

H2O Magazine

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H2O RACING
POWERBOAT PROMOTION



FIH2O

AQUABIKE

STARK ON TOP - TEAM ABU DHABI ON A ROLL HEADING TO ASIA - CHIAPPE AND MORIN LEAD THE CHASING PACK

ADVANTAGE PEREZ, REITERER, UZARE AND AL MULLA AFTER OPENING ROUNDS

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H2O RACING POWERBOAT PROMOTION

H2O Racing is an international sports management, marketing and media company responsible for organising and promoting events in powerboat and jet ski racing – two of the most spectacular and entertaining sports on water.

The multi-faceted company, founded by Nicolo di San Germano in 2011, takes care of all commercial activities relating to three Union Internationale Motonautique (UIM) sanctioned properties; the F1H2O Powerboat World Championship, the Aquabike Circuit World Championship and the Nations Cup Powerboat World Series.

H2O Racing is made up of a group of dynamic professionals with over 30 years of experience in the sporting and event management sector, and a great passion for the industry.

President: Nicolò di San Germano

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The UIM is the world governing body for all Powerboating activities. It is fully recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and is a member of the Association of the IOC Recognised International Sports Federations (ARISF) and of SportAccord for whom the UIM President serves respectively as President and Vice President.

The UIM has 59 affiliated National Federations; Circuit, Offshore, Pleasure Navigation and Aquabike are the main disciplines. The UIM has signed a Cooperation Agreement with the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) to further its range of environmental initiatives, share expertise and work together for "greening" the Sport.

President: Dr. Raffaele Chiulli

uimpowerboating.com

STARK'S WHIRLWIND SEASON

Sweden's Erik Stark heads to Asia perched on top of the UIM F1H2O World Championship driver standings, which days before the season opener in May seemed a highly unlikely scenario.

Just days before the Grand Prix of Portugal, Stark was without a seat in an overcrowded paddock and sitting out the season looked to be his fate. But a last minute opportunity to team up with Maverick F1 Racing threw him a lifeline, securing a point in tenth.

Another late decision to race and, again running with Maverick, he took pole and won in London and that prompted Team Abu Dhabi to step in and sign him up, the 30-year-old from Taoby immediately paying the team back and winning from pole again and hit the front in the title race.

Three drivers have led the points table this year; Shaun Torrente after Portugal, Philippe Chiappe after London. Will Stark be able to stay out front?



AL MULLA EXTENDS WINNING STREAK IN FREESTYLE

Team Abu Dhabi's Rashed Al Mulla is the red hot favourite to lift the title this year after dominating the opening rounds with a perfect score card and leads on 100 points from Italy's Roberto Mariani and Alberto Camerlengo.

Al Mulla is seemingly untouchable, on a roll and unbeaten in his last five Grand Prix outings since Sharjah in 2016.

TWO NEW VENUES HOST PHASE 2 OF 2018 TITLE RACE

For phase 2 of the 2018 campaign the UIM F1H2O World Championship and drivers show case the series at two new venues in Asia heading to Xiangyang in the Peoples Republic of China on 21-23 September and Amaravati in India on 16-18 November.

Xiangyang in Hubei Province will be the 11th city in the PRC to host a round of the championship since its debut outing in Hangzhou in 1995,

marking its 17th year and playing out its 24th Grand Prix in China.

The Grand Prix of Amaravati sees the championship returning to India for the first time since 2004 when Mumbai hosted the season opener. Of the 'class' of 2004 six are racing today, race winner Francesco Cantando, Sami Selio, Thani Al Qemzi, Philippe Chiappe, Cedric Deguisne and Duarte Benavente.





KEVIN REITERER ON TRACK TO REGAIN SKI GP1 TITLE

Austria's Kevin Reiterer looks to be on track to regain the world title which he won in his debut season in 2015, finishing second overall to Raphael Maurin in Gallipoli but hitting back to win both motos and claim a first GP title for Victory Team in Olbia.

He holds a 14 point advantage over Maurin with Mickael Poret 42 points adrift in third.

TIGHT AT THE TOP IN RUNABOUT



One point splits the top two in this Blue Riband category with Jeremy Perez in a rich vein of form and leading the standings from defending champion Yousef Al Abdulrazzaq at the season mid-term.

The duo have traded moto wins and Grand Prix titles,

Perez grabbing his first win and title since 2014 in round 2 at the Grand Prix of the Mediterranean in Olbia.

Gyorgy Kasza, who won the opening moto of the year, heads the chasing pack from Lars Akerblom, Johan Johansson and Christophe Agostinho.

KRISTA UZARE OUT FRONT IN SKI LADIES

A three-way fight for the title is opening up in Ski Ladies with Latvia's Krista Uzare enjoying a stellar season so far, taking two moto wins and winning both Grand Prix titles in Gallipoli and Olbia to lead by nine points from Sweden's defending champion Emma-Nellie Ortendahl.

Estonia's Katriin Nilbe sits in third spot and staked

her claim as a genuine title contender after taking her first moto win and second podium of the year in Olbia, with Brit newcomer Mollie Fearn also impressing and currently in fourth with three top five finishes.





TEAM ABU DHABI IN THE DRIVING SEAT

After an impressive European leg, with its current driver line up winning all the three Grand Prix, Team Abu Dhabi's talented trio lock out the top three spots in the drivers' championship; Erik Stark leads the title race on 41 points, picking up a point in the season opener and winning from pole in London in the colours of Maverick F1 Racing, then announcing his arrival at the Emirati outfit with a repeat pole and race

win in Evian. Thani Al Qemzi has pushed both teammates to the limit with two second places and a fourth and sits just two points adrift, Shaun Torrente a further seven points back after winning from pole in Portimao and taking third last time out – the trios exploits putting Abu Dhabi comfortably out front in the Teams Championship by 26 points.

UIM-ABP AQUABIKE EUROPEAN TITLES FOR ORTENDAHL, MAURIN AND AGOSTINHO

A massive 95 rider turnout battled over two days and 3 motos at the UIM-ABP Aquabike European Championship in Penafiel in the Douro region of Portugal in July.

In the Ladies division in Ski GP1 Sweden's Emma-Nellie Ortendahl was back at her best and completed the perfect scorecard taking pole and winning three times, giving the defending UIM-ABP World Champion her second European crown.

Raphael Maurin headed into the decider tied on points

with Estonia's Marten Manni after the duo had traded wins and second places, but the Frenchman held his nerve and proved too good, winning the final moto to successfully defend his Ski title.

The Runabout GP1 title went to Portugal's Christophe Agostinho who overturned a three point deficit going into the final moto to seal overall victory from Johan Johansson and Patrice Pellier.



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FIH20

STARK STUNS TITLE CHALLENGERS TO COMPLETE LONDON POLE AND WIN DOUBLE



HALDA
RACE PILOT



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he UIM F1H2O World Championship returned to London for the first time in 33 years for round 2 of the 2018 campaign in June.

The Grand Prix of London took place at the historic Royal Victoria Dock, the fourth time the capital and the venue has hosted a round of the championship and the first time since 1985.

The 1.72km end-to-end two-pin oval circuit provided a very different challenge for the drivers, its enclosed dock walls creating a cauldron of water with tricky winds blowing erratically around the track adding to the test.

Heading the line-up of 20 drivers from 12 countries was championship leader Shaun Torrente, looking to build on his perfect start to the season in Portimao at the Grand Prix of Portugal in May, qualifying in pole position and

leading home Thani Al Qemzi to complete a Team Abu Dhabi one-two.

Leading the impressive list of challengers looking to halt the Abu Dhabi juggernaut was three-time world champion Philippe Chiappe sitting in third place in the points, his CTIC F1 Shenzhen China teammate Peter Morin in fifth and splitting the Victory Team duo, defending and four-time world champion Alex Carella and Ahmed Al Hameli.

Maverick Racing retained the services of Erik Stark and ran a third boat with Norwegian Mette Brandt Bjerkaes joining Cedric Deguisne's French outfit, the 29-year-old stepping up from F2 and Endurance Racing to make her F1H2O debut and swelling the ranks of women competing in the top-flight of circuit racing to three, joining her fellow countrywoman Marit Stromoy and Germany's Simone Schuft.

Friday afternoon was the first opportunity for the drivers to tentatively test the waters and get used to the narrow circuit in an untimed session, with race and event officials evaluating the circuit for a possible rolling start come race day.



Philippe Chiappe and Peter Morin made it a double celebration for the CTIC F1 Shenzhen China Team

In the first timed session on the Saturday Team Abu Dhabi's Shaun Torrente maintained his strange hold of the 'top spot' in the listings, posting the fastest time of 38.34s in the morning's one hour official practice.

The session developed into a three way dice between Torrente, CTIC F1 Shenzhen China driver Philippe Chiappe and Victory Team's Alex Carella, the trio trading best times with Torrente at the top of the time sheets when the chequered flag came out.

Maverick F1 Racing's Erik Stark joined the battle late in the session to go fourth quickest with a 38.86s lap, just 0.52s off the pace with Emirates Racing's Bartek Marszalek running strongly in fifth ahead of F1 Atlantic driver Duarte Benavente.

In BRM Qualifying Sweden's Erik Stark produced a brilliant set of runs in the final session to grab his third career-pole and would lead the boats in the rolling start in Sunday's UIM F1H2O Grand Prix of London.



The Maverick F1 driver was third to go in the Q3 top six shoot-out and produced the best time of the session on the first of his two runs, securing the pole with a 37.71s lap around the 1.72km circuit. "It was a crazy lap and it felt like the boat was half a metre out of the water all the time. It was very tough but a cool lap." said Stark after taking his third career pole position. "You just don't know what can happen in these conditions when you are at the maximum and the boat is flying."

CTIC F1 Shenzhen China's Philippe Chiappe followed Stark out but his best time of 37.89s was short by 0.18seconds, with Victory Team's Alex Carella third quickest with a 38.15s lap.

It was a spectacular 90 minutes of racing with shocks and surprises in all three sessions, Marit Stromoy and Thani Al Qemzi the first to come up short in Q1 and failing

to make the 12 boat cut to progress into Q2.

More shocks followed in Q2 with championship leader and the pole-sitter at the season-opener in Portugal down in eighth place and missing going through into the shootout, with Peter Morin making it into Q3 for just the second time and producing his best ever result going fourth quickest.

Erik Edin produced a sensational set of qualifying sessions, topping the time sheets in Q1, going fourth quickest in Q2 and into the shootout for the first time in his first full season in the championship and then posting the fifth quickest time.

Controversy followed at the end of Q2 when Ahmed Al Hameli was docked his best lap for impeding another driver, dropping him out of the top six to ninth and elevating

Bartek Marszalek who went on to qualify in sixth.

Francesco Cantando narrowly missed out on a Q3 slot bringing his Blaze Performance hull home in seventh with Duarte Benavente in tenth.

In the Grand Prix Erik Stark delivered the ultimate performance to take a sensational victory and his second career win, putting himself right back in the fight for the title.

It was a pulsating race from start-to-finish with Maverick F1 Racing's Stark surviving two prolonged yellow flag periods and restarts, the first when championship leader Shaun Torrente speared and destroyed two turn buoys resulting in automatic disqualification and forcing him out of the race on lap 11, the second when defending world champion Alex Carella barrel rolled out of the race on lap 36 of 54.



Cantando narrowly missed out on a Q3 slot bringing his Blaze Performance hull home in seventh

Philippe Chiappe and Peter Morin made it a double celebration for the CTIC F1 Shenzhen China Team finishing second and third after enjoying a race long inter-team battle.

The unfamiliar rolling start instead of the usual dead-engine start of the dock was the preferred option of race officials with Stark leading the 16 boats around the 1.72km three-pin circuit under a yellow caution flag for a couple of laps before the green flag was given to release them to race.

Stark held the advantage of starting from P1 and led from Chiappe, Morin immediately up to third from Carella and Francesco Cantando with Torrente passing Erik Edin to move in to sixth spot on lap 9 when he tangled with the buoy bringing out the first yellow.

The boats were held for six laps under yellow when the green was given, the front three holding station, Cantando passing Carella and up into fourth, Jonas Andersson also getting the jump on Carella a lap later.

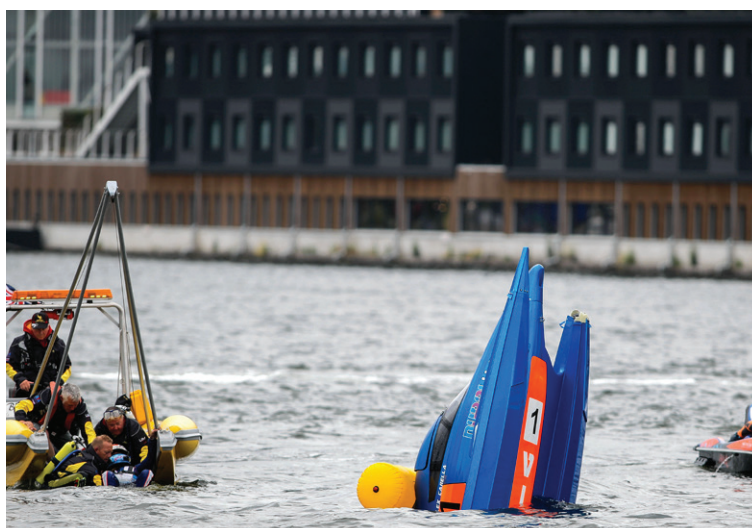
The front six boats held point until lap 28 when Andersson dropped out, Cantando's impressive drive and best outing in his relatively new Blaze coming to a disappointing end on lap 30. Stark remained in control at the front despite the pressure from the CTIC duo when the second yellow was shown, signalling Carella's dramatic exit.



For a second time Stark held firm at the restart and was able to control the race with an uninterrupted run to the chequered flag to win by 3.34s from Chiappe with Morin following his team leader home. "It is always difficult to win but I felt that I had control of the race. But you never know. So many things can happen with the boat, the engine," said Stark. "But I had good speed throughout and just hoped it would be enough and it was. I was able to manage the restarts pretty well and always felt I was in control."

A second podium of the season for three-time champion Chiappe moved the Frenchman into the lead in the title race. "I had a very nice set-up and the boat was fast and very good today," he said. "I pushed at the beginning but then I saw Torrente stop so I preferred to manage my race in terms of the championship. I had Peter behind me and close for a lot of the race but we managed that situation well and to both be in on the podium was very nice for the team."

Third place for Morin continued his season story of best performances with his first world championship podium in only his second full season on the UIM F1H2O tour. "It is an unbelievable moment and feeling for me," said Morin.



Alex Carella suffers setback in title defence



“The whole weekend has been very good for the team. I made a good start and really felt confident in the boat.”

Thani Al Qemzi made up for his Abu Dhabi teammates' early self-inflicted exit producing another strong showing and moving up from 12th place to finish in fourth.

After a nightmare opening race and struggling over the weekend with engine issues, Mad Croc BABA Racing's Sami Selio turned things around to bank his first points of the year finishing in fifth ahead of a great drive by F1 Atlantic's Grand Trask, another driver to scythe his way through the field and moving up from 13th, his teammate Duarte Benavente nursing his boat home in tenth.

Despite a frustrating BRM Qualifying session and starting from 14th Marit Stromoy also put her first set of points on the board driving up through the field to finish in seventh ahead of Ahmed Al Hameli, with the race winners' teammate Cedric Deguisne in ninth, debutant Mette Brandt Bjerknaes successfully navigating her first race in the top flight and finishing in eleventh.

The 54 lap race run on London's Royal Victoria Dock for the first time in 33 years took its toll with six of the 17 starters failing to go the distance and retiring, Erik Edin dropping out on lap 26 from running as high as sixth Simone Schuft pulling out on lap 11, both Marszalek and Filip Roms failing to start. ■



Mette Brandt Bjerknaes makes F1H2o debut with Maverick F1 Racing



FIH20

STARK WINS IN FRANCE AND HITS THE FRONT IN THE TITLE RACE



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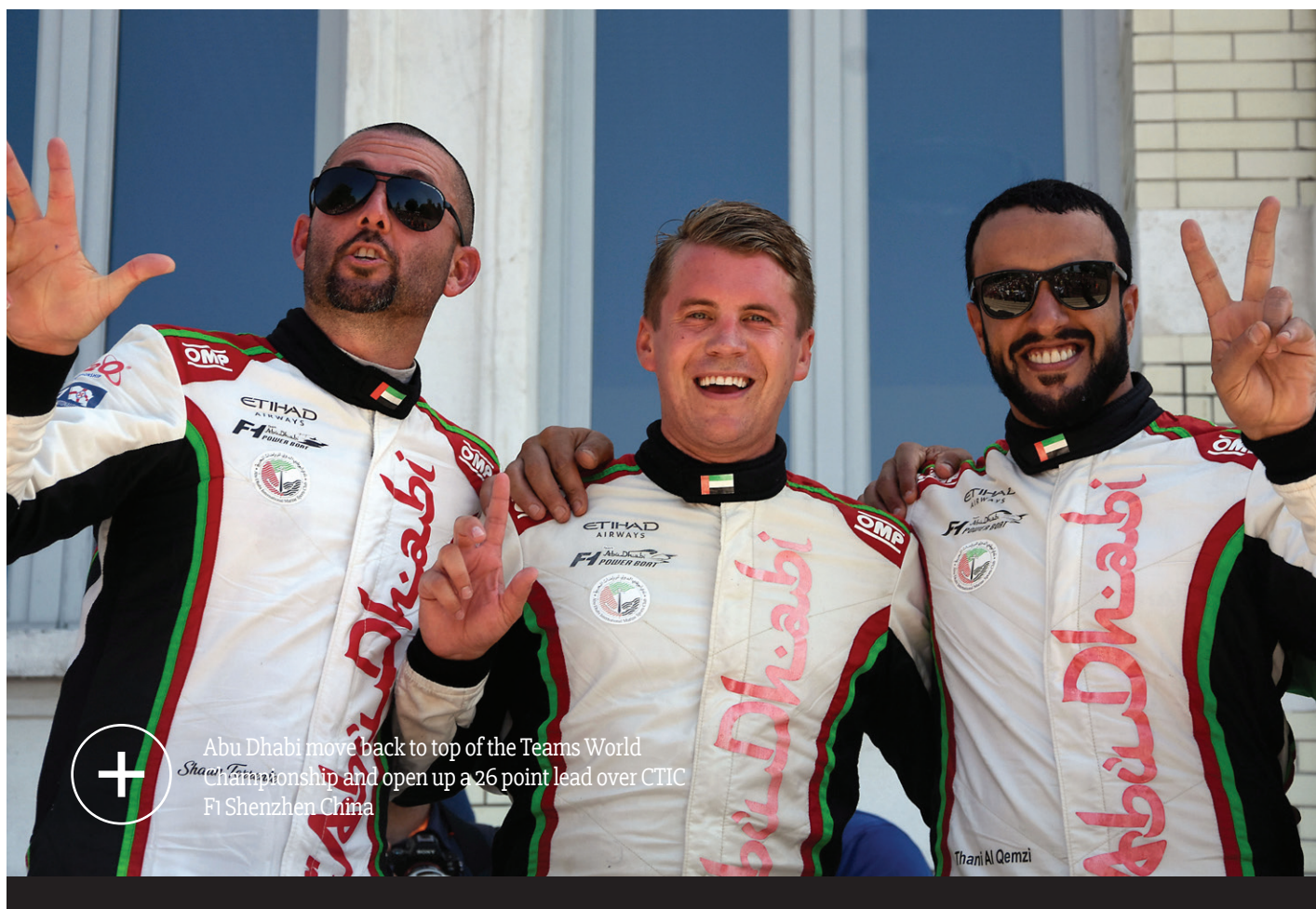
or the final race of the European leg of the 2018 season the championship headed to France for its 275th Grand Prix.

The championship leader Philippe Chiappe would line-up in Evian for the 22nd Grand Prix of France, round 3 of the UIM F1H2O World Championship looking for his first win of the season and to end his run of bad luck on the 2.08km Lac Lemman Circuit.

The CTIC F1 Shenzhen China driver, whose podiums in Portimao and London had given him a slender three point advantage in the standings in a tight title race with just 22 points splitting the top ten, has a good record in BRM Qualifying in Evian with a pole and two top three starts but had failed to get his Moore hull to the chequered flag on all three occasions and was looking to end that statistic and the 20 year wait for a French driver to win a Grand Prix on home waters.

But once again the Evian gremlins struck, a broken propeller early in the race robbing him of any chance of a victory.

Team Abu Dhabi's audacious move to sign up London Grand Prix winner Erik Stark added even more firepower to an already very impressive strike force, the Swede lining up with new teammates Thani Al Qemzi, sitting in second sport in the championship standings and round 1 winner Shaun Torrente, who had podiumed in Evian in his last two outings and was looking to shrug off his self-inflicted exit from the London race and focus on making up for dropping those valuable points.



Abu Dhabi move back to top of the Teams World Championship and open up a 26 point lead over CTIC F1 Shenzhen China

Victory's Alex Carella was also looking to get his title challenge back on track after banking no points in London after crashing out in the latter stages and the defending champion held the best record of any of his rivals on the unpredictable Lac Lemane circuit winning from pole position in 2016 and 2017.

Unlike in the previous two years the weather was perfect and allowed for a full racing programme with no disruptions, but the mighty Lac Lemane still provided a stern test for all with its unpredictable and more often than not unseen rollers proving to be a constant threat.

In BRM Qualifying Team Abu Dhabi's new recruit Erik Stark produced a simply sensational final flying lap to post the fastest time by 1/100ths of a second in the top-six shootout and would start UIM F1H2O Grand Prix of France from pole position.

Stark's signing was proving to be a masterstroke, the Swede going quickest in the morning's practice and then surviving an astonishing

moment on his final lap to steal the pole from CTIC F1 Shenzhen China's Philippe Chiappe with a 51.17s lap around the six pin 2.08km Lac Lemane circuit, Thani Al Qemzi making it a Team Abu Dhabi one-three. "That was just a crazy lap, I just kept my foot down and it was either going to be good or very, very bad," he said after his all or nothing roll of the dice on the final lap. "I knew I didn't have the pole after my first lap and on the second my timing in the boat showed green so I knew I was on it but then I just flew and it went red. So I just kept pushing and almost shut my eyes going into in that final turn."

Chiappe was third out onto the water with first man out Al Qemzi sitting with the provisional pole of 41.46s which Francesco Cantando, who was in the shootout for the first time in his Blaze and Marit Stromoy failed to better, and went to the top of the time sheets with a 51.18s lap on his first run but was unable to improve. "It doesn't get much closer," said Chiappe. "The conditions were very hard a lot of waves and for us all a lot of risk."

Al Qemzi's second top three spot in qualifying this year was another boost for the team after the surprising exit in Q2 of Portugal pole and race winner Shaun Torrente.

Bartek Marszalek went next but could only manage to pull out a 52.77s lap and go fifth quickest behind Cantando, with Stark the last to go and delivering spectacular lap to take his fourth career pole position.

For the second consecutive Grand Prix BRM Qualifying delivered a sensational 90 minutes of racing and shock results, with Alex Carella heading an illustrious list of drivers including Jonas Andersson and Sami Selio who would have expected to feature in the shootout not least get through to Q2 but all failing to make the 12 boat cut in the opening 20 minute session, Morin topping the time sheets from Torrente and Stark.

A frantic 15 minute second session saw Stark, Chiappe and Torrente all setting fastest times, with Stark hanging on to top spot and Marszalek firing himself into second place with less than 30 seconds on the clock to finish ahead of Chiappe, Stromoy, Cantando and Al Qemzi, with Torrente and Morin down in seventh and eighth ahead of Erik Edin, Ahmed Al Hameli, Grant Trask and Filip Roms.

And once again the star of the show come race day was Erik Stark who produced yet another outstanding drive to take a hard-earned and spectacular victory in a dramatic UIM F1H2O Grand Prix of France, leading home Thani Al Qemzi and Shaun Torrente



Benavente getting the better of his young team rival on lap 16





Erik Edin continued his impressive run and upturn in form this season



to complete a sensational and historic Team Abu Dhabi one-two-three on Lac Lemán.

For the second successive Grand Prix Stark started from pole and again had to survive two yellow flag incidents and restarts, the first coming on lap 8 when Mad Croc BABA Racing's Filip Roms crashed out from 13th place, compounding a bad weekend for the team with Sami Selio retiring on lap 7.

The second yellow flag was raised on lap 23 when defending champion Alex Carella crashed heavily, the boats held under caution for eight laps whilst the Victory driver was attended to in the boat and taken to the medical evacuation point.

Philippe Chiappe's hopes of becoming the first Frenchman to win his home Grand Prix ended on lap 5 when his Evian jinx struck for the fourth consecutive year, the CTIC F1 Shenzhen China driver forced back to the pits to change a broken propeller before returning to the race and finishing 3 laps adrift in 15th.

Stark took control of the race from lights out and despite the early pressure from teammate Al Qemzi held point

to the first yellow flag, Francesco Cantando running strongly in third with Shaun Torrente up three places in fourth and ahead of Peter Morin and Erik Edin.

The front four raced line astern from the restart for the next 13 laps when Carella went over and out from running in ninth, Edin moving up a place with Morin dropping back and passed by Ahmed Al Hameli, with Jonas Andersson on a charge and up from 18th off the dock into eighth place.

The second restart saw Torrente and Edin pass Cantando with the Team Abu Dhabi trio racing line astern to the chequered flag, with Stark winning by 2.38s. "To be honest it was a very hard race. It was just impossible to run safe, you just couldn't see the waves when they came and if you slowed down you hit them all so you had to run full speed to try to go over them," said Stark, his second win of the season moving him into the lead in the world championship standings. "It's amazing for the team, a one two three, what more can you ask for."

The result also saw Abu Dhabi move back to top of the Teams World Championship and open up a 26 point lead over CTIC F1 Shenzhen China.

Erik Edin continued his impressive run and upturn in form this season with his best ever result, moving up from ninth off the dock to finish in fourth, teammate Jonas Andersson producing a stunning recovery drive from the outside of the pack of 18 to finish in sixth and complete a good weekend for Team Sweden, with Peter Morin again producing a strong performance and coming home in fifth place for CTIC China.

Emirates Racing's Marit Stromoy and Bartek Marszalek both dropped places at the start and traded places with each other over the 42 laps, Stromoy recovering from being down in 12th place at one point but fighting her way back and passing her teammate on lap 32 to finish in seventh, Victory's Ahmed Al Hameli coming home in ninth, Maverick F1 Racing's Cedric Deguisne rounding out the top ten, teammate Mette Brandt Bjerknæs coming home in 13th.

F1 Atlantic duo Duarte Benavente and Grant Trask narrowly missed out on points and stuck to each other like glue for the majority of the

race, Benavente getting the better of his young team rival on lap 16 and holding off his challenge to the chequered flag in 11th spot.

It was an agonising afternoon for Cantando who, for the majority of the race, was in and looked set for a podium finish, but a failing engine cost him several spots after the second restart and finally gave up on him on the last lap, the Italian classified in 14th, teammate Simone Schuft failing to get off the dock to start the race.

Heading into the summer break Abu Dhabi lead the teams' championship by 26 points from CTIC F1 Shenzhen China and its trio of drivers hold the upper-hand and lockout the top three spots in the drivers', Stark on top with 41 points, two clear of Thani Al Qemzi with Torrente in third on 32 points.

The CTIC duo of Philippe Chiappe and Peter Morin sit in fourth and fifth spots on 26 and 27 points, Erik Edin in sixth on 11 points heads a chasing pack of five split by just five points. ■



Mad Croc BABA Racing's Filip Roms crashed out from 13th place, compounding a bad weekend for the team with Sami Selio retiring on lap 7



F1H2O

STARK ON TOP - TEAM ABU DHABI ON A ROLL HEADING TO ASIA

After three enthralling Grand Prix in Europe in Portugal, the United Kingdom and France, phase 2 of the 2018 campaign sees the nine teams and 19 drivers in the UIM F1H2O World Championship set to showcase the series at two new venues in Asia, Xiangyang in the Peoples Republic of China on 21-23 September and Amaravati in India on 16-18 November.

Xiangyang in Hubei Province will be the 11th city in the PRC to host a round of the championship since its first appearance in Hangzhou in 1995, marking its 17th year and playing out its 24th Grand Prix in China, whilst the Grand Prix of Amaravati marks a return to India for the first time since 2004 when Mumbai hosted the season opener. Of the 'class of 2004' six are racing today, race winner Francesco Cantando, Sami Selio, Thani Al Qemzi, Philippe Chiappe, Cedric Deguisne and Duarte Benavente.

The opening rounds have delivered some stand out performances in both BRM Qualifying and all three races, one team, Abu Dhabi, stamping its authority and currently topping the points table in the Teams' Championship and its driver line up locking out the top three spots in the title race and claiming an historic one-two-three last time out in France.

Of the nine podium slots on offer so far Abu Dhabi has claimed five, CTIC F1 Shenzhen China three and Maverick F1 Racing one, whilst in BRM Qualifying Erik Stark and Shaun Torrente have proved to be the quickest- but only just!







Morin, a first career podium the highlight of his year so far with the likelihood of more to come

Qualifying has seen some of the closest competition in recent years and has proved pivotal to the race outcome with all three Grand Prix won by the pole sitter – a statistic that now extends to the last eight races. In the top-six shootout in Portimao 0.7s split the top two, 0.48s the top six, in London 0.18s was the winning margin with just 0.44s separating the top three, whilst in Evian the difference was the blink of an eye, Stark and Chiappe separated by a mere one-hundredths of a second.

Eleven of the 19-driver line up has graced Q3 and whilst the majority are the usual suspects both Peter Morin and Erik Edin made it through for the first time in their so far short F1H2O careers, Morin twice. Bartek Marszalek again has proved he has pace with two Q3 appearances this year, whilst Francesco Cantando continues to show big improvements in his Blaze hull and produced his best qualifying performance since 2013 with fourth in Evian.

With four rounds to go it is far too early to confidently predict who wins what this year, but **Team Abu Dhabi** are certainly calling the shots heading to Asia and will be looking to build on their points advantages in the drivers

and teams' championship.

The only dilemma that might unfold in the coming months for team principal Guido Cappellini is how to manage his talented trio, all of whom on current form are capable of title success; Erik Stark is on a roll winning the last two Grand Prix and sits on top of the standings with 41 points, with Portugal winner Shaun Torrente nine adrift in third. But it is Thani Al Qemzi who may well prove to be the surprise package and who is currently enjoying an upturn in performance and fortune and sits between his teammates just two points off top spot with two podiums under his belt.

At the mid-term **CTIC F1 Shenzhen China** look to be the most likely outfit to continue to carry the fight to Abu Dhabi, with Philippe Chiappe 14 points in arrears off top spot in fourth and just one point in front of teammate Peter Morin.

Chiappe's no points' finish in Evian may well ultimately prove costly, but he looks to be the man mostly likely to break the winning stranglehold of his Abu Dhabi rivals and is the only driver to make it into Q3 three times this season, converting that into two podium

finishes. Keeping him on his toes and delivering a series of career-best performances is teammate Morin, a first career podium the highlight of his year so far with the likelihood of more to come.

Outside the top five and well down the points table is a who's who of big names with tales of woe and frustration and who would not have expected to be staring at such a place and points deficit at this stage of the year.

Erik Edin is enjoying a stellar year for **Team Sweden** which now rebrands and runs as Team Amaravati for the remainder of the season. He leads the trailing pack in sixth spot on 11 points after delivering a series of career-best performances, qualifying in fifth in London and finishing fourth in Evian. For teammate Jonas Andersson the season has been blighted by bad luck and some technical issues that has seen him fail to make it into Q3 and fail to get to the chequered flag in rounds one and two, but a top six last time out could be the start of an upturn in his fortunes.

2018 was always going to be a tricky year for **Victory Team** duo Ahmed Al Hameli and defending champion Alex Carella, the pair tasked with breaking in and developing



a new boat. And whilst the season started more than promisingly for both, qualifying in fourth and third and picking up points in sixth and fourth it has trailed off, especially for Carella whose title defence has derailed somewhat spectacularly, crashing out of the last two races, Al Hameli managing to go the distance but banking just five more points, the duo sitting in seventh and eighth in the points table.

Marit Stromoy is the best of the **Emirates Racing** attack and sits in ninth with teammate Bartek Marszalek struggling down in 16th, but she will be frustrated and disappointed that she has been unable to harness her full potential and deliver the results she knows she and the boat are more than capable of, with just two seventh place finishes to show for her efforts. For Marszalek engine issues have been the problem, either limiting his time on the water or not getting out at all. But that said, the Pole has produced two strong qualifying performances getting into Q3 but has only managed one points scoring finish.

Sami Selio sits in tenth place after what can simply be described as a disastrous season so far for him and his **Mad Croc BABA Racing** teammate Filip Roms down in 18th. Selio will be the first to accept that the team has been baffled by and failed to get to grips with engine issues primarily fuel related that has seen the pair frustrated in all qualifying sessions and collectively fail to start twice and fail to finish three times, the only ray of light Selio's fifth in London. But the Finn is optimistic that as the championship reverts to its more familiar fuel the team can put the first half of the year behind them and that he and Roms can start to try to make inroads and move up in the points.

F1 Atlantic duo Duarte Benavente and Grant Trask are stuck together like glue with five points apiece in 11th and 12th and will be aiming to deliver improved results that both are more than capable of in the next phase, engine issues curtailing Trask in the opener but picking up his points with a strong top six finish in London, Benavente going the distance in all three races.

Cedric Deguisne's **Maverick F1 Racing** enjoyed their 15 minutes of fame in the spotlight in London courtesy of Erik Stark, Deguisne's Achilles Heel proving to be his struggles in qualifying, leaving the Frenchman with too much ground to make up in the races but still has picked up points in two out of three outings. In China the team bring in Sookbuangbon Sutthiphan to replace Mette Brandt Bjerknæs.

Fifteenth place and just three points to show for his efforts is a cruel reflection on some brilliant



The Finn is optimistic
that the team can put
the first half of the year
behind them



For Marszalek engine issues have been the problem



outings by **Blaze Performance** owner-driver Francesco Cantando in his vastly improved Blaze hull, improving in qualifying at each Grand Prix with two solid Q2 showings and an impressive fourth in Q3 last time out, bringing his Blaze home in eighth in the opener, challenging for a podium finish in London and running in a podium slot for 36 of 42 laps in Evian but robbed of results by technical and engine issues, teammate and series debutant Simone Schuft getting round on her debut but struggling in the last two races, failing to finish and start.

China is the first stop of phase two with the majority of drivers looking for an upturn in fortunes; Carella and Selio in particular will be hoping to add to their winning ways in the PRC, Carella the most successful and most recent of the present protagonists winning five times, Selio four. Al Qemzi has two wins under his belt, Al Hameli, Chiappe, Stark, Andersson and Cantando all with one. ■

INAUGURAL SEASON 1981

(no World Championship 1987 – 1989)

32 COUNTRIES

35th SEASON

13 WORLD CHAMPIONS

7 MULTIPLE WORLD CHAMPION

Guido Cappellini (ITA) 10

Scott Gillman (USA) 4

Alex Carella (ITA) 4

Philippe Chiappe (FRA) 3

Renato Molinari (ITA) 3

Sami Selio (FIN) 2

Jonathan Jones (GBR) 2

47 GRAND PRIX WINNERS



The FIH20 World Championship is a multiple Grand Prix series taking place in Europe, the Middle East and Asia.

Points allocated at each Grand Prix count towards the overall World Championship standings.
(1st 20, 2nd 15, 3rd 12, 4th 9, 5th 7, 6th 5, 7th 4, 8th 3, 9th 2, 10th 1)

A Grand Prix weekend consists of two/three practice sessions, official qualifying, race.

Qualifying : 60 minutes

Q1 :20 minutes, top 12 go through (times reset)

Q2: 15 minutes, top six go through (times reset)

Q3: top six, two flying laps

Grand Prix – not to exceed 60 minutes

RACE BOATS

single-seater, enclosed cockpit, tunnel-hull catamarans

Construction: carbon fibre/composite

Hull: 6 metres

Width: 2.1 metres

Weight: 390kgs

Engine: Mercury 2.5litre

HP: circa 400

Top Speed: 220km/h – 136mph

HALL OF FAME WORLD CHAMPIONS

Year	Driver	Country
2017	Alex Carella	Italy
2016	Philippe Chiappe	France
2015	Philippe Chiappe	France
2014	Philippe Chiappe	France
2013	Alex Carella	Italy
2012	Alex Carella	Italy
2011	Alex Carella	Italy
2010	Sami Selio	Finland
2009	Guido Cappellini	Italy
2008	Jay Price	USA
2007	Sami Selio	Finland
2006	Scott Gillman	USA
2005	Guido Cappellini	Italy
2004	Scott Gillman	USA
2003	Guido Cappellini	Italy
2002	Guido Cappellini	Italy
2001	Guido Cappellini	Italy
2000	Scott Gillman	USA
1999	Guido Cappellini	Italy
1998	Jonathan Jones	Great Britain
1997	Scott Gillman	USA
1996	Guido Cappellini	Italy
1995	Guido Cappellini	Italy
1994	Guido Cappellini	Italy
1993	Guido Cappellini	Italy
1992	Fabrizio Bocca	Italy
1991	Jonathan Jones	Great Britain
1990	John Hill	Great Britain
1989	Not competed	
1988	Not competed	
1987	Not competed	
1986	Gene Thibodaux	USA
1985	Bob Spalding	Great Britain
1984	Renato Molinari	Italy
1983	Renato Molinari	Italy
1982	Roger Jenkins	Great Britain
1981	Renato Molinari	Italy

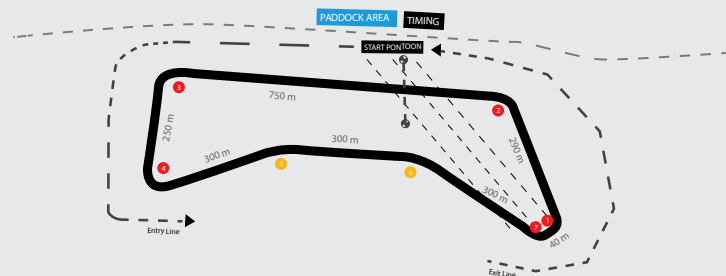
DRIVER STATS

Drivers	Country	GP's Entered	Race Starts	Points Overall	Poles	Wins	Podiums
Sami Selio	FIN	155	152	980,5	25	13	46
Francesco Cantando	ITA	177	173	927,5	4	12	42
Philippe Chiappe	FRA	119	114	712	6	9	34
Thani Al Qamzi	UAE	130	129	790,5	2	7	34
Alex Carella	ITA	54	54	583	15	15	30
Ahmed Al Hameli	UAE	82	77	445	10	7	19
Jonas Andersson	SWE	91	90	472	4	5	16
Shaun Torrente	USA	44	43	350	5	5	16
Erik Stark	SWE	29	28	175	4	3	7
Duarte Benavente	POR	151	138	366,5	0	0	6
Marit Stromoy	NOR	80	75	181	1	1	2
Filip Roms	FIN	39	36	86	0	0	2
Peter Morin	FRA	9	9	36	0	0	1
Bartek Marszalek	POL	36	31	65	0	0	0
Cedric Deguisne	FRA	23	21	23	0	0	0
Grant Trask	AUS	11	11	19	0	0	0
Erik Edin	SWE	4	3	11	0	0	0
Rashed Al Qemzi	UAE	8	7	2	0	0	0
Simone Schuft	GER	3	3	0	0	0	0
Mette Brandt Bjerkaes	NOR	2	2	0	0	0	0

AGILE GRAND PRIX, XIANGYANG - CHINA

21-23 SEPTEMBER 2018, ROUND 4

9 teams - 19 drivers - 14 countries (Australia, China, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, India, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Sweden, Thailand, UAE, USA)



TEAMS & DRIVERS 2018

Victory Team

- 1 Alex Carella (ITA/*UAE)
- 3 Ahmed Al Hameli (UAE)

Team Abu Dhabi

- 5 Thani Al Qemzi (UAE)
- 6 Shaun Torrente (USA/*UAE)
- 35 Erik Stark (SWE)

CTIC F1 Shenzhen China

- 7 Philippe Chiappe (FRA)
- 8 Peter Morin (FRA)

F1 Atlantic

- 9 Grant Trask (AUS)
- 10 Duarte Benavente (POR)

Mad-Croc BABA Racing

- 11 Sami Selio (FIN)
- 12 Filip Roms (FIN)

Team Amaravati

- 14 Jonas Andersson (SWE)
- 15 Erik Edin (SWE)

Blaze Performance

- 36 Simone Schuft (GER)
- 37 Francesco Cantando (ITA)

Emirates Racing Team

- 50 Marit Stromoy (NOR)
- 51 Bartek Marszalek (POL)

Maverick F1

- 73 Cedric Deguisne (FRA)
- 74 Sookbuangbon Sutthiphphan (THA)

DRIVERS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS

(AFTER ROUND 3)

Pos	Boat	Driver	Nat.	Pts
1	35	Erik Stark	SWE/*UAE	41
2	5	Thani Al Qemzi	UAE	39
3	6	Shaun Torrente	USA/*UAE	32
4	7	Philippe Chiappe	FRA	27
5	8	Peter Morin	FRA	26
6	15	Erik Edin	SWE	11
7	3	Ahmed Al Hameli	UAE	10
8	1	Alex Carella	ITA/*UAE	9
9	50	Marit Stromoy	NOR	8
10	11	Sami Selio	FIN	7
11	9	Grant Trask	AUS	5
12	14	Jonas Andersson	SWE	5
13	10	Duarte Benavente	POR	5
14	51	Bartek Marszalek	POL	3
15	37	Francesco Cantando	ITA	3
16	73	Cédric Deguisne	FRA	3
17	74	Mette Brandt Bjerksnes	SWE	0
18	35	Rashed Al Qemzi	UAE	0
19	36	Simone Bianca Schuft	GER	0
20	12	Filip Roms	FIN	0

* Racing Super License

BRM POLE POSITION CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS

(AFTER ROUND 3)

Pos	Boat	Driver	Nat.	Pts
1	35	Erik Stark	SWE/*UAE	40
2	7	Philippe Chiappe	FRA	37
3	5	Thani Al Qemzi	UAE	27
4	1	Alex Carella	ITA/*UAE	24
5	6	Shaun Torrente	USA/*UAE	20
6	8	Peter Morin	FRA	14
7	51	Bartek Marszalek	POL	12
8	37	Francesco Cantando	ITA	9
9	3	Ahmed Al Hameli	UAE	9
10	15	Erik Edin	SWE	7
11	50	Marit Stromoy	NOR	5

WORLD CHAMPION

Alex Carella (ITA)
Victory Team

WORLD GOVERNING BODY

Union International
Motonautique (UIM)
President:
Dr. Raffaele Chiulli

PROMOTER

H2O Racing
President:
Nicolò di San Germano

PREVIOUS GRAND PRIX / WINNERS IN CHINA

- 2017 Liuzhou Alex Carella ITA
- 2017 Harbin Erik Stark SWE
- 2016 Liuzhou Ahmed Al Hameli UAE
- 2016 Harbin Sami Selio FIN
- 2015 Liuzhou Philippe Chiappe FRA
- 2014 Liuzhou Alex Carella ITA
- 2013 Liuzhou Alex Carella ITA
- 2012 Liuzhou Alex Carella ITA
- 2011 Liuzhou Thani Al Qemzi UAE
- 2010 Linyi Alex Carella ITA
- 2010 Liuzhou Jay Price USA
- 2010 Shenzhen Francesco Cantando ITA
- 2009 Liuzhou R1 Sami Selio FIN
- 2009 Liuzhou R2 Jonas Andersson SWE
- 2009 Shenzhen R1 Guido Cappellini ITA
- 2009 Shenzhen R2 Sami Selio FIN
- 2008 Liuzhou Jay Price USA
- 2008 Shenzhen Sami Selio FIN
- 2007 Xi'an Thani Al Qemzi USA
- 2007 Shenzhen Guido Cappellini ITA
- 2006 Chongzhou Scott Gillman USA
- 2004 Shanghai Scott Gillman USA
- 1997 Xiamen Jonathan Jones GBR
- 1996 Wuxi Guido Cappellini ITA
- 1995 Hangzhou Guido Cappellini ITA





AQUABIKE

PEREZ, REITERER, UZARE AND AL MULLA SHINE IN OLBIA



F

or round 2 of the 2018 UIM-ABP Aquabike World Championship the tour headed to the enchanting town of Olbia on the north east coast of the island of Sardinia for the UIM-ABP Grand Prix of the Mediterranean.

It was a spectacular first event in Olbia and an action packed weekend with 149 competitors from over 30 countries on show, the elite riders in GP1 joined by fellow racers in GP2, GP3 and GP4 competing in the single event three Moto UIM-ABP World Championship.

In Runabout GP1 Jeremy Perez continued his return to form winning twice and climbed back onto the top step of the podium taking his first GP title since 2014 and now leads the championship standings.

Victory Team's Kevin Reiterer completed the Ski GP1 win-double to take his first Grand Prix win of the year and moved 14 points clear at the top of the world championship standings ahead of Raphael Maurin. In the Ladies division a three-way fight for the title emerged; Emma-Nellie Ortendahl produced a stunning lap to go quickest in qualifying, Krista Uzare hit back to win Moto1, Katriin Nilbe stunning both her rivals to take her maiden win in Moto2.

In Freestyle, Rashed Al Mulla's utter brilliance and unbeaten run continued, taking his fifth consecutive Grand Prix title.

In Runabout GP1 the weekend was all about Jeremy Perez, the French rider enjoying one of his best starts to a season in recent seasons and followed up his podium at the season-opener with a brilliant performance to take victory for the first time in three years in the first Moto. Defending champion and points' leader heading into the event Yousef Al Abdulrazzaq finished second with Gyorgy Kasza taking third.



Abdulrazzaq chasing Perez in tight title battle

Team Abu Dhabi's Rashed Al Tayer made a brilliant start moving up from fourth to lead from Perez, Marcus Jorgensen, Abdulrazzaq, Christophe Agostinho and Kasza. The front four held point until lap 7 when Jorgensen slowed and went out of the race, Mattia Fracasso passing Agostinho a lap later.

The pace at the front was frantic with three seconds splitting the lead trio, Perez and Abdulrazzaq both passing Al Tayer on lap 12, Kasza moving up to seal third place on lap 14, Al Tayer coming home in fourth ahead of a distant Fracasso with Dmitry Tsukov in sixth.

Perez followed up his win with second place in Moto 2 to win the UIM-ABP Aquabike Grand Prix of the Mediterranean, the Frenchman's first GP title in three years, but a post-race 15 second penalty given to race winner Kasza for not maintaining his lane at the start elevated Perez to top spot, dropping Kasza to third behind Al Abdulrazzaq and reflecting the GP podium positions.

Kasza made an apparent sensational start to lead from Perez and Tsukov and was 20 seconds clear by lap 5, with Abdulrazzaq making up for a dismal start running outside the top ten but moving into fourth on lap 4 and up into third a lap later.

Kasza was able to hold off a hard charging Perez for 12 of the 17 laps and going on to take the chequered flag with his lead cut to 3.92s, Abdulrazzaq nearly six seconds back.

Tsukov's fourth place was his best result in the UIM-ABP Championship, finishing ahead of Lars Akerblom and Anton Pankratov.

In Ski GP1 Kevin Reiterer followed up his P1 in qualifying delivering a command performance in Moto 1 to take his second win of the season. Second place went Gallipoli Grand Prix winner Raphael Maurin with Quinten Bossche following him home in third.

Reiterer made no mistake at the start and took full advantage of starting from pole and was out front and clear at the end of lap one, extending his lead to seven seconds a lap later.

Jeremy Poret made up a place at the start and led the chase for four laps when a big collision at the first turn on lap 5 with Bossche ended his race, Poret and his damaged Ski towed off the circuit, Bossche also losing out and overtaken by Maurin. The incident left Reiterer out on his own and with over 20 seconds in hand by the end of the penultimate lap was able to cruise to the chequered flag.

Stian Schjetlein matched his best

result of the season moving up two places to finish in fourth, with Mickael Poret finishing in fifth and leading home his brother Morgan.

A second win of the weekend gave the Austrian rider his first Grand Prix win of the year. He trailed Bossche throughout the 10 laps to the chequered flag, but a 15 second post-race time penalty handed out to Bossche for not maintaining his line at the start dropped him to second, with Maurin coming home in third and take the final step of the Grand Prix podium.

The result gave Victory Team their maiden Grand Prix title and moved Reiterer 14 points clear at the top of the world championship standings ahead of Maurin. Fourth place went to Mickael Poret with Stian Schjetlein in fifth ahead of Morgan Poret.

In Ski Ladies the surprises kept coming with Krista Uzare opening up a five point lead in the championship standings after



The collision with Poret proved costly for Quinten Bossche





Reiterer will be out to regain his title

taking her second win of the year in the first Moto of the weekend. Second place went to Emma-Nellie Ortendahl, with Britain's Mollie Fearn coming home for her best result in just her third start.

The moto turned on lap 6 when pole-sitter and race leader Ortendahl hit a big wave and came to a sudden stop, her upper body smashing into her handle pole, the Swedish rider dropping over 10 seconds with Uzare taking full advantage to hit the front and go on to win by 20.61s.

Despite the big impact Ortendahl kept going to take second spot, with Fearn producing an impressive performance and holding off a strong and persistent challenge from Katriin Nilbe. Jonna Borgstrom showed signs of a return to fitness and form and enjoyed her strongest outing of the year coming home in fifth, with Jessica Chavanne in sixth.



Second place in Moto2 was good enough to give Latvia's Uzare her second successive Grand Prix title of the season, with Estonia's Nilbe producing an outstanding performance to take her maiden Moto win and second overall, Ortendahl coming home in third place to take the final step on the Grand Prix podium.

Nilbe led the 10 lap Moto from start-to-finish to run out a comfortable winner from Uzare by 16.13s, with Ortendahl making up for a poor start and moving up from lying in seventh at the end of lap 1 and into the podium place after passing Jonna Borgstrom on lap 7.

Britain's Mollie Fearn produced yet another solid performance finishing in fifth, with Kylie Ellmers getting her best result of the weekend in sixth.

In Freestyle Team Abu Dhabi's Rashed Al Mulla thrilled the crowds during Saturday's night show to take the win. The UAE aerial trickster continued his remarkable unbeaten run opening his three minute session with an explosive combination of barrel rolls, backflips and 360's, throwing in a 540 to round it off.

Italy's Roberto Mariani took his now accustomed second place, with Alexander Kuramshin picking up his best result of the year in third ahead of Paulo Nunes and Alberto Camerlengo.

In Heat 2 Al Mulla was again the outstanding Freestyler, improving on his heat 1 scorecard and awarded 93 points out of a possible 100 to take his second Grand Prix title of the season, his fifth on the bounce. Italy's Roberto Mariani



Katriin Nilbe takes her maiden Moto win



Rashid Al Mulla extends winning streak

finished second overall with Russia's Alexander Kuramshin's fourth place good enough to put him on the podium for the first time.

Either side of the performances by the Freestylers during the night show four riders in Runabout and Ski battled it out for the slalom title; in Runabout Jeremy Perez beat Marcus Jorgensen and Yousef Al Abdulrazzaq, Mickael Poret getting passed Stian Schjetlein and then beating his brother Morgan in the final. Emma-Nellie Ortendahl took out Mollie Fearn in the semi-final winning both runs in the final to beat Jasmiin Ypraus.

The sensational story from the weekend was all about 16-year-old Swedish rider Samuel Johansson, taking two wins and a second place to win the UIM-ABP Runabout GP2 World Championship, Germany's Philip Salobir winning in GP4. In Ski GP2 Benjamin Scharff went three for three to claim the world title for France, with Hungary's Barnabas Szabo crowned champion in GP3. ■

AQUABIKE

BUMPER TURNOUT FOR UIM-ABP AQUABIKE EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP IN PENAFIEL

A

massive 95 rider turnout battled it out over two days and 3 motos at the UIM-ABP Aquabike European

Championship in Penafiel in the Douro region of Portugal in July, with titles up for grabs in Runabout GP1, 2 & 4, Ski GP1, Ski GP1 Ladies, GP2, GP 3, Ski Veterans and Ski Juniors, who would also be fighting for the world title.

The impressive line-up of international stars included a clutch of World and European Champions as well as the current leaders of the UIM-ABP Aquabike World Championship in Runabout GP1 & Ski Ladies, France's Jeremy Perez and Latvia's Krista Uzare.

Perez kicked-off his weekend posting the fastest time in qualifying, outpacing Spaniard Roberto Alexander by 1.807s, with Portugal's Christophe Agostinho third quickest, but Uzare was off the pace in fifth and outgunned by defending world champion Emma-Nellie Ortendahl who posted a best 1:45.923s lap in front of Jasmiin Yprause, Katriin Nilbe and Jonna Borgstrom.

In Ski GP1 young Estonian rider Marten Manni was quickest and gave defending European Champion Raphael Maurin something to think about, with Ulrik Berntsen third fastest, Portuguese riders Rui Sousa and Goncalo Rodrigues topping the time sheets in GP2&3, Egon Ypraus fastest in Veterans.

Ismael Rojas and rising star Samuel Johansson were the pace setters in Runabout GP2 & 4, with Anders-Hubert Lauri in Ski GP3.2 and Vitorino Rodrigues in Ski GP3.3 the fastest juniors on the water.

The Runabout GP1 title went to Portugal's Christophe Agostinho who overturned a four point deficit in the final moto to seal overall victory.

Moto 2 winner Agostinho was tied in second place with Sweden's Johan Johansson behind points' leader and Moto 1 winner Patrice Pellier going into the decider and sealed overall victory finishing in second place. Johansson also jumped Pellier after finishing in fourth with Pellier managing only seventh but completing the championship podium.

After finishing in third in moto 1 Jeremy Perez's hopes of a fifth title faltered in moto 2 after retiring but he hit back to win the final moto to take fifth overall behind Roberto







Alexander and ahead of Anton Pankratov.

The GP2 title went to Spain's Ismael Rojas sealing overall victory with his second win of the weekend, with the winner of moto 2 Samuel Johansson grabbing the runners-up spot ahead of Portugal's Lino Araujo.

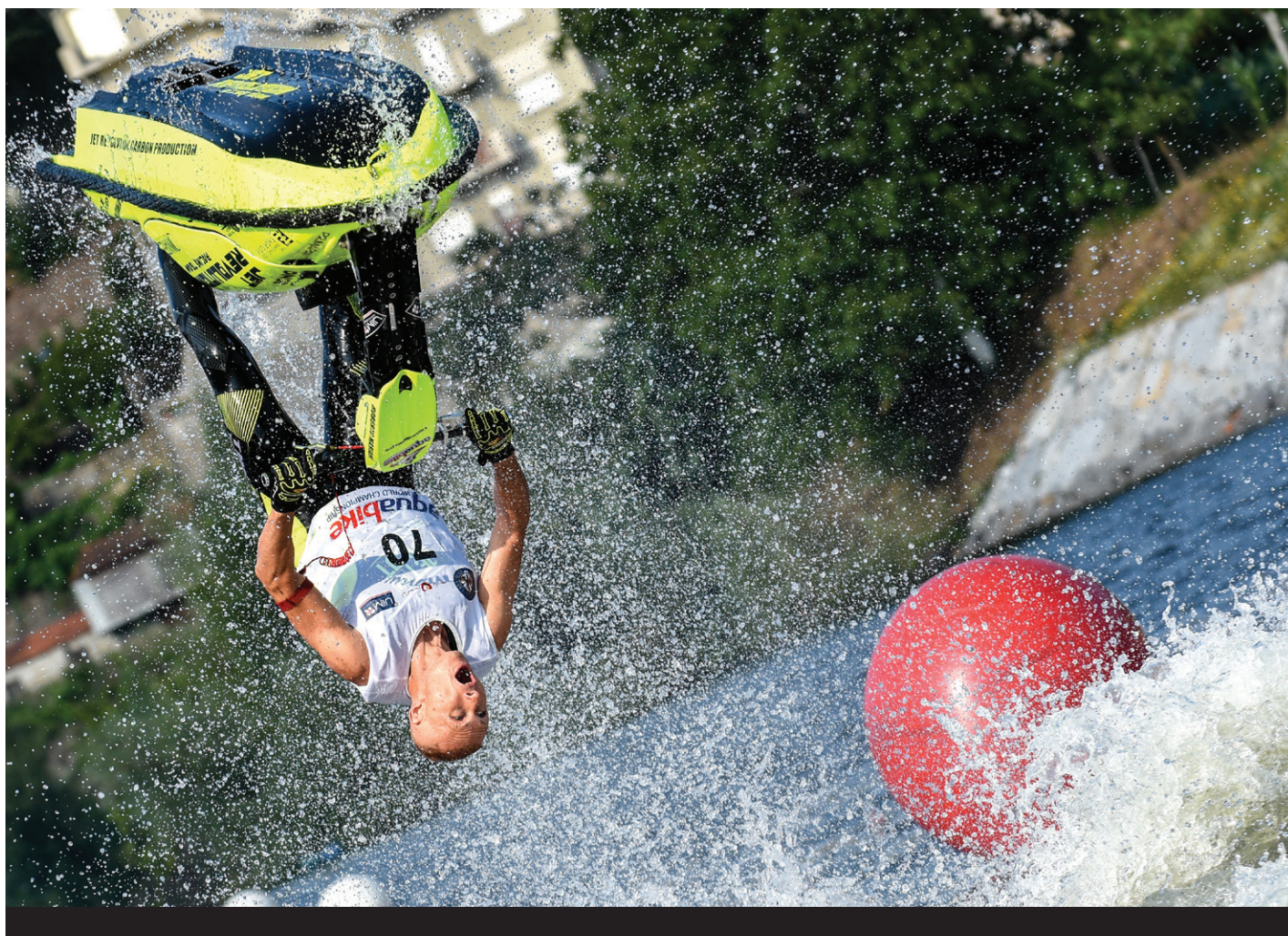
Victory in the final moto in GP4 leapfrogged Rasmus Koch Hansen four spots to steal the title from moto 2 winner Clara Muchembled, the pair tied on 56 points but the title going to the Danish rider with the better finish in the final moto, a win in the first moto putting Samuel Johansson on the podium for the second time over the weekend in third.

Raphael Maurin rounded off a great weekend

and held his nerve to win the final moto in Ski GP1 to retain his European title.

Maurin headed into the decider tied on points with Estonia's Marten Manni after the duo traded wins and second places on the Saturday, but the Frenchman proved too good with Manni coming home in third to take the runners-up spot, Norway's Ulrik Berntsen taking the final podium slot after finishing second.

Sweden's Emma-Nellie Ortendahl was back at her best and completed the perfect scorecard, her third straight win of the weekend giving the defending UIM-ABP World Champion her second European crown. Second place in the final moto put young Sofie Borgstrom into the



runners-up position with Estonia's Jasmiin Ypraus taking third overall.

In GP2 there was a points' upheaval following the disqualification of Portugal's Rui Sousa for a non-conforming Ski, with fellow countryman Henrique Rosa Gomes bumped up and credited with three wins and the title. France's Benjamin Scharff sealed second overall with two seconds and a third, fellow Frenchman Simon Raoulx completing the championship podium.

Hungary's Barnabas Szabo grabbed his first win of the weekend to overhaul moto 1&2 winner Goncalo Rodrigues to snatch the GP3 title by 2 points, with Marten Manni taking third overall.

Estonian riders dominated in Ski Juniors winning World and European titles; in GP3.2 Anders-Hubert Lauri added a second win of the weekend in the final moto, with Mattias Reinaas winning all his motos in GP3.3, Latvia's Janis Uzars also winning three out of three to claim the European title in Veterans.

In Freestyle it was a two-way aerial duel between Italy's Roberto Mariani and Portugal's Paolo Nunes, the Italian coming out on top with a maximum points score. ■



21-23 SEPTEMBER F1H2O

Xiangyang - China
AGILE GRAND PRIX, XIANGYANG

2018 CALENDAR

2018 is another spectacular and exciting season for H2O Racing with 14 events planned over nine months, taking its UIM sanctioned Championships, F1H2O and Aquabike to four continents.



Amaravati
Grand Prix of India

17-18
NOVEMBER



Abu Dhabi - U.A.E.
Grand Prix of Abu Dhabi

6-8
DECEMBER



Sharjah - U.A.E.
Grand Prix of Sharjah

11-14
DECEMBER



Sharjah - U.A.E.
Grand Prix of Sharjah

13-15
DECEMBER



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BOARD



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