

Victory in Portugal for Palmer

Will Palmer, the Comma-sponsored 19 year old 2015 British Formula 4 champion and BRDC McLaren 'Autosport' award winner scored his first victory of the season in the penultimate race in the Formula Renault 2.0 Eurocup championship at Estoril, Portugal on 22nd October.

Having qualified for Race 1 of the weekend on the front row alongside the recently crowned 2016 FR 2.0 Eurocup champion, Lando Norris, Palmer put in a storming performance and was in close contention for the lead throughout a race interrupted twice by the safety car. When, in the latter stages, Norris tangled with Max Defourney, Will was right on hand to take the lead and drive on to take the chequered flag for his R-ace team by a comfortable 6.184 seconds over the runner-up, Hugo de Sadeleer.

"It feels so great to win a race," said Will. "The season has been difficult at times, but we have been coming on strong with a podium at Paul Ricard and now the win! It was a little unexpected, I was lucky with the incident between Lando and Max on the last lap, but it doesn't put a dampener on my elation at this first victory."

Sunday's Race 2 went the other way, as the session was interrupted by rain, first with a full-course yellow flag and finally by the red flag halting proceedings. By the time a dry line was established, it was too late to make up the deficit, despite Will posting the fastest lap of the race by nearly two seconds.

In his debut season of international racing, Will can feel greatly encouraged by finishing seventh overall and third in the 'Rookie' rankings of the seriously competitive Formula Renault 2.0 Eurocup championship. The invaluable experience he has amassed throughout the year will stand him in good stead as he continues to pursue his ambition to follow his elder brother, Jolyon — who was also sponsored by Comma in his rise to the highest realms of motorsport into Formula 1.

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