

1:8 IC Track IFMAR Chairman
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INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF MODEL AUTO RACING

Messina Pre-Worlds Race March 17th –March 20th.

The AutoModelClub Messina hold a perfect Pre-Worlds race last weekend. The track has been re-surfaced and the design was completely new.

Due to bad weather and a long Winter period, the AutoModelClub Messina was rather late in finishing the track, but they did a great job and finished just in time for the Pre-Worlds race.

The track is very smooth, fast and has artificial grass inside.

The drivers rostrum was also extended and has a separate Referee “room”. Some of the exterior has still to be renewed and the pit area will consist of a separate tent during the WC, but it already looked quit promising.

What do you want more, a beautiful track and a beach at 10 meters.

Although about 75 drivers had made their inscriptions only 64 made it to Messina. Since this race also counted for the selection of the Italian team there were a lot of Italian drivers, however there were also a few Aces from other countries, like 1:10th WC champ Adrien Bertin and WC finalist from Cincinatti Takaaki Shimo.

Although the work on the track finished on the Monday preceding the race the surface was ok and soon most of the fast drivers were able to run in the 14 seconds.

On Friday 2 qualifying runs were scheduled an another 4 runs were planned on the Saturday.

After 2 runs it was Shimo in the lead with 41 laps and 1.59 seconds, followed by Lamberto Collari with 41/1.72 seconds.

On the Saturday the 42 lappers were made, first by Bertin, followed by Collari and finally Ielasi.

During the last run a few times were beaten and it was Collari taking the pole with 42 laps 10.11.49, followed by Bertin, 42/10.13.33, Ielasi 42/10.13.35 and Fantini 41/10.00.10

The first semi with Shimo, Picco and a lot of other Italians was very fast and excited. It was Shimo who won with 122 laps, followed by Picco with 121 laps.

The second final was a little bit slower and it was Balestri who won with 120 laps, followed by Furukawa with 118 laps. So from the first faster semi also Pirani and Colombini went through.

The final was a good battle, first with Collari in front, but he made mistake in lap 13 and broke the car. Than it was Bertin, but he flamed out during one of the re-fuels, Fantini took the lead for a couple of minutes and also Picco took de lead halfway.

Finally it was Shimo who had a better tyre strategy who took the lead, with a battle for second place between Bertin and Picco. It was Bertin second till the last lap when he flamed out and was beaten by Picco.

Results after the final;

Pos	Num	Driver	laps	Min	Sec	1/1000	Car	Motor	Tyres	Best lap
1	5	Takaaki Shimo	240	60	8	157	Kyosho Evolva	Sirio	GRP	14,301
2	6	Alberto Picco	235	60	14	125	Serpent 950R	Picco	Ellegi	14,278
3	2	Adrien Bertin	234	59	45	550	Kyosho Evolva	Sirio	GRP	14,227
4	3	Daniele Ielasi	230	60	5	554	Mugen MRX4	IDM	GRP	14,321
5	8	Andrea Pirani	216	60	2	207	Serpent 950R	MaxPower	ATS	14,524
6	10	Ken Furukawa	216	60	14	738	Kyosho Evolva	Sirio	GRP	14,546
7	9	Stefano Colombini	186	60	3	802	Serpent 950R	Novarossi	Ellegi	14,339
8	7	Dario Balestri	169	42	53	226	Serpent 950R	Novarossi	Ellegi	14,276
9	4	Massimo Fantini	42	10	20	728	Serpent 950R	MaxPower	GRP	14,304
10	1	Lamberto Collari	13	3	3	960	Kyosho Evolva	Sirio Collari	GRP	14,315





The top 3 after the final with their huge trophies.



Overview of the track met on the left the Sicilian Hills and on the right the Street of Messina and the beach.



Birds eye view from the New Messina Track

A very nice track and a good performance, both from the club as well from AMSCI and a team from Futura/Bologna who gave assistance to the race control team. With 5 months to go the actual WC there is still some work to do, but the track itself is ready to accommodate all those 150 drivers for the next IFMAR 1:8 scale IC track World Championships.

Ciao,

Sander de Graaf
IFMAR IC section chairman.