



PRESS RELEASE

CIK-FIA EUROPEAN SKF CHAMPIONSHIP RND.3
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PDB IS VICE-EUROPEAN CHAMPION



Peter de Bruijn's PDB Racing Team arrived in Essay (France) determined to bridge the 3 points gap that separated them from the leaders. Definitely not a daunting task, considering PDB's recent high profile results and Manuel Renaudie great form. The weekend starts with a positive official practice session, where Manuel stops the 4th fastest laptime at only 2 hundreds of a second from his main rival, the actual championship leader. On his part, Renaudie can count on the performing material provided by PDB Racing Team and Peter de Bruijn's technical assistance and experience.

The heats on Saturday show great consistency, with Manuel taking 3rd in Heat 1 - where he also stops the fastest laptime - and the win in Heat 2. On Saturday afternoon, PDB Racing Team ace is back on starting grid for the third and final heat, but the inconsiderate first corner challenge of one of his rivals sends the two out with a dear DNF. Race 1 starting grid sees Manuel on row 3, just behind the championship leader who also suffered a DNF in the last heat. And just like in Heat 3, the first corner makes two excellent victims, sending the two row 1 drivers out. Manuel is quick to grab the lead, building a precious gap and keeping the lead undisturbed for much of the race. However, with 3 laps to go, he has to give in to the faster kart of the championship leader and settles for 2nd.

With Race 2 left, worth 25 points, everything is still possible, and the title is still at PDB's reach. Renaudie knows that the first corner is treacherous, and outside row 1 start can make things complicated. And so it does: at the start, Manuel plays fair, he's side by side with his main rival who forces him wide, too wide on turn 1, almost off the track. Renaudie is quick to lift the right foot enough as not to end in the gravel, but he gets past by six karts and the race suddenly turns uphill, with the championship leader firmly in 2nd. Manuel comes back up to 5th place, but it's not enough for the crown. The title of vice-European champion tells a lot of PDB Racing Team consistency, which is surely promising in view of the World Championship in Macau.

"We have worked very hard to put Manuel in the condition of having a shot at the title - says Peter de Bruijn - but it's not been sufficient. We still have margin for improving the equipment, and we have to make sure everything is perfect in time for Macau."

