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SOUTH GARDA KARTING - LONATO (BRESCIA, ITALY)

THE AWAIT IS MOUNTING IN LONATO AHEAD OF THE FINAL STAGES OF THE 22nd WINTER CUP

Qualifying stages for the 22nd Winter Cup reached their conclusion at the South Garda Karting circuit of Lonato. A total of 276 drivers made it to the track in an exceptional, world class entry list.

Lonato del Garda (Brescia, Italy). Great sporting spectacle and tight battles characterized the second qualifying day at the South Garda Karting circuit of Lonato ahead of the 22nd Winter Cup. This year's event set a new participation record with 276 drivers at the start. The racing programme will reach its conclusion on Sunday February 19th with the much awaited Super Heats starting from local 11.30 and Finals from 14.30, that will be covered with live TV streaming available at the website www.southgardakarting.it

Qualifying held on Friday and Saturday gave the first indications on the protagonists among the exceptional entry list that comprised a lot of world class drivers. Currently on top of the charts, and therefore enjoying good chances for the races are: the French **Jeremy Iglesias (Formula K-Tm-Bridgestone)** in KZ2, the French **Theo Pourchaire** (Kosmic-Vortex-Bridgestone) in OK, **Andrea Rosso** (Tony Kart-Vortex-Bridgestone) in OK Junior. Heats have produced very intense and open battles and surprises are still possible. Some protagonists have experienced some hiccups due to incidents or time penalties, but they certainly have what is needed to get the lost ground back.

Mini Rok's closing heats still have to be run. The necessary heats to define the qualifying classification will in fact get green lights tomorrow morning from 11:00.

The absolute novelty of the double Super Heats will take place on Sunday at 11:30, ahead of the Finals that will start at 14.30.

SUPER HEATS IN LONATO

Super Heats are a novelty devised by the organizers of the race in Lonato. They replace the old Prefinals with the purpose of naming the 34 finalists of each category. Super Heats are two further heats for each category involving up to 68 drivers, with a cap of 34 drivers in each of the two races. Penalty scores accumulated in these two heats will be added to the previous tally and will be decisive to define the 34 finalists of each category and the pecking order.

The positions after qualifying heats and ahead of the Super Heats scheduled for Sunday February 19th follow:

KZ2: 1. Iglesias (Formula K); 2. Longhi (BirelArt); 3. Federer (CRG); 4. Dreezen (BirelArt); 5. Camponeschi (CRG); 6. Dalè (CRG); 7. Abbasse (Sodikart); 8. De Conto (CRG); 9. Lammers (Sodikart); 10; Ardigò (Tony Kart).

OK: 1. Pourchaire (Kosmic); 2. Travisanutto (Zanardi); 3. Hauger (CRG); 4. Vidales (Tony Kart); 5. Eteki (Zanardi); 6. Basz (Kosmic); 7. Vebster (Kosmic); 8. Hiltbrand (Tony Kart); 9. Collet (BirelArt); 10. Petefof (Tony Kart).

OK-Junior: 1. Rosso (Tony Kart); 2. Lulham (Tony Kart); 3. Thompson (FA Alonso); 4. Stanek (Kosmic); 5. Marseglia (Zanardi); 6. Maloney (FA Alonso); 7. Colapinto (Tony Kart); 8. Bosco (Tony Kart); 9. Bortoleto (CRG); 10. Morozov (Tony Kart).

LIVE ON TV

The final stages to be run on Sunday February 19th could be followed live at the website **www.southgardakarting.it**, where Live Timing and all results will also be available.

THE PROGRAMME (local time)

Sunday 19 February: Warm-up from 8:30; Heats from 11:00; Super Heats from 11:30; Finals from 14:30.

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In the pictures: 1) Iglesias (158) KZ2; 2) Pourchaire (212) OK; 3) Rosso (337) OK-Junior; 4) Mini Rok.