

**ROUNDS 15 & 16 – OSCHERSLEBEN, GERMANY**  
**QUALIFYING REPORT**

*Weather:* changeable; the track was mostly dry, but the rain came at the start of Q2

**FARFUS TAKES POLE AS RAIN DISTRUPTS QUALIFYING**

Augusto Farfus (1:38.070) claimed his second pole position of the season at Oschersleben today, the day after the Brazilian celebrated his 27<sup>th</sup> birthday.

As the rain began to fall in Q2 Farfus put in two clean laps to take pole ahead of Chevrolet's Rob Huff (1:38.176) and his BMW Team RBM teammate Andy Priaulx (1:38.186).

Norbert Michelisz (1:38.634) was the best rookie in fifth, but will start 15<sup>th</sup> after a 10-position grid penalty imposed following the previous event in Brno.

Stefano D'Aste (1:36.881) was the fastest Independent in 13<sup>th</sup> ahead of Sergio Hernández (1:37.282) and Franz Engstler (1:37.309) who finished 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> respectively.

Q1 – On a dry track, the drivers were all pushing hard during the first part of qualifying with Fabio Fabiani spinning through the gravel at the Hotel-Kurve, Stefano D'Aste losing the back end of his car out of the Bauer-Kurve and spinning across the track, and Tiago Monteiro bringing out the red flag after hitting the tyres at the Hoyer-Schikane.

When the session resumed for the final three minutes, Norbert Michelisz was the big winner moving up to fifth overall and knocking fellow rookie Michel Nykjær out of the top ten. Fredy Barth was pushing for a top ten slot when he spun into the gravel at turn six.

Rob Huff was quickest of the session, his 1:35.518 breaking the lap record he set in 2008 by 0.16-seconds.

Huff, Gabriele Tarquini, Jordi Gené, Yvan Muller, Michelisz, Alain Menu, Farfus, Priaulx, Tom Coronel and Monteiro were the drivers going forward to Q2, but with Monteiro parked out on track only the first nine competed in the final ten minutes.

Q2 – With the rain starting to fall, the pressure was on in the second part of qualifying and Augusto Farfus ended on top due to putting in a couple of quick clean laps at the start to end 0.106 seconds ahead of Huff.

Farfus was quickest after the first flying laps and remained on top as the action began behind. Muller ran wide at the chicane and Michelisz went off at the Mibau Kurve. As the rain began to fall harder Huff ran wide and collected his teammate Menu as he rejoined with the pair then both spinning out. Tarquini also hit the barrier at turn five as the red flag came out.

Despite running off Huff will start second ahead of Priaulx with Chevrolet's Menu in fourth. Tarquini (1:38.796) will start fifth ahead of Tom Coronel (1:38.810), Yvan Muller (1:38.869) and Gené (1:39.994) who made a mistake on his first flying lap.

**FLASH NEWS**

**BMW STATEMENT ON TOURING CAR RACING**

While attending the WTCC event in Oschersleben, BMW Motorsport Director Mario Theissen released the following statement:



WTCC Race of Germany – Motorsport Arena Oschersleben – 4 / 5 September 2010

[www.fiawtcc.com](http://www.fiawtcc.com) – [www.motorsportarena.com](http://www.motorsportarena.com)

*“We said at the beginning of the year that we will continue offering touring cars in the future. In detail, we announced the development of a 1.6-litre Di turbocharged engine. This will be run in the MINI Countryman WRC from next year and will be available for BMW S2000 race cars as well.*

*This weekend we offer the BMW privateer teams in WTCC an upgrade kit, including the new engine a gearbox, as well as the necessary modifications to the race car. With this kit, the BMW 320si complies with the future WTCC regulations. Therefore our customer teams will have the opportunity to continue running existing cars. A decision concerning BMW’s entire motor racing programme will be made later.”*

### **THEY SAID... THEY SAID...**

Augusto FARFUS – pole position: *“Oschersleben is a great circuit I like so much. Conditions were tricky so it was a bit of a lottery. I’m very happy to be on pole here though. It is important to put the car ahead into turn one so this is a big help for the race. We also had the performance in the dry so I think we can perform well in the race. Hopefully I can help bring the title to BMW.”*

Rob HUFF – qualified second: *“We were looking good and then it rained! The set up is good and we got a magical lap in Q1 but then the rain came a bit too quickly in Q2 making the track very tricky and slippery. After posting my quickest time in Q2 I then had a collision with my teammate (Menu). I ran wide and as the momentum helped me rejoin I suddenly saw Alain in my mirrors and then hit him. It is a bit disappointing as I’m sure we could have been on pole.”*

Andy PRIAULX – qualified third: *“I clipped the tyres at the chicane as I was pushing to the limit every lap as we knew it could rain any time. Overall it is good for us to be in the top eight in Q1 but Q2 was a lottery. We all went out together and my first lap was ruined as Gené went off in front of me. We are in a good position for tomorrow though. I’m not sure we can live with Rob (Huff) as he is on a different planet here but it is a long race and hopefully it will be dry.”*

Norbert MICHELISZ – top Rookie, P5: *“It was probably the most difficult qualifying of my life. I got into Q2 in the last seconds of Q1, I wasn’t even sure I had done it at first. We found a really good set up and I wanted it to be dry but actually I think the rain helped me a little bit as it caused problems for others. My strategy for tomorrow is to take risks. Starting 15<sup>th</sup> (with grid penalty) my aim is to get into the top eight so I will either crash or gain lots of places!”*

Stefano D’ASTE – top Independent, P13: *“After the bad accident I had in first practice I think the team did great work to get the car fixed. I didn’t have time to try anything in second practice though as it was wet so with more time I think we could have done better overall.”*

**2010 FIA World Touring Car Championship  
COMBINED QUALIFYING RESULT**

POS	NO	CLS	DRIVER	NAT	CAR	Q1	Q2
1	10		Augusto FARFUS	BRA	BMW 320si	1:36.228	1:38.070
2	7		Robert HUFF	GBR	Chevrolet Cruze	1:35.518	1:38.176
3	11		Andy PRIAULX	GBR	BMW 320si	1:36.326	1:38.186
4	8		Alain MENU	SUI	Chevrolet Cruze	1:36.174	1:38.445
5	5		Norbert MICHELISZ	HUN	SEAT Leon TDI	1:36.131	1:38.634
6	1		Gabriele TARQUINI	ITA	SEAT Leon TDI	1:36.027	1:38.796
7	2		Tom CORONEL	NED	SEAT Leon TDI	1:36.509	1:38.810
8	6		Yvan MULLER	FRA	Chevrolet Cruze	1:36.111	1:38.869
9	4		Jordi GENE	ESP	SEAT Leon TDI	1:36.071	1:39.994
10	3		Tiago MONTEIRO	POR	SEAT Leon TDI	1:36.537	N / S
11	17		Michel NYKJAER	DEN	SEAT Leon TDI	1:36.654	
12	18		Fredy BARTH	SUI	SEAT Leon TDI	1:36.844	
13	26	I	Stefano D'ASTE	ITA	BMW 320si	1:36.881	
14	25	I	Sergio HERNANDEZ	ESP	BMW 320si	1:37.282	
15	15	I	Franz ENGSTLER	GER	BMW 320si	1:37.309	
16	20	I	Darryl O'YOUNG	HKG	Chevrolet Lacetti	1:37.532	
17	24	I	Kristian POULSEN	DEN	BMW 320si	1:37.579	
18	21	I	Mehdi BENNANI	MAR	BMW 320si	1:38.091	
19	72	I	Yukinori TANIGUCHI	JPN	Chevrolet Lacetti	1:38.203	
20	16	I	Andrei ROMANOV	RUS	BMW 320si	1:39.190	
21	33	I	Fabio FABIANI	ITA	BMW 320si	1:41.877	

QUALIFICATION MAXIMA 1:42.204

Oschersleben  
Circuit Length = 3.6960 km.  
Start: End:

Steward:	Steward:	Steward:	Issued at:
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