



# Tsunoda triumphs in F2 Feature Race

Drivers' championship battle extends to final event of 2020 while Prema Racing secure teams' title



Tsunoda in action during the F2 Feature Race

● **Pole-sitter Tsunoda loses lead at start but battles back brilliantly to take third win of 2020**

● **Zhou, Mazepin take other podium places at the end of thrilling 48-lap race**

● **Drivers' championship leader Schumacher impresses with seventh-place finish after starting 18th**

TDT | Manama

Yuki Tsunoda battled back from a disappointing start to take an impressive victory yesterday in the Formula 2 Feature Race, held as

part of this weekend's F1 Rolex Sakhir Grand Prix.

Meanwhile, the drivers' title fight has been extended to the final event of the 2020 season as current leader Mick Schumacher maintained his lead on the standings at 14 points from chief rival Callum Ilott.

Prema Racing, on the other hand, which features Schumacher and Robert Schwartzman as their drivers, clinched the teams' championship.

Tsunoda started the 48-lap Feature in pole position but immediately lost two places at the start. He headed into the first turn of lap one behind Nikita Mazepin of Hitech Grand Prix and Schwartzman.

But the Carlin ace was able to make a late charge for the victory and regained first place on lap 44 amidst a hotly contested battle amongst the leaders. He held on until the end and took the chequered flag in 52:59.396

**“I am really, really happy with my result. The start was really bad, but I trusted my driving and my tyre management. Both went well and I got P1 back**

YUKI TSUNODA

for his third win in 2020.

“I am really, really happy with my result,” said the Japanese driver. “We’ve had really good pace this weekend, especially in the race, and I done my job.

“The start was really bad, but I trusted my driving and my tyre management. Both went well and I got P1 back, so I am really happy and looking forward to tomorrow.”

Guanyu Zhou (+5.613s) of Uni-Virtuosi claimed second



Tsunoda, centre, on the podium with Zhou, and Mazepin

place despite a five-second penalty for speeding in the pit lane, while Mazepin (+6.280s) had to settle for third. He finished ahead of Felipe Drugovich, Schwartzman and Ilott.

Schumacher had a brilliant race to take seventh on the final classification after starting all the way from the back of the

grid in 18th. He also set the race's fastest lap of 1:04.087, earning him an extra two points on the championship standings.

The drivers' title battle now goes down to the wire and will be decided Sunday in the weekend's Sprint Race, which will be the final event of the season.

Prema won their teams' ti-

tle today after improving to 382 points, going beyond the reach of Uni-Virtuosi with 342.5.

Jehan Daruvala of Carlin will start from pole position in the Sprint Race, following the reverse grid rule of F2. The curtain-closer will be held over 34 laps and it is scheduled for a 3.20pm start.



The FIA Formula 2 Championship was rebranded from the GP2 Series in 2017. Two of its three champions since then are now stars in Formula 1, including Charles Leclerc (2017 champ) and George Russell (2018). Nyck de Vries (2019 winner) last competed in Formula E and the FIA World Endurance Championship

## Guven wins first Porsche sprint from pole



Action from the race

TDT | Manama

Ahancan Guven continued his near-perfect run this weekend in the Porsche Sprint Challenge Middle East with a win last night in the meeting's first race, held around BIC's 3.543-kilometre Outer Track.

After topping the timesheets in two of the three sessions held so far, which included qualifying where he secured a double pole, Guven made his mark yet again and put in a fine drive to take the chequered flag in a dominant 17 laps.



**Bahrainis Shaikh Ali bin Mohammed Al Khalifa (Pro-Am) and Shaikh Jaber bin Ali Al Khalifa (Am) were classified eighth and ninth, respectively, overall in the race**



The winners on the podium

Guven secured his pole-to-flag triumph in a total race time of 21 minutes 22.754 seconds.

Daan Van Kuijk finished as the runner-up 6.595s behind, while Jean-Baptiste Simenauer completed the podium placers in third, 6.759s from Guven.

Guven was also the winner in the championship's GT3 class Pro category, while Van Kuijk was first in the Pro-Am category. Eddy Waldhler was the top man amongst the Am runners.

Bahrainis Shaikh Ali bin Mo-

ammed Al Khalifa (Pro-Am) and Shaikh Jaber bin Ali Al Khalifa (Am) were classified eighth and ninth, respectively, overall in the race.

The second Porsche sprint will take place today, scheduled for a 4.30pm start. Guven will once again be on pole.

Earlier yesterday, Guven clinched the leading grid place for race one after setting the fastest lap time in Qualifying of 1:14.209. He then also had the best second-fastest lap from all runners of 1:14.220s, which earned him pole for the second sprint.

## Man Utd into top four as Premier League welcomes back fans

AFP | London

Manchester United roared back to beat West Ham 3-1 on Saturday and climb into the top four of the Premier League as fans returned to the English top-flight for the first time in nine months.

Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's men fell behind at the London Stadium but a three-goal blitz from Paul Pogba, Mason Greenwood and Marcus Rashford turned the tables at the London Stadium.

United, who have won nine successive league games on the road, are now fourth in the table, one point ahead of Manchester City, who earlier cruised past Fulham 2-0.

United, who started with Bruno Fernandes and Rashford on the bench, were second best in the first half and fell behind to a Tomas Soucek goal seven minutes before half-time.

But, with 2,000 fans inside the ground, Solskjaer threw on Rashford and Fernandes for the start of the second half and United were a changed side.

Pogba equalised in the 65th minute with a superb strike from distance and minutes lat-



Manchester United's Mason Greenwood celebrates a goal

er United were ahead, Greenwood turning and firing home in the area. Rashford struck a post as United looked to extend their lead, and it was the England striker who made it 3-1 12 minutes from time.

Pep Guardiola's Manchester City have had a patchy start to the season but are now just three points behind leaders Tottenham after a dominant display at the Etihad.

City, who had won just four of their opening nine matches, are showing ominous signs they are returning to their best form after building on their 5-0 mauling of Burnley last week