

OEPS RACE 2 SWISTTAL 2013

The second round of the 2013 Open European Prototype Series was held on the 13th, 14th and 15th of September on the famous Spa-track, in the 1A-slotpiste in Germany.



Highlights

- **Biggest starting grid ever in OEPS: 30 teams!**
- **2 new teams from Spain!**
- **6 LMP2 and 5 GT cars!**
- **Perfect organisation!**

Wednesday

For the people of the organisation, this weekend started on Wednesday before the race,

testing all the motors for the race. Using an older car, we tested a total of 55 motors and sorted them accordingly, to create a batch of motors that was as equal as possible



Thursday

Thursday afternoon was hard work for those who were there: cleaning the track. We used about

7 liters of cleaning fluid to get all the old rubber off of the track. After this the track was glued to guarantee a consistent level of grip on all lanes during the whole weekend.

Thursday night many teams used the normal club evening, to get various practise runs and to set the cars up better every time. Laptimes of 7,3 secs by many teams showed up quickly on the monitors.

The long awaited Deltawing also took to the track, doing very respectable laptimes of about 7,7 as it is classed in the LMP2 class. The car was fast.. but also quite tricky to drive at times.

Friday

Friday is usually the busiest day for everyone. Practise started at 12:00, and the track was in full use from the very first second.

Fola and Nick de Wachter picked up our Spanish friends from the airport and showed them around at the racecenter. Both Spanish team were very well prepared, having built 2 very, very beautiful race cars.



During the afternoon we had another first-off: There was no more room in the racecenter for all the teams! :-)) Finally after some improvisation everyone was seated and ready to take to the track.

On the track, the fastest teams were doing low 7,2 seconds by now, and the quickest LMP2 teams about 7,6. GT was around high 7,7 yet it became clear that due to the natural lay-out of the Spa track, the speed differences between the classes were not very big, which would be proven in the qualification...

The Deltawing struggled slightly. Still doing 7,7 laptimes, but despite Peter Oberbillig's best efforts of improving the car, it left the slot a little easy at times. Finally it's drivers decided to leave the Deltawing aside and borrow a LMP1 car. But, the Deltawing will be driven at the 3rd round in Troisdorf.





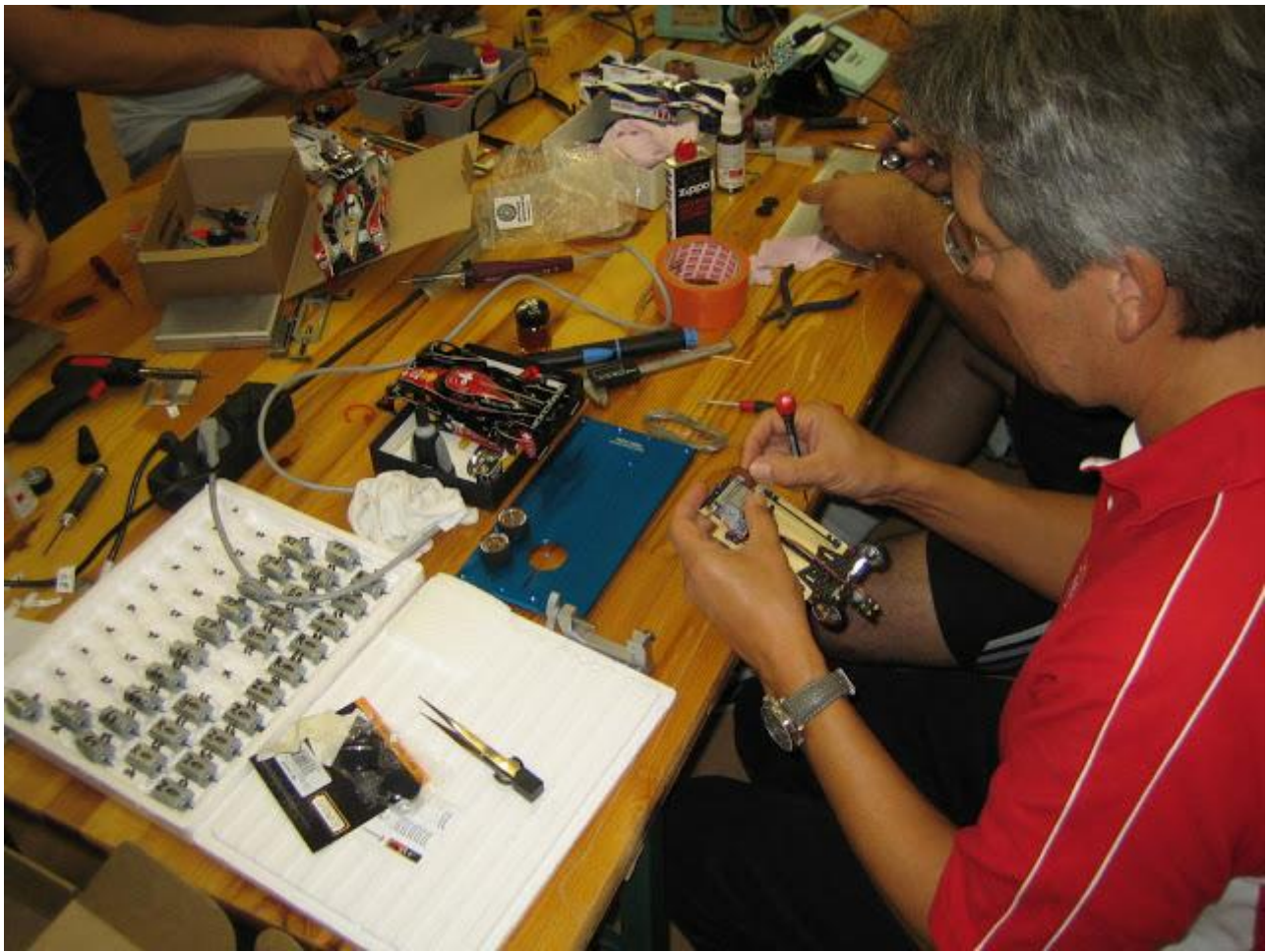
Handout

As has become standard in the OEPS, the power was cut from the track at 18:45, and all the cars were handed into parc ferme at 19:00.

In groups of 6 all teams put the racemotor in their cars and mounted the tyres. All tyres were trued perfectly to make sure all of them were round and of the same quality. Afterwards all teams had 10 minutes to test if indeed the motor and tyres were up to standard. None of the teams decided to change motor or tyres. The following technical inspection was carried out swiftly and none of the cars had any major issues.

Even with a major field of 30 teams, everything was done about 30 minutes ahead of schedule, for which all the teams deserve a big compliment for being so well prepared. Thanks and well done!







Qualification

The teams that were present will not easily forget the qualification, as everyone, and I do mean everyone, noticed how pleased the Carbon Hornets were with their 16th position. Loud music and sheers and a abundance of beer celebrated their great performance :-)





Very strong time as well by team Nemesis, with Alex Schäfer at the wheel was the first LMP2 car ever to have made it into the fastest group with a 6th lap time overall! Scuderia Ortega also showed their speed. First time ever in the OEPS, and scored 2nd in LMP2. Art & Racing (LMP2) obviously made huge progress scoring a 20th position overall. And after a few races with a car that was not properly tested due to lack of time, this time LRD (LMP1) showed they are back on top with a 3rd position overall. On the top Plastikquäler (LMP1) took their first pole since April 2011, close behind 2nd Place went to No Limits (LMP1). After a "weak" start in Trier with this pole PQ were back in championship-fight!

Friday night the cars always stay in Parc Ferme but not before we had all those 30 cars on track. A very nice trend in the OEPS to build not only fast, but also very beautiful cars was again getting clear, with at least 20 cars that look spectacular! The Concours d'Elegance would be very close that is for sure. With Audi E-tron's, Toyota's, Rebellion Lola's and the Deltawing, it would be hard to get even closer to perfectly mimicking the 1/1 starting grid.







Saturday

Saturday morning the racing started 15 minutes late due to the newspaper taking interviews, but under the strict and thorough race direction of Mario Bäsken, this delay was quickly caught up.

Racing in the first group was very very fast, fair and 'clean'. Hardly any accidents or trackcalls. In this group, 3 new teams from Belgium, 1 from Spain, 1 from Holland and 1 from Germany show the colourful mix of nations at the track.

Again in the second group, the level of the race was nothing short of that of the fastest group, proving the progress made by so many of the teams.

The fastest GT car had made it into the 3rd group and played bully to many LMP cars. Apart from a huge pile up in the fastest group right at the first corner, crashes were very rare and the race director made sure everybody was handled fair.

Race-Pos.	Team	Day 1
1	Plastikquäler	488,23
2	NDW Works Team	483,8
3	Hobby 2000 DG	482,21
4	LRD	480,21
5	Racing for Julia	477,03
6	GMS Slotattack 2	476,06
7	Scuderia Kaitserari	475,45
8	BL Racing	471,21
9	JM	468,12
10	SG Stern Slotfabrik	466,49
11	Nemesis	464,57
12	SRCB	461,63
13	Slotattack	461,24
14	Woodslot	457,88
15	Sloefspeed 1	456,19
16	Gentlemen Drivers	452,33
17	1A Slotpiste	449,96
18	Carbon Hornets	448,02
19	Lemua	446,21

20	Scuderia Ortega	444,52
21	Matchbox	444,44
22	Hobby2000 Techniplast	440,04
23	Art & Racing	439,98
24	RPM	437,34
25	Sloefspeed 2	432,84
26	SRCS	424,26
27	Slotcraft	418,93
28	Icar Cursa Sport	410,34
29	No Limits	403,21
30	Hobby 2000	397,56

Driving at night always adds an extra dimension both for the drivers and the spectators. Here are a couple pictures.

During the first race period your reporter took a couple moments to rest and unfortunately cannot give you many inside information, apart from the fastest group were all of sudden the leading team Plastikquäler slowed down tremendously, being almost a second slower then normal. The motor seemed to be in trouble and the team practised frantically on doing a fast motorchange. In the end it appeared not to be necessary as the motor had come back to normal operating speed during the night period.





Racing was over exactly on schedule, again showing how well the teams and the organisation had worked together to have everything go as smooth as possible.

Race-Pos.	Team	Night 2
1	Plastikquäler	494,95
2	NDW Works Team	483,83

3	Hobby 2000 DG	483,23
4	LRD	481,56
5	Gentlemen Drivers	480,45
6	Racing for Julia	478,59
7	GMS Slotattack 2	478,34
8	Scuderia Kaitserari	471,46
9	BL Racing	470,31
10	JM	462,54
11	Nemesis	456,92
12	Carbon Hornets	456,26
13	Woodslot	452,33
14	Slotattack	450,71
15	Lemua	449,58
16	SG Stern Slotfabrik	448,26
17	1A Slotpiste	445,38
18	Hobby2000 Techniplast	445,19
19	Matchbox	442,01
20	SRCB	441,54
21	RPM	441,45
22	Scuderia Ortega	435,45
23	SRCS	435,21
24	Art & Racing	434,23
25	Sloefspeed 1	432,66
26	Icar Cursa Sport	431,86
27	No Limits	431,78
28	Slotcraft	426,2
29	Sloefspeed 2	420,61
30	Hobby 2000	415,48

Sunday

Sunday morning, the last stretch. Starting early at 08:00 the teams were fired up to improve on their positions and overtake as many teams as possible. In front it was very exciting between Hobby2000 D&G, NDW Works and No Limits and the battle for 2nd place. Many positionchanges highlighted this race.

The post race technical inspection unfortunately showed that No Limits was underweight, as they lost a piece of lead in a crash without them knowing it. It was very unlucky but rules are rules and the penalty was applied.

Race-Pos.	Team	day 3
1	Hobby 2000 DG	341,31
2	No Limits	340,32
3	NDW Works Team	337,7
4	Plastikquäler	336,76
5	LRD	334,74
6	Scuderia Kaitserari	333,62
7	Racing for Julia	333,03
8	GMS Slotattack 2	331,2
9	SRCB	331,13
10	BL Racing	328,61
11	Gentlemen Drivers	326,45
12	Nemesis	325,9
13	SG Stern Slotfabrik	324,61
14	Sloefspeed 1	324,51
15	Scuderia Ortega	322,65
16	Carbon Hornets	322,55
17	JM	322,37
18	Woodslot	319,21

19	Matchbox	319,21
20	Lemua	318,48
21	Slotattack	315,39
22	Art & Racing	312,71
23	Sloefspeed 2	312,34
24	1A Slotpiste	312,02
25	RPM	310,95
26	Hobby 2000	305,06
27	Icar Cursa Sport	304,26
28	SRCS	301,13
29	Hobby2000 Techniplast	297,55
30	Slotcraft	296,61

Final race result

Race-Pos.	Team	Day 1	Night 2	day 3	Total ranking	Class
1	Plastikquäler	488,23	494,95	336,76	1319,94	LMP1
2	Hobby 2000 DG	482,21	483,83	341,31	1307,35	LMP1
3	NDW Works Team	483,8	483,23	337,7	1304,73	LMP1
4	LRD	480,21	481,56	334,74	1296,51	LMP1
5	Racing for Julia	477,03	478,59	333,03	1288,65	LMP1
6	GMS Slotattack 2	476,06	478,34	331,2	1285,6	LMP1
7	Scuderia Kaitserari	475,45	471,46	333,62	1280,53	LMP1
8	BL Racing	471,21	470,31	328,61	1270,13	LMP1
9	Nemesis	464,57	462,54	325,9	1253,01	LMP2
10	JM	468,12	448,26	322,37	1238,75	LMP1
11	Gentlemen Drivers	452,33	456,92	326,45	1235,7	LMP1
12	SG Stern Slotfabrik	466,49	441,54	324,61	1232,64	LMP1
13	Sloefspeed 1	456,19	450,71	324,51	1231,41	LMP1
14	Carbon Hornets	448,02	456,26	322,55	1226,83	LMP1
15	SRCB	461,63	432,66	331,13	1225,42	LMP2
16	No Limits (Penalty Day1 82 Laps - underweight)	403,21	480,45	340,32	1223,98	LMP1
17	Woodslot	457,88	445,38	319,21	1222,47	LMP1
18	Scuderia Ortega	444,52	452,33	322,65	1219,5	LMP2
19	Matchbox	444,44	449,58	319,21	1213,23	LMP2
20	Slotattack	461,24	435,45	315,39	1212,08	LMP1
21	1A Slotpiste	449,96	442,01	312,02	1203,99	GT
22	RPM	437,34	445,19	310,95	1193,48	GT
23	Art & Racing	439,98	434,23	312,71	1186,92	LMP2
24	Sloefspeed 2	432,84	441,45	312,34	1186,63	LMP1
25	Lemua	446,21	420,61	318,48	1185,3	LMP1
26	Hobby2000 Techniplast	440,04	435,21	297,55	1172,8	GT
27	SRCS	424,26	426,2	301,13	1151,59	GT
28	Icar Cursa Sport	410,34	431,86	304,26	1146,46	LMP2
29	Hobby 2000	397,56	431,78	305,06	1134,4	LMP1
30	Slotcraft	418,93	415,48	296,61	1131,02	GT

Price giving ceremony



Thanks for race direction - Mario Bäsken



Winner concours - Fola Osu



Winner GT class - 1A Slotpiste



Winner LMP2 class - Nemesis



3rd overall - NDW works team



2nd overall - Hobby2000 DG



Winner overall - Plastikquäler

Credits

It would like to thank the following persons for helping to make this weekend so great:

Mario Bäsken - Race direction

Peter Oberbillig - Trueing tyres and Technical inspection

Alex Ortmann - Testing motors and Track cleaning

Alex Schäfer - Testing motors and Track cleaning

Christian Schnitzler - Testing motors and Track cleaning

Sebastian Nockemann- Technical inspection and Track cleaning

Lukas Hoffman - Sorting cars, lane stickers, Track cleaning and so much more.

Dirk Baele - French translation of most messages

Markus Hasse - Setting up the computer

Gerd Schumacher - Setting up the computer and advice ;)

Peter Juchem - Providing the teamboard in practise

Fola Osu - Picking up the Spanish teams

Mack de Wachter - Pickinug up the Spanish teams and Track cleaning

Jurgen Landsberg - Providing a fantastic racelocation

Marco Wesseling - Track cleaning

Ton Jacobs - Track cleaning

And all the other who was helping!

See you in Troisdorf for the next race!

