

David Beckmann to contest FIA Formula 3 with ART Grand Prix

David Beckmann will line up in the new FIA Formula 3 with top team ART Grand Prix during the 2019 season. Beckmann had a good showing in GP3 last season with three wins and fifth place overall. Following his success, ART Grand Prix invited him to take part in two days of testing in Abu Dhabi.

ART Grand Prix secured eight team and six drivers' titles in GP3. Their drivers took the top-three places overall last season, and the French outfit comfortably won the team competition.

GP3 is now no more since the end of the 2018 season, but the new FIA Formula 3 should make it easier for junior drivers to get into Formula 2 and then eventually into Formula 1. Ten teams, each fielding three cars, will contest the new series. All races will be held under the Formula 1 banner. The juniors will race at historic circuits like Silverstone, Spa-Francorchamps and Monza.

Powered by a 3.4-litre naturally aspirated Mecachrome 380-bhp engine, FIA Formula 3 cars will greatly resemble those used previously in GP3, sprint from 0 to 100 km/h in three seconds with a top speed of 300 km/h. The new Formula 3 racing car will also have halo protection as in Formula 1.

The 2019 season will start for Beckmann in March with initial testing at the Circuit Paul Ricard (20th/21st March) to be followed by further testing at the Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya (9th/10th April) and at the Hungaroring (17th/18th April).

David Beckmann: "I felt at ease with ART right from the start and our work together during tests in Abu Dhabi went really well. ART are one big, happy family. The team are very passionate about motor sport and extremely professional in their approach. They also demonstrated a high degree of consistency in the 2018 season, which I found terrific. Their string of successes speaks for itself, but I don't want to put myself under too much pressure next year. My goal in the first few races will be to rack up plenty of points and then see where I stand in the championship, but I definitely intend to come away from the final round in Russia with a big smile on my face!"

2019 FIA Formula 3 calendar

10/05/19 – 12/05/19	Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya
21/06/19 – 23/06/19	Circuit Paul Ricard
28/06/19 – 30/06/19	Red Bull Ring
12/07/19 – 14/07/19	Silverstone
02/08/19 – 04/08/19	Hungaroring
30/08/19 – 01/09/19	Circuit de Spa-Francorchamps
06/09/19 – 08/09/19	Autodromo Nazionale Monza
27/09/19 – 29/09/19	Sochi Autodrom