



Racing Engineering – GP2 Istanbul – Race 2

After the great results that Racing Engineering have achieved in recent Sprint Races it was inevitable that there would have to be a Sunday morning when things didn't go according to plan and today at the Istanbul Park circuit was that day.



Both Javier Villa and Marcos Martinez were hoping to build on promising races in yesterday's Feature Race where, Javier in particular, had shown an excellent turn of speed. In fact Javier set the third fastest race lap of those drivers that only made a single pit stop.



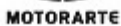
Today's race got under way in very warm conditions and as the lights went off and the cars headed towards the first corner there was a certain amount of chaos as one car spun in the middle of the pack. Javi lost a couple of places to run 15th while Marcos made a good start but lost several place during the opening lap and was down to 18th.



Unfortunately for Marcos it was a short race as he spun off on the 5th lap as he tried to make up some places and ended up in a gravel trap and was unable to continue. Javi found himself involved in a battle with Tung and Risatti whom he had just overtaken but the young Spaniard and the Chinese driver soon pulled away from Risatti and were three seconds ahead after 10 laps. For the next 9 laps Javi fought hard to pass Tung, he was seldom more than a few tenths behind the red BCN car but the GP2 Dallara in the Telefónica and Repsol colours just wasn't as quick as it had been in yesterday's Feature Race. With four laps to go, as Javi continued to push hard, he was unable to avoid a spin and he was out on the spot.



Whilst today was not the result that the Racing Engineering Team was hoping for there are some positives to be taken, Javi showed once again, in the Feature Race, that he is as fast as any other driver out there and Marcos got some valuable mileage and is adapting well to GP2 racing.



Alfonso de Orleans-Borbon (team principal): "As Javi was really fast yesterday, to be honest, we were expecting more. The car today wasn't as fast as yesterday and pushing hard, he spun off towards the end of the race. As for Marcos, he had a good start and was out there to gather more experience. In the end he faced the same fate as many others and he spun off. Therefore all the great work the mechanics did this weekend was unrewarded but we head for Monza and hope everything returns to normal."



Javier Villa (driver car 14): "It wasn't easy today. We were not as strong as yesterday and I was driving much more on the limit, I didn't have the same rhythm as yesterday. Towards the end of the race I was pushing and made a little mistake, which resulted in me going off the track. The only positive thing from this weekend is that we have a really good race rhythm. I hope that in Monza we will be in front again."

Marcos Martinez (driver car 15): "I wasn't able to finish today's race due to spinning off the track. It wasn't a good race as my objective was to finish it, something I didn't achieve. Now I am looking forward to Monza and hope that things will go better there."

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