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MILAN STRIKES FIRST IN THE SECOND HALF



The start of the second half of the Clio Cup season went to the advantage of Nicolas Milan (Milan Compétition). While Jerzy Spinkiewicz (Uniq Racing) was quickest in the morning rain, Nicolas Milan regained the upper hand in the sunshine ahead of teammate Anthony Jurado (Milan Compétition) and the Polish Challenger to extend his Clio Cup Europe lead. Milan Compétition also won the Gentlemen Drivers Cup courtesy of Jérémy Bordagaray.

After their summer break, the competitors were back on track on Friday at Hockenheim. Anthony Jurado and Nicolas Milan were the first to show off their skills in practice before the latter went quickest in the first qualifying session to set the grid for Sunday's race. The conditions were radically different on Saturday, and Jerzy Spinkiewicz took advantage of the opportunity to take his maiden Clio Cup pole position on the soaking wet German track.

For his first pole position start, Jerzy Spinkiewicz slightly wheel-spun at lights out. The Pole winner kept the advantage at turn one, but Nicolas Milan got the better of Anthony Jurado to catch up with the poleman, whom he overtook at the Parabolika. Anthony Jurado did the same at the hairpin, then threatened his countryman just until a safety car period after a collision between Horn (GPA Racing) and Michel Faye (GM Sport).



The race restarted on the following lap. Nicolas Milan held on to the lead, but those behind used the draft to stay close to the Clio Cup Europe title holder. However, the leader got a break on lap four with another safety car period to clear the Clio Cup of Horn, trapped in the gravel after contact with Lionel Vigui r (T2CM).

When the Renault M gane safety car came off the circuit, Anthony Jurado found an opening on lap six to pass Nicolas Milan for the lead. Jerzy Spinkiewicz was still lingering close behind and took advantage of the situation to get between the two men. Nicolas Milan retaliated to retake the lead, while David Pouget (GPA Racing) took fourth place from Marc Guillot (Milan Comp tition) in a top ten turned on its head after the restart.

Like Nicolas Milan earlier in the race, Anthony Jurado saw his efforts to extend the gap remained in vain. The Frenchman also made a small mistake at the entrance to the stadium, which allowed his pursuers to catch up in the race's final laps. Nicolas Milan took full advantage to retake the lead with two laps remaining, then controlled the chasers despite a slight contact with his teammate.

Nicolas Milan won in front of Anthony Jurado and the Challenger Jerzy Spinkiewicz. David Pouget and Marc Guillot finished just off the podium while Alexandre Albouy finished sixth after a battle with Alexandre Finkelstein (GPA Racing), who then retired. Joran Leneutre (JSB Competition) moved up to seventh place ahead of Andreas Stucki (Stucki Motorsport), Tomas Pekar (Carpek Service) and Guillaume Maio (GM Sport). J r my Bordagaray (Milan Comp tition) was first among the Gentlemen Drivers and 11th overall.

CLIO CUP EUROPE

Clio Cup Europe leader Nicolas Milan increased his advantage in the general classification with his fourth victory of 2022 ahead of Anthony Jurado and Jerzy Spinkiewicz as his closest rivals, David Pouget and Marc Guillot, completed the top five. Jerzy Spinkiewicz scored his eighth win from nine starts to extend his lead over his Challengers Cup competitors Guillaume Maio and Nikola Miljkovic (Tempo Racing Team). Stephan Polderman (Chefo Sport) now leads alone the Gentlemen Drivers Cup after his success against Quinto Stefana (Milan Comp tition) and Horn (GPA Racing).

CLIO CUP EASTERN EUROPE

Leading from start to finish in the Clio Cup Eastern Europe, Anthony Jurado claimed his fourth victory of the season and is now third in the general classification. The Frenchman continues to close the gap on leader Marc Guillot, second ahead of Andreas Stucki, with the Swiss driver winning his duel with Tomas Pekar. Juuso Panttila (Carpek Service) took his fifth consecutive win in the Challengers Cup to widen the gap to his rivals, Henrik Seibel (Carpek Service) and Lin Chen Han (Uniq Racing). Stephan Polderman (Chefo Sport) also did well in the Gentlemen Drivers Cup after his teammate Ren  Steenmetz (Chefo Sport) had a technical issue spotted shortly before the start.

CLIO CUP FRANCE

Nicolas Milan passed Jerzy Spinkiewicz for the lead and went on to win for the fourth time in Clio Cup France in front of the Pole and David Pouget, whose lead over his countryman is now reduced to eight points with three races remaining this season. Thanks to his victory in the Challengers Cup, Jerzy Spinkiewicz is back in contention for the category title now led by Alexandre Albouy, second on Saturday ahead of Joran Leneutre. J r my Bordagaray dominated the action to take his second victory in the Gentlemen Drivers Cup. With the podium finishes of Laurent Dziadus (Team Lucas) and Pierre Monmaneix (GPA Racing), the gaps are also closing behind the class leader Mathieu Rigoulet (Vic'Team)

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The Clio Cup will be back in action on Sunday for race two of the weekend in Hockenheim. Nicolas Milan, who won pole position on Friday evening, will start ahead of Marc Guillot and Jerzy Spinkiewicz at 11.15 am. The race will be streamed live on the Renault Clio Series Facebook page and YouTube channel.

ABOUT THE CLIO CUP

Since the launch of the R8 Gordini Cup in 1966, Renault has maintained a continuous presence on circuits around the world. Several thousand Clio Cups have been sold since 1991, and all five generations have been recognised for their performance, reliability and affordability. With its experience in promotional formulas and one-make series, Renault provides its savoir-faire and expertise to professionals and amateurs by offering a modern product adapted to their needs. In 2022, the Clio Cup will be in action in the Clio Cup Europe but also in Clio Cup France, Clio Cup Spain, Clio Cup Italia and Clio Cup Eastern Europe, thanks to an innovative calendar opening up numerous opportunities for competitors from all backgrounds: experienced drivers, Challengers and Gentlemen Drivers!

ABOUT RENAULT

Renault, a historic mobility brand and pioneer of electric vehicles in Europe, has always developed innovative vehicles. With the 'Renaulution' strategic plan, Renault has embarked on an ambitious, value-generating transformation moving towards a more competitive, balanced and electrified range. Its ambition is to embody modernity and innovation in technology, energy and mobility services in the automotive industry and beyond.