by the tradition-steeped Silverstone race track in England.

Three questions for David Beckmann**How did it feel to be standing on the podium for the second time in your FIA Formula 2 career?**

Absolutely brilliant! I am very happy with the result. I started second and finished the race in the same position. I was able to get established among the front-runners because we kept optimising the performance and balance of the car throughout the weekend. The guy behind was so close to me all the time that he eventually got the opportunity to use his DRS. But I was consistently successful in the way I defended my position.

How difficult was it for you to keep your rhythm with the safety car coming out so often in the second race?

It was no problem for me to stay focused. When you're out in front, you're not really aware of the racing incidents going on behind. When you're following the safety car, you have so much to do that you have to concentrate on your own drive – at relatively low speeds, it's difficult to get the tyres and the carbon brakes up to temperature. And it's especially important here, because you have to brake especially hard at the end of the long home straight. Right at the start of the race, I had already proved that this is one of my strengths.

What are your expectations for the upcoming race weekend in Great Britain?

I am feeling very optimistic about the races at Silverstone, as the Charouz Racing System team has had some top results there in recent years. The track should suit the car well with the settings I need. There are several medium-to-fast corners where my car has certain advantages, and I've been able to exploit them to good effect so far. I think we can score valuable points again, which will help me move further up the championship table.

Media Contact:

adrivo
+49 89 189 6592 60
office@adrivo.com

Further information:

Website: www.david-beckmann.de
Facebook: www.facebook.com/david.beckmann.5
Twitter: www.twitter.com/d_beckmannf2
Instagram: www.instagram.com/david_beckmann