

KARTING

David Ivichek invited to the World Championship

ST. LAZARE, August 16, 2011 – David Ivichek won the Canadian Karting Championships which took place from August 12 to 14 at Circuit Mont-Tremblant. He will represent Canada at the 12th Rotax Max Challenge Grand Finals in the United Arab Emirates, in the DD2 Masters class, in November. A great victory for St. Lazare's athlete, who started 4th on the grid, after a weekend full of surprises.

Highlights

During the preliminary practices of August 11, he obtained the fastest lap time (54.9 seconds) in his class.

However, many problems came to later trouble his plans. First, in timed qualifying a puncture caused by a cracked rear rim cost him 0.7 of a second and relegated him to the 6th place for the start of the three qualifying races.

In these races (10 laps) on August 12 and 13, carburetion problems hindered him of several positions at the beginning of each race and forced him to work hard to finish successively 7th, 5th and 5th.

During the pre-final (15 laps) on August 14, while starting 5th, his carburetor was still not working properly, and he found himself back in 9th place after three laps. Refusing to let go, he tracked down the lead pack to finish 4th.

Before the final, Ivichek's team tried everything out with several adjustments to both the geometric configuration of the kart, as the steering system and engine. His efforts beared fruit.

A thrilling final

At the 2nd lap, Ivichek took advantage of a mistake of Martin Verville (then 3rd) and won a position. The next lap, he greatly reduced the gap that separated him from the leader, but an accident caused the stop of the race.

Fortunately, no one was hurt and the competition restarted a few minutes later... still 3rd, David Ivichek put tremendous pressure on the second place driver, who made an error on the 5th lap. Finally, it was during the 8th lap that Ivichek took the lead. He then paced himself and left his opponents no chance to catch up.

He crossed the finish line 1.3 seconds ahead the 2010 Quebec champion in Rotax Masters, Dany St-Hilaire; while the former 2010 Canadian champion in Rotax DD2 Masters, Luc Sauriol, finished 3rd.

Because of the incident early in the race, the competition – which was supposed to count 20 laps – was shortened to 16 laps in order to meet the schedule for the day.

A total of 166 drivers took part in the championships in 8th different classes, including 16 in Rotax DD2 Masters.

Throughout the weekend, the changing weather forced the participants to constantly review their settings. The winner, who was sitting behind a MS Kart wheel for the 1st time in competition, was facing a double challenge: adjusting to the whims of Mother Nature, but in addition, accurately estimating the reactions of his new kart.

The 1.3 km track has 15 turns over long sections on which DD2 karts achieve a speed of 150 km/h.

Recall

In 2010, David Ivichek had obtained the 3rd place at the Canadian Championships, back after a 20 year absence on the karting circuits.

Earlier this season, Ivichek also won the Rotax DD2 Masters race which was held in Ontario in wet weather, on the Mosport circuit and got a 2nd place finish at the Circuit Mont-Tremblant (Quebec Cup) in mid-July.

The world finals will be held from November 19 to 26, at Al Ain Raceway Circuit, in United Arab Emirates. The 264 best international kart drivers will be on hand. They come from all five continents and 60 nations will be represented. This race is considered as the Olympic Games of karting.

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