

6 May 2018

## Circuit Paul Ricard, France – 5 / 6 May 2017

### RACE 2 REPORT

#### Borković pips Vernay during the final lap

Dušan Borković encored his yesterday's win thank to a perfect overtaking manoeuvre on Jean-Karl Vernay during the final lap of the second race at Le Castellet.

An intermittent rain began to fall just while the cars – all on slicks – reached the starting grid and intensified during the first laps, which resulted in a number of drivers spinning or running wide. In these tricky conditions two drivers were in a league of their own: Vernay and Stefano Comini. The Frenchman performed an impeccable drive and took the lead during the first lap; as for Comini he put in a great show at the wheel of his Subaru, elbowing his way through the field from 25<sup>th</sup> on the grid to fifth.

Proceedings were disrupted when Igor Stefanovski crashed heavily, prompting first the safety car and then the red flag.

Before action resumed, a few drivers, including Josh Files and Kris Richard elected to change to rain tyres; the bet didn't pay off as the rain stopped and the racing lines began to dry. Vernay tried his best to maintain the lead, but couldn't prevent Borković from passing on the final lap. Dániel Nagy finished on the podium once again, third, inches ahead of Francisco Mora. Comini dropped to tenth with the consolation of the last spot into the points behind a group of survivors who filled the places between fifth and ninth: Mikel Azcona (third yesterday), Attila Tassi, Jens Reno Møller (who started from pole), Danny Kroes and Loris Cencetti.

With two victories in the opening event, Borković has already built a gap in the standings, scoring 55 points against Nagy's 36, Azcona's 29 and Vernay's 26.

The TCR Europe Series's second event will be held at Circuit Zandvoort, Netherlands, on 19/21 May.

#### Key facts

Start – Møller makes a perfect start and retains the lead, with Files taking third from Richard to the outside of Turn 1

Lap 1 – Mora runs wide and Vernay passes him and Files; Paulsen goes off the track limits, as does Richard in the tricky conditions; Vernay seizes the lead from Møller.

Lap 2 – A spin from Files drops him back to P13; Mora half-spins at Turn 1 and Møller loses three positions in quick succession; Borković moves through the action into second

Lap 3 – The safety car is deployed after Stefanovski crashes into tyre barrier

Lap 4 – The race is red flagged with the top ten: Vernay, Borković, Nagy, Azcona, Møller, Comini, Potty, Mora, Richard and Tassi

Lap 5 – After a 20 minute delay, Vernay makes a textbook restart and keeps the lead, but is forced on the defensive by Borković; Comini and Møller run wide debating 7<sup>th</sup>

Lap 6 – Piro stops out on circuit; Paulsen is also forced to pit; Nagy and Azcona apply the pressure on Borković

Lap 7 – Barr and Baldan make contact and retire into the pits; Azcona runs and falls to 5<sup>th</sup> behind Mora.

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Lap 8 – The top five cars are now split by just 1.7 seconds and running together  
Lap 9 – In a dramatic final lap Borković takes the lead from Vernay, with Nagy, Mora, Azcona, Tassi, Møller, Kroes, Cencetti and Comini rounding out the top ten

### Quotes after the second race at Paul Ricard

Dušan Borković (winner): *“While we had been waiting for the race to resume after the red flag, I was saying myself that I was happy with second place. However, as the track began to dry in the final laps I saw that I could make a move and try to overtake Vernay. On the straight his car was faster, but mine was better in cornering. I made an safe attempt and passed him. I wouldn’t have done this if I thought that there was the lesser risk to spoil our race. I’m super happy, it was a great weekend for myself, Target Competition, Hyundai and Serbia!”*

Jean-Karl Vernay (second): *“I have done all I could. Until the track was wet and slippery I was able to stay ahead, as the car was perfect. But when the racing lines began to dry I knew I had no chance. The Hyundai is far superior by now; I was able to keep Borković at bay until halfway through the final laps, but eventually I could not prevent him from passing me.”*

Dániel Nagy (third): *“It was a crazy race. Before the red flag the track was very tricky and we must be super focused to avoid mistakes. I drove well and was able to move up to third. After the red flag, I began putting the pressure on Borković, but I also had to defend myself from Mora, who was right behind me. In the end I settled with third, another podium, that put me second in the championship. An excellent start of the season.”*

### 2018 TCR Europe Series – calendar

#### 5/6 May – Circuit Paul Ricard, France (International GT Open)

- 19/21 May – Circuit Zandvoort, Netherlands (Jumbo Racing Days) \*
- 9/10 June – Circuit de Spa-Francorchamps, Belgium (International GT Open) \*
- 7/8 July – Hungaroring, Hungary (International GT Open) \*
- 18/19 August – TT Circuit Assen, Netherlands (Gamma Racing Days) \*
- 22/23 September – Autodromo di Monza, Italy (International GT Open)
- 20/21 October – Circuit de Barcelona Catalunya, Spain (International GT Open) \*\*

\* With TCR Benelux

\*\* With TCR Benelux and TCR Portugal

Further information, results, points and HD pictures at [www.europe.tcr-series.com](http://www.europe.tcr-series.com)

**Paul Ricard**  
**TCR Europe**  
**Race - 2**  
**Final Results**

Cls	N°	Driver	Nat	Team	Nat	Vehicle	Laps	Total Time	Gap	Interval	Km/h	Best	Time	Km/h
1	62		SRB	Target Competition	SRB	Hyundai i30 N TCR	10	<b>46:08.760</b>			75.9	10	2:16.076	154.5
2	69	Jean-Karl Vernay	FRA	Leopard Lukoil Team	FRA	Audi RS3 LMS TCR	10	<b>46:09.828</b>	1.068	1.068	75.9	9	2:17.395	153.0
3	999	Daniel Nagy	HUN	M1RA	HUN	Hyundai i30 N TCR	10	<b>46:10.075</b>	1.315	0.247	75.9	10	2:16.961	153.5
4	26	Francisco Mora	POR	M1RA	POR	Hyundai i30 N TCR	10	<b>46:10.276</b>	1.516	0.201	75.9	10	2:16.656	153.8
5	25	Mikel Azcona	ESP	PCR Sport	ESP	Cupra TCR	10	<b>46:10.721</b>	1.961	0.445	75.9	9	2:16.729	153.8
6	9	Attila Tassi	HUN	Hell Energy Racing with KCMG	HUN	Honda Civic Type R FK7 TCR	10	<b>46:12.471</b>	3.711	1.750	75.8	10	2:16.052	154.5
7	11	Jens Reno Møller	DEN	Reno Racing	DEN	Honda Civic Type R FK7 TCR	10	<b>46:13.055</b>	4.295	0.584	75.8	10	2:16.159	154.4
8	38	Danny Kroes	NED	PCR Sport	NED	Cupra TCR	10	<b>46:18.192</b>	9.432	5.137	75.7	10	2:17.120	153.3
9	14	Loris Cencetti	LUX	Autodis Racing by Piro Sports	LUX	Hyundai i30 N TCR	10	<b>46:28.500</b>	19.740	10.308	75.4	10	2:18.730	151.5
10	42	Stefano Comini	SUI	Race Republic	SUI	Subaru WRX STI TCR	10	<b>46:30.233</b>	21.473	1.733	75.3	10	2:19.813	150.4
11	20	Márk Jedlőczy	HUN	JLG Sport	HUN	Cupra TCR	10	<b>46:31.751</b>	22.991	1.518	75.3	7	2:20.517	149.6
12	88	Maxime Potty	BEL	Comtoy Racing	BEL	Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR	10	<b>46:38.466</b>	29.706	6.715	75.1	10	2:21.712	148.4
13	63	Giovanni Altoè	ITA	Pit Lane Competizioni	ITA	Audi RS3 LMS TCR DSG	10	<b>46:39.328</b>	30.568	0.862	75.1	10	2:19.452	150.8
14	94	Kris Richard	SUI	Target Competition	SUI	Hyundai i30 N TCR	10	<b>46:45.212</b>	36.452	5.884	74.9	9	2:24.929	145.1
15	99	Josh Files	GBR	Hell Energy Racing with KCMG	GBR	Honda Civic Type R FK7 TCR	10	<b>46:54.200</b>	45.440	8.988	74.7	9	2:22.726	147.3
16	23	Francisco Abreu	POR	Sports & You	POR	Peugeot 308 TCR	10	<b>47:07.401</b>	58.641	13.201	74.3	10	2:26.139	143.9
17	8	Reece Barr	IRE	Target Competition	IRE	Hyundai i30 N TCR	8	<b>41:50.921</b>	2 Laps	2 Laps	67.0	7	2:21.247	148.8
18	16	Nicola Baldan	ITA	Pit Lane Competizioni	ITA	Hyundai i30 N TCR	8	<b>43:01.716</b>	2 Laps	1:10.795	65.1	7	2:21.051	149.1
<b>Not classified: (Requirements: 75% of number laps of leader = 8 Laps)</b>														
66	Andrea Larini	ITA	Pit Lane Competizioni	ITA	Cupra TCR	6	<b>37:31.397</b>	4 Laps	2 Laps	56.0	2	2:31.515	138.8	
13	Cedric Piro	GER	Autodis Racing by Piro Sports	GER	Honda Civic Type R FK7 TCR	5	<b>34:46.834</b>	5 Laps	1 Lap	50.3	2	2:35.104	135.5	
71	Enrico Bettera	ITA	Pit Lane Competizioni	ITA	Audi RS3 LMS TCR	4	<b>34:47.948</b>	6 Laps	1 Lap	40.2	2	2:47.052	125.8	
34	Stian Paulsen	NOR	Stian Paulsen Racing	NOR	Cupra TCR	3	<b>38:16.112</b>	7 Laps	1 Lap	27.4	1	2:35.138	135.5	
7	Igor Stefanovski	MKD	Stefanovski Racing Team	MKD	Hyundai i30 N TCR	2	<b>5:09.668</b>	8 Laps	1 Lap	135.8	2	2:32.869	137.5	
10	Viktor Davidovsky	MKD	PSS Racing Team	MKD	Honda Civic Type R FK7 TCR	2	<b>5:16.877</b>	8 Laps	7.209	132.7	2	2:34.964	135.7	
24	Gustavo Moura	POR	Speedy Motorsport	POR	Audi RS3 LMS TCR	2	<b>5:18.001</b>	8 Laps	1.124	132.2	2	2:34.371	136.2	

**Fastest lap TASSI in 2:16.052 at 154.6 Km/h in lap 10**

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Track **27.2 °C** Air Temp: **19.3 °C** Humidity: **76 %** Track Status: **WET**

Stewards:

Race Director:

Timekeeper:






