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OPEN EC Large Scale F1 in Mühlau, Germany

The EFRA EC 2006 was held in Mühlau in Eastern Germany, short north from the City of Chemnitz. So everyone can make the travel on the German Autobahn (highway) easy. The weather all the time very hot with some clouds at the Sunday, the final day. The owner of the track spend a lot of work to polish up the venue, he added to the drivers stand a new designed referee area, the time keeping is still underneath in the first floor. The pit area is protected by a roof and by the design of the track away from the rostrum. Outside the fenced track area, there was build up a restaurant area and all the necessary places with toilets and showers by containers. To get this space the road there was closed. This was absolutely perfect and worked properly.

Also the parking space for all the Motor homes and Caravans was done close to the track, electricity was offered all the day, water and toilet service was given in the restaurant area. Some big trees gave enough shadow and protection against the big heat of the midday sun.



The track is more or less narrow, at least in minimum 4 meters wide, but big enough for the LS cars. The whole area is not very deep but wide to the left and right. Right hand is a hairpin in front of the drivers pit area; left hand is the infield with the hairpins. The picture of the track has the fisheye effect, the area looks bended, and you had to translate the picture to be straighter. The back straight is falling down, the track is a technical (a good finger wanted) adventure for the drivers. The drivers stand has enough space now for 15 drivers if there is a need. The referee area is separated and made in such a manner that for the future the time keeping can be handled from this place and the race director could control the whole event out from this stand. Because it was so hot at midday time, the referee stand was equipped with an air condition; it was the best place all over there. The pit lane underneath the stand is very small; to get the entrance, need an experienced eye and to crash the fence there is easy.

At Friday it began with the free practise at first, than organized practice. Some of the drivers had not received back their material from the Saloon EC in Greece, so they used borrowed chargers and radios. Especially Carsten Wolf only had a car, but nothing more, all his stuff including the tools was missing, he run from one to the other to get everything he needed. Some others have got their package at Monday, to come to the race on Thursday, to be ready on Friday.

On the Friday evening there was the official driver's dinner in the local Restaurant rooms inside the city of Mühlau. Everyone was invited, but a lot of drivers don't want to leave the track. Some more or less important people make some speaks, there was a buffet and it was more than enough to eat and drink for everyone.

Saturday, the whole day all the heats, the rules said 6 rounds of qualifying. Due to the number of competitors, this gave some stress for the organizer and his crew, who had to be there without any break. The time schedule was real tight. It was real hot (10 degrees hotter than in Greece) and this is a problem in the background, nobody take care about, that there are some people like the time keeping, the referees, the tech inspection who run into sweat and tears.

On Sunday all the finals were run. In the half final B, Michael Mielke as one of the hot favourites had to start from the last position (it was an error of the organizer) as penalisation because he asked for 10 minutes delay. It looks that in this final everyone was stressed too much because all the favourites get out before the end. Clark Wohlert by a crash, Cedric Prevot into the wall and Michael Mielke lost his rear axle at the pit entry. In the half final A, Markus Feldmann show that he is the number one, there are no more accidents.



Also we had a small opening ceremony in midday, at first the public relation photo shooting with all the cars on the track. Before the big final a girl group show some aerobics and entertained all the numerous people watching.



The Trucks had their heats together with the Formula cars on Friday and Saturday. Then they drove their final with all cars, 13 cars on the track, sometimes it looks crowded. This was the big show like always, the Trucks look very good at the track and they show very good action always. Here the winner was Maurer Horst, second was Stommel Ralf, third was Tenten Olaf, all from Germany.

Then the big final at Sunday evening. In the first lap Markus Feldmann show everyone that he is the number one and opened immediately a gap between him and the breathless hunters. The picture underneath show the situation after three quarters of the first lap. Behind the fight for the second place between Martin Lissau (DK) and Martin Bayer (CZ). Refuelling was allowed, so it was not an economy run. And the whole action worked without any problems as long the drivers meet the pit entrance properly.





Position	Driver	Nation	Laps	End time	Run
1	Feldmann Markus	GER	142	00:45:01.286	Final - A
2	Bayer Martin	CZ	142	00:45:12.350	Final - A
3	Lissau Martin	DK	139	00:45:10.962	Final - A
4	Weiser Michael	AUT	137	00:45:02.729	Final - A
5	Merkel Nico	GER	136	00:45:17.113	Final - A
6	Liddiard Robert	NOR	126	00:45:10.242	Final - A
7	Cserkuti Gabor	HU	125	00:45:07.660	Final - A
8	Matosic Zvonimir	CRO	59	00:22:48.102	Final - A
9	Ketter Falko	GER	53	00:17:42.487	Final - A
10	Utz Ernst Peter	GER	9	00:03:20.777	Final - A
11	Bielenberg Markus	GER	83	00:30:15.979	1/2 Final - A
12	Mölzer Frederik	SWE	80	00:30:04.196	1/2 Final - B
13	Jonsson Joakim	SWE	79	00:30:05.536	1/2 Final - B
14	Webernig Arno	AUT	72	00:29:54.894	1/2 Final - A
15	Prevot Cedric	FRA	64	00:28:41.168	1/2 Final - B
16	Wolf Carsten	GER	51	00:16:48.750	1/2 Final - A
17	Mielke Michael	GER	43	00:14:09.496	1/2 Final - B
18	Wohlert Clark	GER	31	00:10:04.097	1/2 Final - B
19	Hog Andreas	GER	11	00:04:23.422	1/2 Final - A
20	Bayer Ales	CZ	1	00:00:41.762	1/2 Final - B
21	Hetland Cato	NOR	56	00:20:03.280	1/4 Final - B
22	Welz Sebastian	GER	56	00:20:18.158	1/4 Final - B
23	Stier Hans Jörg	GER	55	00:20:13.810	1/4 Final - B
24	Schmid Rolf	GER	54	00:20:20.420	1/4 Final - A
25	Kämmerer Thomas	GER	53	00:20:07.581	1/4 Final - B
26	Busac Luka	CRO	52	00:20:20.275	1/4 Final - A
27	Bierbach Lutz	GER	42	00:15:41.186	1/4 Final - B
28	Groos Stefan	GER	33	00:14:41.092	1/4 Final - A
29	Velázquez Jaime Fernández	ESP	31	00:11:45.631	1/4 Final - B
30	Blumenhofen Frank	GER	28	00:10:47.234	1/4 Final - A
31	Thyssen Oliver	GER	18	00:06:28.650	1/4 Final - B
32	Kiesele Ralf	GER	18	00:06:33.487	1/4 Final - A
33	Hils Stefan	GER	15	00:05:33.939	1/4 Final - A
34	Braun Martin	GER	0	00:00:00.000	1/4 Final - A
35	Idsoe Einar	NOR	52	00:20:07.312	1/8 Final - B
36	Salte Kjell	NOR	51	00:20:03.770	1/8 Final - A
37	Kriz Franz	AUT	50	00:20:10.821	1/8 Final - B
38	Camponovo Ernesto	CH	38	00:20:11.529	1/8 Final - B
39	Sivilla Javier	ESP	37	00:14:18.561	1/8 Final - B
40	Kirchner Christian	GER	27	00:11:30.814	1/8 Final - A
41	Wagmüller Peter	GER	16	00:06:19.121	1/8 Final - A
42	Rondestveit Ivar Rune	NOR	8	00:03:37.201	1/8 Final - A
43	Ratt Oliver	AUT	2	00:02:14.737	1/8 Final - A