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New Victors Emerge in Valencia Amid Changing

Conditions

For the second event of the year in the Champions Of The Future series, the orange groves of Valencia were filled with the roaring sounds of two stroke engines for the OK Junior and OK classes from 29th April - 2nd May. This weekend, at the International Kartodromo Lucas Guerrero, new winners in the series emerged during a weekend of mixed weather conditions and high intensity.

OK Junior Thriller Sees Green Charge to Victory

The junior category fired the racing into life for the week in Spain, with the first qualifying session being led by Niccolò Perico. The Mercedes junior, in his rookie year in the category, became the first pole sitter of the day in his group, with Priam Bruno and Daniel Miron setting the fastest laps in the following sessions. In only the third competitive session of the day, drama had already unfolded, as Daniel Miron, a series title contender and La Conca podium finisher, received a track limits penalty that dropped him to last in the qualifying sessions.

With Priam Bruno fastest overall, the qualifying heats saw Oskari Walle, Martin Bertolaccini, Alessandro Truchot, Niccolò Perico, Priam Bruno, Many Nouvilini, Jarlath Sayer and Marat Zvarich take wins. The first day of heats was completely dry, allowing Daniel Miron to recover an impressive 21 positions across two heats. A notable performance also came from wildcard Troy Ferguson, recruited by Parolin for his first appearance in Europe, who impressed with a heat win.

Many drivers likely felt as though they were back at the early stages of La Conca during the superheats, as the clouds opened and produced fully wet conditions. Pole sitters for these races were Oskari Walle and Martin Bertolaccini, with the latter securing a maiden pole at this level. Despite strong efforts, neither Parolin nor Ward secured the wins, as Kart Republic claimed both superheats through Will Green and Nouvilini.

The weather followed a dry, wet, dry, wet, then dry pattern, with the final surprisingly taking place on a dry track. Oskari Walle lined up on pole but opted for the outside line into turn one due to lingering damp conditions. Heartbreak struck Martin Bertolaccini before the start, as the Argentinian was unable to begin the race. Battles formed throughout the field, with Priam Bruno, Niccolò Perico, Oskari Walle and Antonio Pizzonia showcasing the depth of international talent on the 19 turn circuit. Ultimately, Will Green delivered a sensational drive, gaining nine positions and converting a P44 in qualifying into a race win, finishing ahead of Priam Bruno and Oskari Walle.

Baglin Delivers Under Pressure

Senior pace was impressive heading into the weekend, with Davide Bottaro demonstrating strong CRG performance in qualifying, similar to the previous Valencia round. Niklas Schaufler and William Calleja were the other drivers to take group pole positions, with three different chassis manufacturers represented in the top three.

The word win was closely associated with William Calleja during the heats phase, as he secured four victories. Davide Bottaro maintained consistency with the best overall heat results, while Zac Drummond and returning Viktor Gustafsson held P3 and P4 ahead of the superheats. The seniors faced one of the biggest challenges on Friday, as changing conditions raised constant questions about tyre choice between slicks and wets.

The superheats mirrored the junior category, with standing water remaining on the circuit. Calleja and Bottaro started from pole in their respective groups and effectively raced for pole position in the final. Bottaro struggled to convert his performance in the wet, allowing Australia's Calleja to secure pole for the final and strengthen Parolin's hopes of another victory following Dean Hoogendoorn's win at La Conca. Notable performances also came from the Walz brothers, who gained 21 and 19 positions respectively from qualifying to the intermediate classification.

The Senior Final proved that results can change even at the final moment. Calleja, a standout performer throughout the weekend, dropped down the order almost immediately. Within the opening laps, Noah Baglin, driving for Prema and the Ferrari Academy, took the lead and pulled away under the Valencian clouds. Behind him, Niklas Schaufler, Viktor Gustafsson and Dean Hoogendoorn appeared to be the main challengers. However, Hoogendoorn lost momentum compared to his La Conca form, dropping from the top three to seventh within just a few laps.

Baglin continued to lead confidently, but the race took another twist as rain returned, making him the reference point for the rest of the field. Despite the changing conditions, the British driver remained composed and crossed the line to secure victory, making it two wins from two races for Prema and Kart Republic.

New title battles have begun to take shape, with Green and Baglin establishing themselves as strong contenders. The series now heads to Germany and a new circuit for the field. Entries for Mülsen are open, and the fight for the Champions Of The Future crown continues.



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that also covered the happenings of Friday, while select race control communications were broadcast to fill in the viewers with behind-the-scenes information on race decisions.

Champions of the Future broadcast content is distributed through its dedicated pages on **YouTube**, **Facebook** and **Motorsport TV**, while select clips and photos are distributed through the social media channels on **Instagram**, **Facebook** and **TikTok**. Highlight videos are made available through the **YouTube channel**.

More information and complete results can always be found on the Champions of the Future Series official website www.championskarting.com, the RGMMC Group website www.rgmmc.com, and the Champions of the Future **Facebook** and **Instagram** pages with the handle [@championskarting](https://www.instagram.com/championskarting).

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