

## **News from the Historic Sports Car Club**

Monday 5 April 2021

### **Classic F3 opens at Donington Park**

The Historic Sports Car Club's Historic Classic Formula 3/Classic Formula Ford 2000 Championship opened at Donington Park on Good Friday (2 April) during the Masters Historic Festival.

The end result was wins for Connor Murphy and Andrew Smith in Formula 3, and a double win for Eric Pagano in FF2000. Murphy and Smith were the class of the F3 pack after some stunningly fast times in qualifying. In the opening race, Murphy got the jump at the start and, after an early safety car period, had built a small cushion to Smith. However, lap-by-lap, the gap came down, and it was less than a fifth of a second by the finish as Murphy took his first Classic F3 win in his March 803.

Behind them, Benn Tilley dropped time off the start after being caught out in his first standing start in his March 743. However, he battled back ahead of Anthony Hancock's Lola T670 to claim third place.

In the second race, Murphy again led until he was caught out in traffic at McLean's and lost the lead to Smith. Soon afterwards, the Murphy March headed for the pits and retirement when a misfire set in and that left Smith comfortably clear of the battle for second. Once again Tilley got the better of Hancock to take the place and further back a tremendous dice between Lee Cunningham, Shaun Hollamby and Keith White went all the way to the flag.

In the FF2000 section Pagani spent most of both races with Murray Shepard right on his gearbox. That was how they finished in the first race and in the second race it was just as close, if not closer still, until a skirmish going into Redgate left Shepherd spinning and losing time before recovering for second place.

Full event results are here: <https://www.tsl-timing.com/event/211351>