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EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF RADIO OPERATED MODEL AUTOMOBILES

Report of the LS Off Road EFRA GP Velika Gorica (Croatia) June 17th to 19th, 2011

Arrived on Thursday 16th at the beginning of the afternoon in Zagreb, it was finally one day too soon, because it's not like in On Road EFRA GP's, on Thursday nobody was there, and Track closed. Temperature is between 25 and 30°; this is surprising but due to the continental position. (very hot).

22 Drivers are "normally" engaged which is very few for an EFRA GP. It would be useful to verify during our next EFRA AGM, if it's really necessary to organise such an event, one month before the European Championship itself. That represent a lot of costs (for Drivers and Organiser) and very long trips for foreigners Drivers.

We are honored by the presence in Zagreb / Velika Gorica of our EFRA President **Dallas MATHIESEN**, General Secretary **Willy WUYTS** arrived also on Thursday 16th, and our EFRA Treasurer **Jackie AEBI** arrived only on Saturday 18th due to her personal job. They are there to attend (*a little*) to this Off Road Warm Up EFRA GP before the next month European Championship, and mainly for having work meetings in the hotel all along the weekend.

Friday 17th AM:

A very small number of Drivers are arrived, but it's not surprising to the only 22 who are engaged. 2 of them have sent apologies for not coming, which is correct. At 10.30 the temperature is already to 26.5°!

PM:

Some Drivers are arrived. More than 30° are scheduled by the meteo forecasts in the afternoon. This day is dedicated to total free practice only. (not by Groups because unnecessary regarding the small number of Drivers). Track was covered with water in the morning to avoid a lot of dust, but due to a very hard sun, dust is coming back very fast. A small wind blowing in the good direction is appreciated.

Drivers who were there drove all day long, in a less stressful rhythm than for on Road EFRA GP's, for which almost of all Drivers are on the spot on Thursday and drive all the time.

Saturday 18th 8.30 AM:

Sun is there. Temperature is already hot. It's decided to have only 3 Groups instead of 4, due to the number of no shows. Finally 8 in total, which represent more than 36% of engaged. We (and me also) are thinking this situation is a very bad one for the Organisers, totally disrespectful, as we already have had the occasion to underline last year. In my mind, for the future we must think to have the payment done by the Drivers at the same time that they fill their Entry Form. If they come, it's Ok for them and Organiser. If they don't come (without apologies, which is inacceptable), it remains almost Ok for the Organiser for whom all fees and technical or accomodation means engaged are the same!

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Technical Control took place from 8.00 to 9.30. Unfortunately the number of no shows is really confirmed after this one. (we were waiting the last minutes with keeping some hopes...)

9.45 AM: Drivers Briefing. It's decided to have not Transmitter impounded, by the Race Director, **Ante DUJIC**. The International Jury is composed by:

- **Dario VESELI** for Croatia.
- **Luca CUDEN** for Slovenia.
- **Uhrik ADRIAN** for Slovakia.
- **Ante DUJIC**, Race Director and VMAX Club's President,
- The **Time Keeper** of whom I don't remember the name. He was another one than the first scheduled. Please accept my apologies for this.
- **Zvonimir MATOZIC**, HAMS President, second Referee.
- **Francis BILLA**, EFRA LS Chairman and 1st Referee.

10.00 AM: One round of Controlled practice by Groups for the 3 Groups starts.

At the end of this one, it was decided (on Drivers request) to have only 2 Groups up to now, because in 3 Groups we have had some problems for the Marshalling. (still the same thing : due to poor number of Drivers).

This has facilitated it, and as we have time enough (for sure!) it was let 10' between Group 1 and 2 for all qualifications rounds.

11.15 AM: 1st qualification round took place without any problem (except high temperature and dust which goes away, helped by a wind blowing in the good sense).

11.55 AM: Break lunch for 2 hours.

2.00 PM: We started with the 2nd qualification round. Everything worked well all along the afternoon (a little bit less hot due to a cloudy sky) except during the last qualification round for Group number 2. We have faced problems with the Time keeping System (or one of the computers). We have stopped this round after 5.30 minutes. The result of which was cancelled, and another chance was given to the Group, with a restar for 10' more.

6.00 PM: Everything was finished, all cars were called to the Technical Control.

The night forecast Meteo is not very optimistic (thunderstorms), but for tomorrow, on Sunday, it seems to have to be better.

Sunday 19th 10AM:

During the night, as scheduled, many of the big rains fell, and it was still raining this morning till 9.30. The track is very wet, with many of the big puddles. Club's Members are trying to do something (their maximum) for the finals, but... Drivers are in the working area, but no racing cars on the tables! The optimism does not seem to be rigorous. If sun is not coming back very fast, we may think that very few of them will accept to drive in these dreadful conditions (lot of mud, puddles...).

11.30 AM : We have enough time to place the semi-finals and final at the beginning of the afternoon. This was decided with the fully Drivers's agreement. For the moment we hope for better conditions. A Driver Briefing will be held at 1.00 pm. Meantime is the break lunch.

1.00PM: It is really with a heavy heart that the decision is took to cancel the finales, and that it is decided that the classification will be established on the qualifications results.

The track is totally unusable, it would have no sense, except that to break cars stupidly, for an almost pathetic show.

After a "*quick done*" (due to the cold weather) nice prize-giving ceremony managed by the VMAX Club's President and Race Director, **Ante DUJIC**, & **Zvonimir MATOZIC**, it is wished a good return to everybody, with usual recommendations to be very careful on the road, and to see again all who were there next month for the 2011 Off Road 1/6th European Championship.

Both People from Croatian Sport TV were there, and some interviews were given by Drivers, Manufacturers, Hams President and EFRA LS Chairman.

For complete results please use the links:

Organiser : <http://www.v-max.hr/>

[http://www.myrcm.ch/main?pLa=fr&hld\[1\]=arv&pld\[E\]=0](http://www.myrcm.ch/main?pLa=fr&hld[1]=arv&pld[E]=0)

The results are not "already" there, but you have the Ranking List attached in a PDF file with the present report.

EFRA LS Chairman,

GP EFRA's Referee.

Francis Billa



Please have a look, on the Podium picture here above.

