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David Beckmann secures another points-scoring result in FIA Formula 2 at Silverstone

- David Beckmann has good showing with excellent performances at start of all three races
- Young German hopeful keeps his nerve as temperatures sizzle
- David Beckmann: "First off, I'm very pleased to see that we're now doing much better at the start. I've managed to improve the entire starting procedure and starts were on average half a second faster compared to the previous race weekend at Baku"

Charouz Racing System's David Beckmann travelled to Silverstone, the Home of British Motor Racing, on a high at the weekend after finishing second last time out in the FIA Formula 2 race at Baku. He was intent on scoring more points in the overall standings and did so for the fourth time this season in the second round as the top junior class in formula racing competed under the banner of the British Formula 1 Grand Prix in front of packed grandstands for the first time in months.

Beckmann started the weekend's first sprint race on Saturday morning from 18th on the grid. Running through the first few corners, the German had no problem in getting brakes and tyres up to operating temperature on the warm-up lap. The aspiring junior driver gained no less than six places during the opening lap, but as the race progressed, three safety car periods put him off his stride. Nevertheless, he defended twelfth place for the greater part of this tenth round of the season. In the end, though, he had to allow through a fellow competitor who had used the final safety car period to come into the pits and whose tyres were much fresher.

Race 2 held on Saturday afternoon posed another challenge for 21-year-old Beckmann, because track temperatures had already reached 50 degrees Celsius before the start, so great care was needed with tyres. The race was again over 21 laps as in the morning. He began the race from grid slot 13 and managed to seize the initiative once more at the start with another display of focused driving. He improved to take eighth position and was ahead of the winner of the first race. He successfully defended his P8 until the finish line, thus racking up another point in the overall standings.

Driving for Czech outfit Charouz Racing System, Beckmann again showed his strength at the start in Sunday's main race, moving two positions up the field from 18th on the grid. He took a risk with strategy in this race, the longest of the weekend, completing his mandatory pit stop at an early stage in order to take advantage of fresh tyres and clean air to reel in his opponents. And his tactics paid off. Beckmann finished 13th after 29 laps, but because race stewards found that there had been an infringement of the rules during his pit stop, he was handed a five-second time penalty, bumping him back down into P15.

Beckmann will kick off the second half of the 2021 FIA Formula 2 season with three races at Monza's high-speed track in Lombardy, northern Italy, where the fifth race weekend of the year is scheduled to take place September 10th-12th. He is currently 13th overall on 25 points after the twelve races held so far.

Three questions for David Beckmann**How did you manage to start so well in the races and overtake several opponents as a result?**

First off, I'm very pleased to see that we're now doing much better at the start. I've managed to improve the entire starting procedure and starts were on average half a second faster compared to the previous race weekend at Baku. I picked my engineer's brains which led to improvements with the whole process, enabling me to gain a few places over the first few metres. Also, I was prepared to take greater risks on the opening lap when the field is bunched together at the start, making it possible for me to pick off several more drivers before reaching Turn 4.

Was it hard to maintain focus in the high temperatures of Race 2?

No, that wasn't a problem for me in the race. Temperatures at the season opener in Bahrain were even higher. Proper preparation is important in order to be fit when in the racing car. You need to pay attention to your diet and fluid intake throughout the day so that you have enough nutrients in your body and don't become dehydrated. You can then perform at your best when you need to. I was very focused from start to finish.

What do you expect to achieve next time out at Monza?

I think that at Monza we can pick up the points that we unfortunately missed at Silverstone. We've shown our strong pace and used it to good advantage in the races. I've proved that I can gain several places even when having to start a little further down the grid. However, I am confident that we'll again do much, much better in the qualis.

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