

ROUNDS 3 & 4 – PUEBLA, MEXICO
QUALIFYING REPORT

Weather: sunny in the morning, partly cloudy in the afternoon, the track was dry.

FARFUS-PRIAULX WIN FRONT ROW FOR BMW

Augusto Farfus, Andy Priaulx and BMW pushed to the limit and interrupted SEAT's domination that lasted since the test session in Curitiba.

Farfus won pole position, beating Priaulx by only 0.045 seconds, while Gabriele Tarquini saved SEAT's honour claiming third position with a one-tenth gap.

Q1 – Augusto Farfus posted the fastest time of the session with a lap of 1:37.981, the first driver to break the 1:38. wall so far.

BMW and SEAT cars equally shared the ten positions giving access to Q2.

Although they sat in the pits until halfway through the session, all five SEAT Sport drivers managed to make the top-ten, with Gabriele Tarquini in second with a gap of 0.065 seconds after having clocked a provisional fastest lap at 1:38.047.

Félix Porteiro topped the Independents again and also managed to advance to Q2 setting the 10th fastest lap at 1:38.972.

Chevrolet and LADA drivers remained all out of Q2; Nicola Larini missed the top-ten by 18 thousandths of a second, while Jaap van Lagen's session ended prematurely because of an engine leak.

Q2 – Yvan Muller was the first to post a quick lap at 1:37.924, but the reigning world champion was immediately ousted by Farfus with the time of 1:37.682.

Jordi Gené, Porteiro, Sergio Hernández and Andy Priaulx were the last to join the session. In the dying seconds Priaulx managed to jump into second with a lap of 1:37.727, a time which resisted to Tarquini's last attempt that was worth third place (1:37.793).

Porteiro completed a lap of 1:38.525 that gave him a brilliant eighth position on the grid for Race 1.

FLASH NEWS

PRACTICE 1 - RYDELL WAS FASTEST

The SEAT Sport men filled the first four spots in the morning practice, with Rydell posting the best lap ahead of Tarquini, Y. Muller and Gené. The leadership changed a dozen of times in the first ten minutes, from J. Müller's 1:40.254 to Tarquini's 1:38.742.

Then the Italian was provisionally demoted to third, when his team mates Rydell and Gené were timed at 1:38.598 and 1:38.617 respectively. Tarquini managed to strike back, completing a lap in 1:38.437, but with two minutes left Rydell improved further to 1:38.138, a time that is 2.7 seconds faster than last year's lap record.

Huff did not post any time as his Cruze car stopped on the track during the first lap out of the pits due to an oil leak.

PRACTICE 2 – FARFUS OUSTED BY RYDELL

Despite Augusto Farfus' efforts, Rickard Rydell encored in the second free practice, beating the Brazilian's best lap by nine hundredths of a second.

Through the whole session Farfus and Rydell swapped positions on top of the time sheet. Farfus opened hostilities completing a lap of 1:40.175 that was immediately



beaten by Rydell's 1:39.671; however, just before the red flag, Farfus hit back with 1:39.126.

He improved further by one tenth to 1:39.116 with eight minutes left, only to be ousted again by Rydell's 1:39.024.

The session was disrupted by the red flag after only five minutes, to remove a couple of advertising banners that were hanging loose from the wall of the main straight.

POULSEN'S TIMES DISALLOWED BY THE STEWARDS

Kristian Poulsen had his qualifying times disallowed by the Stewards as he did not stop at the weighing scales during the session.

The Dane will be demoted from 17th to last on the starting grid for tomorrow's Race 1.

George Tanev had also received the same penalty as his BMW 320si cars was found under weight during the technical checks after the session. However, after a check of the scales, the Stewards reviewed their decision and re-integrated Tanev in the classification.

THEY SAID, THEY SAID...

Augusto FARFUS

"The track has improved a lot compared to the previous years and this has helped us a lot. We have also worked hard to find the best set up, but I never expected to find myself on pole. My aim was to make the Q2. Although we have the front row, we know that will be tough in the races."

Andy PRIAULX

"It is an important result for everybody at BMW. We really needed it after the disappointing weekend in Brazil. We came here with not many expectations but then the opportunity arose and we had to take it. Now we must try and see whether we can achieve some good results in the races."

Gabriele TARQUINI

"Today the BMW cars were quicker. I tried hard to beat them. I made a small mistake during my last qualifying attempt. It cost me something, but I don't think that it was worth the pole. I will try to take advantage of the rolling start tomorrow, but if I don't pass them before the first corner I will settle in third, because here it is quite difficult to overtake."

Félix PORTEIRO

"It is a great result for the team. I did not expect it. As a matter of fact I was rather expecting to be beaten by Tom Coronel, as he has always been very quick on this track. Instead I managed to advance to Q2 and qualify eighth, which is amazing for an Independent team. I hope to score some more championship points tomorrow."

**2009 FIA World Touring Car Championship
QUALIFYING - PROVISIONAL CLASSIFICATION**

POS	NO	CLS	DRIVER	NAT	CAR	TIME	LAPS	GAP	KPH
1	8		Augusto FARFUS BMW Team Germany	BRA	BMW 320si	1:37.981	5		119.04
2	2		Gabriele TARQUINI SEAT Sport	ITA	SEAT Leon TDI	1:38.047	3	0.066	118.96
3	6		Andy PRIAULX BMW Team UK	GBR	BMW 320si	1:38.230	9	0.249	118.74
4	4		Jordi GENE SEAT Sport	ESP	SEAT Leon TDI	1:38.250	7	0.269	118.71
5	7		Jorg MULLER BMW Team Germany	GER	BMW 320si	1:38.375	4	0.394	118.56
6	1		Yvan MULLER SEAT Sport	FRA	SEAT Leon TDI	1:38.386	4	0.405	118.55
7	3		Rickard RYDELL SEAT Sport	SWE	SEAT Leon TDI	1:38.411	5	0.430	118.52
8	10		Sergio HERNANDEZ BMW Team Italy-Spain	ESP	BMW 320si	1:38.434	8	0.453	118.49
9	5		Tiago MONTEIRO SEAT Sport	POR	SEAT Leon TDI	1:38.698	6	0.717	118.17
10	23	I	Felix PORTEIRO Scuderia Proteam	ESP	BMW 320si	1:38.872	10	0.891	117.97
11	14		Nicola LARINI Chevrolet	ITA	Chevrolet Cruze	1:38.890	7	0.909	117.94
12	9		Alessandro ZANARDI BMW Team Italy-Spain	ITA	BMW 320si	1:39.174	8	1.193	117.61
13	11		Robert HUFF Chevrolet	GBR	Chevrolet Cruze	1:39.294	5	1.313	117.46
14	12		Alain MENU Chevrolet	SUI	Chevrolet Cruze	1:39.400	5	1.419	117.34
15	21	I	Tom CORONEL SUNRED Engineering	NED	SEAT Leon	1:39.551	9	1.570	117.16
16	27	I	Stefano D'ASTE Wiechers-Sport	ITA	BMW 320si	1:39.745	10	1.764	116.93
17	26	I	Kristian POULSEN Liqui Moly Team	DEN	BMW 320si	1:39.832	9	1.851	116.83

Subject to technical scrutineering.

Weather/Track: Sun 23°/Dry 31°

Puebla

Circuit Length = 3.2400 km.

Start: 16:00 End: 16:20

Race Director:	Steward:	Timekeeper:	Issued at:
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**2009 FIA World Touring Car Championship
 QUALIFYING - PROVISIONAL CLASSIFICATION Continued.**

POS	NO	CLS	DRIVER	NAT	CAR	TIME	LAPS	GAP	KPH
18	25	I	Franz ENGSTLER Liqui Moly Team	GER	BMW 320si	1:40.296	6	2.315	116.29
19	28	I	Marin COLAK Colak Racing Team	CRO	SEAT Leon	1:40.346	8	2.365	116.23
20	22	I	Tom BOARDMAN SUNRED Engineering	GBR	SEAT Leon	1:40.436	9	2.455	116.13
21	24	I	George TANEV Scuderia Proteam	BUL	BMW 320si	1:40.795	10	2.814	115.72
22	20		Viktor SHAPOVALOV LADA Sport	RUS	LADA 110	1:41.249	8	3.268	115.20
23	19		Kirill LADYGIN LADA Sport	RUS	LADA 110	1:41.611	8	3.630	114.79
24	18		Jaap van LAGEN LADA Sport	NED	LADA 110	1:42.089	6	4.108	114.25
QUALIFICATION MAXIMA						1:44.839			

Subject to technical scrutineering.

Weather/Track: Sun 23°/Dry 31°

Puebla

Circuit Length = 3.2400 km.

Start: 16:00 End: 16:20

Race Director:	Steward:	Timekeeper:	Issued at:
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**2009 FIA World Touring Car Championship
QUALIFYING 2- PROVISIONAL CLASSIFICATION**

POS	NO	CLS	DRIVER	NAT	CAR	TIME	LAPS	GAP	KPH
1	8		Augusto FARFUS BMW Team Germany	BRA	BMW 320si	1:37.682	5		119.40
2	6		Andy PRIAULX BMW Team UK	GBR	BMW 320si	1:37.727	3	0.045	119.35
3	2		Gabriele TARQUINI SEAT Sport	ITA	SEAT Leon TDI	1:37.793	5	0.111	119.27
4	3		Rickard RYDELL SEAT Sport	SWE	SEAT Leon TDI	1:37.874	5	0.192	119.17
5	1		Yvan MULLER SEAT Sport	FRA	SEAT Leon TDI	1:37.924	5	0.242	119.11
6	5		Tiago MONTEIRO SEAT Sport	POR	SEAT Leon TDI	1:38.213	5	0.531	118.76
7	7		Jorg MULLER BMW Team Germany	GER	BMW 320si	1:38.287	5	0.605	118.67
8	23	I	Felix PORTEIRO Scuderia Proteam	ESP	BMW 320si	1:38.525	4	0.843	118.38
9	4		Jordi GENE SEAT Sport	ESP	SEAT Leon TDI	1:38.749	3	1.067	118.11
10	10		Sergio HERNANDEZ BMW Team Italy-Spain	ESP	BMW 320si	1:38.952	3	1.270	117.87

Subject to technical scrutineering.

Weather/Track: Sun 20°/Dry 25°

Puebla

Circuit Length = 3.2400 km.

Start: 16:27 End: 16:37

Race Director:	Steward:	Timekeeper:	Issued at:
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