

ROUNDS 13 & 14 – PORTO, PORTUGAL RACE REPORT

Weather: cloudy with rain showers, the track was drying in Race 1 and dry in Race 2

Crowd: 120,000 over the three days

SEAT AND BMW CLAIM ONE VICTORY A PIECE

SEAT and BMW shared glory on Porto's Circuito da Boavista, claiming one win each.

In the first race Gabriele Tarquini converted his pole position to a lights-to-flag solo flight ahead of Chevrolet's Robert Huff and his own SEAT Sport team-mate Yvan Muller. The second race saw Augusto Farfus' deliverance after a black period, as the young Brazilian won the WTCC's 100th race from Muller and Rickard Rydell.

The weekend's leitmotif was to survive the traps of the fast and infamous street circuit. Many drivers did not succeed and were caught in a number of spectacular crashes.

One who stayed out of all troubles was Yvan Muller, who finished on the podium twice and stretched his leading margin. Tarquini is now 14 points behind him, while Farfus is one further point adrift. As a matter of fact the BMW Team Germany man seems to be the main threat for Muller in his attempt to maintain the world title.

The championship will resume on July 19th at Brands Hatch, UK, for rounds 15 and 16.

TARQUINI WINS CHAOTIC RACE 1

Gabriele Tarquini took his second win of the season in an eventful race. Robert Huff came home second and Yvan Muller third. An incident in the first lap saw a massive crash which affected seven drivers (Menu, Monteiro, Ladygin, Engstler, Puyo, Bennani and Boardman).

Before this pile up, Sergio Hernández and Jaap van Lagen had crashed on the straight. Hernández hit the concrete wall sideways at high pace and was taken to the local hospital for x-rays on his left ankle but returned to the track with rest ordered.

Local driver Tiago Monteiro crossed the line fourth followed by Larini, Gené and Rydell, while Farfus recovered after he received a drive through for causing the accident at the start and inherited eighth position and the pole for Race 2.

Man of the race

In the recent past Gabriele Tarquini hasn't been able to turn his pole positions into race wins. However today he led the field all the way despite the race suspension and pressure from Huff who stayed close behind him. The experienced Italian driver defended fervently at the start, took control of the restart and his calm head enabled him to take the chequered flag as victor.

Key moment

At turn 10 on lap one Augusto Farfus missed his braking point and hit the rear left of Menu's car. This sent Menu into the tyres and while Farfus swerved to recover he came into the path of Monteiro. Farfus continued but Monteiro was hit by Larini who too was trying to find a clear path. The pile-up behind resulted in the race being suspended and Farfus being given a drive through penalty at the restart.



Withdrawals

A. Menu: race incident; J. Van Lagen: race incident; M. Bennani: race incident; S. Hernández: race incident.

FARFUS WINS THE 100th WTCC RACE

Augusto Farfus is the name that will be in the history books for winning the 100th WTCC race. The BMW Team Germany driver led the pack from lights to flag in a race that saw three serious crashes, two safety car periods and a suspension.

Yvan Muller, current world champion, finished second followed by his SEAT Sport teammates Rickard Rydell, Jordi Gené and Tiago Monteiro.

After clean opening laps for the entire pack, lap three spelt the end of the race for Nicola Larini and Gabriele Tarquini. The duo was battling at turn five but neither would concede the line meaning they ended up in the tyres. Seconds later Mehdi Bennani went straight at the same corner, avoided the SEAT and Chevrolet but rejoined the track directly in the path of Tom Boardman who could do nothing to avoid him. With a second crash at the same place the safety car was deployed.

The third collision came further down the field on lap nine. Franz Engstler and Félix Porteiro hit each other but both continued. As Engstler picked up his pace again, Menu was on his tail and pushing to get past. The Swiss made contact, spun and crashed into the metal barrier blocking the track causing the race to be suspended.

Man of the race

Sitting on pole for the 100th race after two catastrophic incidents in the previous two races must have been a tense moment for Augusto Farfus. However as the lights went out he stormed away with determination. The Brazilian had to endure two further restarts but remained focused to reward himself and his team with the ultimate prize of victory and maximum points.

Key moment

Yvan Muller overtook Nicola Larini at turn two on the first lap – a move that showcased his expertise. He was on the inside of the corner and while Larini edged over to take the line, Muller held strong using the wall on his left to resist Larini's attempt to shut the door on him. This move enabled Muller to move up to second later in the race and take eight valuable points that could prove to be worth their weight in gold at the end of the season.

Withdrawals

J. Lagen: DNS; M. Bennani: race incident; T. Boardman: race incident; N. Larini: race incident; G. Tarquini: race incident; A. Menu: race incident; K. Ladygin: race incident.

THE WORD TO THE WINNERS

Gabriele TARQUINI – winner of Race 1, DNF in Race 2

"It was not easy. The track was different from qualifying. In that sense being the lead car is not the best position because you need to pay attention to learn the track conditions without a reference. After two laps from the restart I was controlling the pace and after three laps the track was almost dry. In the end my pace was good enough to score victory."

Augusto FARFUS – 8th in Race 1, winner of Race 2

"I want give this victory to all the BMW people at the factory in Munich, everyone here and BMW Team Germany. I am happy to win the race and very happy it's the 100th. We knew we were not the fastest in a straight line here so starting Race 2 from pole was a great help and the car was fantastic. When you start a season you want to win the championship and we will look to Brands Hatch to see what further points we can get."

2009 FIA World Touring Car Championship
RACE 1 RESULT

POS	NO	CLS	DRIVER / TEAM	NAT	CAR	TIME	LAPS	GAP	KPH	BEST
1	2		Gabriele TARQUINI	ITA	SEAT Leon TDI	1:04:11.274	12		53.41	2:11.154
2	11		Robert HUFF	GBR	Chevrolet Cruze	1:04:14.208	12	2.934	53.37	2:11.626
3	1		Yvan MULLER	FRA	SEAT Leon TDI	1:04:19.122	12	7.848	53.30	2:11.846
4	5		Tiago MONTEIRO	POR	SEAT Leon TDI	1:04:19.746	12	8.472	53.29	2:11.812
5	14		Nicola LARINI	ITA	Chevrolet Cruze	1:04:27.064	12	15.790	53.19	2:12.309
6	4		Jordi GENE	ESP	SEAT Leon TDI	1:04:27.466	12	16.192	53.19	2:12.436
7	3		Rickard RYDELL	SWE	SEAT Leon TDI	1:04:27.914	12	16.640	53.18	2:12.511
8	8		Augusto FARFUS	BRA	BMW 320si	1:04:28.249	12	16.975	53.18	2:11.186
9	6		Andy PRIAULX	GBR	BMW 320si	1:04:29.065	12	17.791	53.17	2:11.641
10	27	I	Stefano D'ASTE	ITA	BMW 320si	1:04:29.490	12	18.216	53.16	2:12.280
11	7		Jorg MULLER	GER	BMW 320si	1:04:30.423	12	19.149	53.15	2:12.387
12	9		Alessandro ZANARDI	ITA	BMW 320si	1:04:30.716	12	19.442	53.14	2:12.106
13	21	I	Tom CORONEL	NED	SEAT Leon	1:04:44.284	12	33.010	52.96	2:13.034
14	23	I	Felix PORTEIRO	ESP	BMW 320si	1:04:54.269	12	42.995	52.82	2:13.715
15	22	I	Tom BOARDMAN	GBR	SEAT Leon	1:05:05.976	12	54.702	52.66	2:14.706
16	35	I	Diego PUYO	ESP	SEAT Leon	1:05:06.205	12	54.931	52.66	2:14.758
17	26	I	Kristian POULSEN	DEN	BMW 320si	1:05:06.551	12	55.277	52.66	2:13.905
18	36		James THOMPSON	GBR	LADA Priora	1:05:07.016	12	55.742	52.65	2:15.532
19	19		Kirill LADYGIN	RUS	LADA 110	1:05:23.229	12	1:11.955	52.43	2:15.388
20	25	I	Franz ENGSTLER	GER	BMW 320si	1:04:58.737	11	1 LAP	48.36	2:13.675

NOT CLASSIFIED

12	Alain MENU	SUI	Chevrolet Cruze	1:04:54.305	4	N.C.F.	17.54
18	Jaap van LAGEN	NED	LADA 110		0	D.N.F.	N/A
10	Sergio HERNANDEZ	ESP	BMW 320si		0	D.N.F.	N/A

FASTEST LAP

2	Gabriele TARQUINI		SEAT Leon TDI	2:11.154	5	81.35mph	130.93
27	I Stefano D'ASTE		BMW 320si	2:12.280	7	80.66mph	129.81

Circuito da Boavista

Car 12, +30 second penalty, Stewards decision 7 refers.

Circuit Length = 4.7700 km.

Car 30 excluded, Stewards decision 12 refers.

Start: 11:34 End: 12:38

Steward:	Steward:	Steward:	Issued at:
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2009 FIA World Touring Car Championship
RACE 2 RESULT

POS	NO	CLS	DRIVER / TEAM	NAT	CAR	TIME	LAPS	GAP	KPH	BEST
1	8		Augusto FARFUS	BRA	BMW 320si	47:48.304	13		77.70	2:11.045
2	1		Yvan MULLER	FRA	SEAT Leon TDI	47:50.599	13	2.295	77.64	2:11.306
3	3		Rickard RYDELL	SWE	SEAT Leon TDI	47:51.114	13	2.810	77.63	2:11.179
4	4		Jordi GENE	ESP	SEAT Leon TDI	47:51.689	13	3.385	77.61	2:11.444
5	5		Tiago MONTEIRO	POR	SEAT Leon TDI	47:52.274	13	3.970	77.60	2:11.758
6	11		Robert HUFF	GBR	Chevrolet Cruze	47:52.523	13	4.219	77.59	2:11.729
7	6		Andy PRIAULX	GBR	BMW 320si	47:52.887	13	4.583	77.58	2:11.572
8	7		Jorg MULLER	GER	BMW 320si	47:53.368	13	5.064	77.57	2:11.593
9	27	I	Stefano D'ASTE	ITA	BMW 320si	47:54.732	13	6.428	77.53	2:11.683
10	9		Alessandro ZANARDI	ITA	BMW 320si	47:55.888	13	7.584	77.50	2:12.045
11	25	I	Franz ENGSTLER	GER	BMW 320si	47:57.505	13	9.201	77.46	2:12.285
12	21	I	Tom CORONEL	NED	SEAT Leon	48:01.594	13	13.290	77.35	2:12.556
13	23	I	Felix PORTEIRO	ESP	BMW 320si	48:03.576	13	15.272	77.29	2:12.254
14	35	I	Diego PUYO	ESP	SEAT Leon	48:06.010	13	17.706	77.23	2:14.554
15	36		James THOMPSON	GBR	LADA Priora	48:11.268	13	22.964	77.09	2:14.850
16	26	I	Kristian POULSEN	DEN	BMW 320si	48:42.034	13	53.730	76.27	2:12.501
17	19		Kirill LADYGIN	RUS	LADA 110	46:06.936	12	1 LAP	74.34	2:13.658
18	12		Alain MENU	SUI	Chevrolet Cruze	23:00.360	9	4 LAPS	111.71	2:12.146

NOT CLASSIFIED

14			Nicola LARINI	ITA	Chevrolet Cruze	14:25.185	5	D.N.F.	98.83	
2			Gabriele TARQUINI	ITA	SEAT Leon TDI	4:31.043	2	D.N.F.	125.43	
30	I		Mehdi BENNANI	MAR	SEAT Leon	4:38.900	2	D.N.F.	121.90	
22	I		Tom BOARDMAN	GBR	SEAT Leon	4:40.880	2	D.N.F.	121.04	

FASTEST LAP

8			Augusto FARFUS		BMW 320si	2:11.045	8		81.42mph	131.03
27	I		Stefano D'ASTE		BMW 320si	2:11.683	9		81.03mph	130.40

Circuito da Boavista
 Circuit Length = 4.7700 km.
 Start: 16:50 End: 17:37

Steward:	Steward:	Steward:	Issued at:
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2009 FIA WORLD TOURING CAR CHAMPIONSHIP - DRIVERS' CHAMPIONSHIP

position	# - driver	Curitiba (BRA) 8 March		Puebla (MEX) 22 March		Marrakech (MAR) 3 May		Pau (FRA) 17 May		Valencia (ESP) 31 May		Brno (CZE) 21 June		Porto (POR) 5 July		Brands Hatch (GBR) 19 July		Oschersleben (GER) 6 September		Imola (ITA) 20 September		Ookayama (JPN) 1 November		Macau (CHN) 22 November		TOTAL
1	Yvan MULLER (FRA)	10	5	5	10	5	8	0	2	10	2	1	8	6	8											80
2	Gabriele TARQUINI (ITA)	5	10	3	1	8	4	0	3	6	6	6	4	10	0											66
3	Augusto FARFUS (BRA)	4	3	8	5	0	3	8	8	5	10	0	0	1	10											65
4	Rickard RYDELL (SWE)	6	8	10	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	3	2	6											46
5	Robert HUFF (GBR)	0	0	0	0	10	6	10	6	0	0	0	0	8	3											43
6	Jörg MÜLLER (GER)	0	4	4	0	1	5	6	0	3	8	8	2	0	1											42
7	Andy PRIAULX (GBR)	2	0	6	8	0	0	5	5	4	5	0	1	0	2											38
8	Jordi GENÉ (ESP)	8	6	2	2	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	5											32
9	Tiago MONTEIRO (POR)	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	8	1	3	6	5	4											31
10	Sergio HERNÁNDEZ (ESP)	3	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	1	3	4	10	0	0											29
11	Alessandro ZANARDI (ITA)	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	4	0	4	10	0	0	0											21
12	Nicola LARINI (ITA)	0	0	1	0	3	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0											18
13	Alain MENU (SUI)	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	10	0	0	0	0	0	0											14
14	Félix PORTEIRO (ESP)	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	5	0	0											10
15	Franz ENGSTLER (GER)	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0											5
16	Tom CORONEL (NED)	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0											5
17	Eric CAYROLLE (FRA)	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-											1

2009 FIA WORLD TOURING CAR CHAMPIONSHIP - MANUFACTURERS' CHAMPIONSHIP

position	manufacturer	Curitiba (BRA) 8 March		Puebla (MEX) 22 March		Marrakech (MAR) 3 May		Pau (FRA) 17 May		Valencia (ESP) 31 May		Brno (CZE) 21 June		Porto (POR) 5 July		Brands Hatch (GBR) 19 July		Oschersleben (GER) 6 September		Imola (ITA) 20 September		Ookayama (JPN) 1 November		Macau (CHN) 22 November		TOTAL
1	SEAT	18	18	15	16	14	12	7	7	18	11	11	14	16	14											191
2	BMW	11	11	14	13	7	8	14	13	11	18	18	15	7	14											174
3	CHEVROLET	2	7	4	7	15	16	15	16	7	7	0	7	13	5											121
4	LADA	7	3	5	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	7	3	3	5											53