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Formula LE MANS



Magny-Cours (Race – Heat 3) – 20th september 2009

Hope PoleVision Racing ends the 2009 season on a high note!



MOTUL

The track was dry for the third and last round of the final event of the 2009 season. Belgian Tom Cloet spun at the green light and restarted a few seconds later, while Desprez had a tank slapper in the Adelaide hairpin. Nico Verdonck shot into the lead from Toulemonde and Scheier

On lap 3, Verdonck was already almost 5 seconds in front of his pursuers and was obviously out to open up as big a gap as possible. Beche, who had started from last place, was carving his way up through the pack and was soon in fourth spot less than 8 seconds behind the leader. In front of him, Toulemonde and Scheier were at it hammer and tongs.

Twenty minutes after the start of the final hour's racing, Scheier got the better of Toulemonde and the Boutsen Energy Racing driver took second place. Toulemonde chose this moment to come in and hand over to David Zollinger. A few seconds later Beche swapped seats with Mäkela.

On lap 18, the race was turned on its head when the leader stopped and brought out the safety car. This gave the Scheier-Chalandon pairing the lead from Robert-Kraihammer. But they had to pit 2 laps later for driver changes and into first place went the Ibanez-Mori-Desprez car.

The safety car came in at the end of the twenty-second lap and Ibanez Racing Service changed drivers. Chalandon became the new leader from Robert, Zollinger and Mäkela. But Chalandon was losing ground and Robert-Kraihammer sliced past him to take up the running. Two laps later Mäkela passed both cars and went into the lead. Zollinger was under a second behind followed by Kaufmann, Robert and Chalandon.

Mäkela and Zollinger fought a no-holds-barred battle in the final 15 minutes but the Finn did not make any mistakes and Zollinger was unable to find a way past. Valle took the chequered flag giving Hope PoleVision Racing the final victory in the 2009 Formula Le Mans Cup Championship. It was a great reward for the whole Swiss team, which had had a particularly tough weekend.

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