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Press Release n.33

Northern Talent Cup:

Race 1 and Race 2 at Le Mans begin the season in style



Race 1

Lorenz Luciano (Junior Black Knights Team) is the first race winner of the 2021 Northern Talent Cup, the Belgian coming out on top in a race-long duel to take victory by less than a tenth in tricky conditions at Le Mans. Jakub Gurecky (JRT Brno Circuit) was the rider just denied in second, with his teammate Jonas Kocourek taking a lonelier but commendable third as Round 1 Race 1 started wet and then dried out throughout the 15 laps.

It was polesitter and rookie Rossi Moor (FAIRIUM Next Generation Riders Team) who took the holeshot, but the Hungarian was soon hit by bad luck in the first dose of drama: overcooking it out of the chicane, the number 92 slid out the lead, leaving Luciano to take over. From there, experience and speed from some familiar 2020 frontrunners started to



show as Luciano led from Gurecky, and Kocourek, Jacopo Hosciuc (Hos Racing Team) and Niklas Kitzbichler (Racing-Team-Kitzbichler) squabbled it out.

As the laps ticked by, however, Luciano and Gurecky started to make a break for it. The gap extended and extended as the 59 led first before the 81 struck back, but by the final few laps it was an almost as-you-were, locked together and everything set for a duel to the flag.

That's exactly what we got, as Gurecky steamed past for the lead at Turn 1 on the last lap and prepared to defend from the Junior Black Knights rider behind. The next lunge was a huge dive from Luciano early on the final lap, and the metres lost seemed almost insurmountable but not so. The number 81 somehow clawed his way back onto the rear of the Czech rider, so would he try it again and could he? Yes and yes, and this time he made it stick. The ball was in Gurecky's court and as the final chance for a dive up the inside before the drag to the line approached, and the Czech rider looked tempted... but it wasn't to be.

They crossed the line glued together but with Luciano ahead, the Belgian taking the first win of the season and by definition, the points lead. Gurecky's P2 was impressive nevertheless, with teammate Kocourek completing the podium after pulling well clear of those on the chase.

They were led by an impressive ride from Lennox Phommara (Phommara Team) as the Swiss rookie took fourth place late on, coming back into it to overcome an impressive but slightly fading Kitzbichler, as did Dustin Schneider (PrüstelGP Junior Team) as the German completed the top five. Kitzbichler takes a solid sixth. Where's Hosciuc? The Romanian sadly crashed out and will be another out for revenge on Sunday, along with Rossi Moor.

Seventh went to Kas Beekmans (Team KNMV) as the Dutchman had a solid first race of



2021, with Noel Willemsen (PrüstelGP Junior Team) taking P8. Tibor Varga (Forty Racing Team) took ninth, the Hungarian impressing to get back into the top ten despite a double Long Lap for a jump start. Compatriot rookie Kevin Farkas (FAIRIUM Next Generation Riders Team) completed the top ten.

Race 2

After just losing out on Saturday, Jakub Gurecky (JRT Brno Circuit) hit back in Race 2 in serious style. Getting to the front early, the Czech rider then checked out in more tricky wet conditions for the Northern Talent Cup, taking his first win of the season by a whopping 17.891 seconds. Lorenz Luciano (Junior Black Knights Team) took a solid second place to stay equal on points, however, with Jacopo Hosciuc (Hos Racing Team) completing the podium to bounce back from his Race 1 disappointment.

Off the line it was Luciano taking off in the lead as Rossi Moor (FAIRIUM Next Generation Riders Team) took it steadier on take two, but Gurecky was up there despite the damp - as was his teammate Jonas Kocourek as the race began in an almost as-you-were from Race 1.

It didn't take long for Gurecky to strike for the lead. A perfectly pitched move nearing Turn 1 saw the number 59 hit the front, and he never looked back from there. Pulling out tenths and then seconds, he looked imperious throughout with constant fastest laps coming in. Lapping everyone nearly up to the top ten, he crossed the line alone after a stunning performance to take the Championship lead.

Luciano kept it clean for a solid 20 points, the Belgian escaping one out-the-seat moment out of Turn 14 that caught out a huge number of riders. Kocourek crashed out of the podium fight, as did Tibor Varga (Forty Racing Team), with Hosciuc learning from his Saturday excursion to calmly come home in third.

Niklas Kitzbichler (Racing-Team-Kitzbichler) impressed once again to take fourth place, the Austrian keeping it clean and tidy on Sunday for his best finish. Kas Beekmans (Team KNMV) completed the top five despite a crash, the Dutchman recovering incredibly, as did Swiss rookie Lenox Phommara (Phommara Team) in another impressive race day showing. Rio Olofsen (Team KNMV) wasn't far off in seventh either.

Jordan Bartucca (Allesauto Racing) stormed through to take an impressive P8, ahead of Korbinian Brandl (RBR - Racing) as he found some Sunday redemption. Polish rider Mateusz Molik (Speed Day Junior Racing Team) completed the top ten.

Women's European SS 300 Cup: Spanish Beatriz Neila Santos rules in Misano



Second round of the Women's European SS 300 Cup at Misano World Circuit Marco Simoncelli, Italy.



The competition, still at closed doors due to the Covid-19 restrictions, saw the ladies fight until the last for the leadership.

After the third position in the opening round at Mugello, Spanish Beatriz Neila Santos got the pole position, the best lap and the win too. This means two extra points for the championships standing.

All rider performed an enthusiastic race from the first lap till the end with Neila Santos leading with some gaps also due to the crash of Roberta Ponziani, while she was fighting with the leading group. Second position for another Spanish rider, Sara Sanchez, while the Italian Sabrina Della Manna finished third.

Race1

1. Neila Santos Beatriz, SPA
2. Sanchez Sara, SPA
3. Della Manna Sabrina, ITA
4. Carreno Isis, CHI
5. Cruciani Aurelia, ITA