

A brilliant anniversary

During the last weekend of April amidst glorious sunshine, the Hockenheimring Baden-Württemberg celebrated its 75. Anniversary during the Jim Clark-Revival. The Chief Organiser Ronny G. Bredhauer organised a five-day-long mega event with the help of the Badischen Motorsportclub. These efforts were honoured by more than 30.000 spectators attending this event - and I don't think that they regretted this.

More than 600 drivers from 23 nations raced on the Grand Prix course with the 18 participating race series and offered a vast variety of vehicles from the 1300 ccm Touring Cars right up to the 800 hp-strong CanAm sports cars as well as from the Formula Ford to the Formula 1. Modern race series like the Formula 3 Cup and the Formula Renault along with the presentation of Formula V and Grand Prix Cars framed the wide range of Championship races of the historic race scene.

GTC-TC'71 + GTC-TC'81

The Championship for GT and Touring Cars was extended this season to include the cars up to 1981 and sport cars and participated in 2 races on the hot tarmac. Most of the cars were from the 1965 but the newer cars set the pace.

Unfortunately Peter Mücke's Ford Capri did not last very long – it was all over during the training. The two BMW M1 Procars of Christian Traber and Marc Devis had to at first cope with the fact that Timo Scheibner pushed to the front with his Chevrolet Corvette. Shortly before the finish, he had to give way to second position – thereby rightly deserving the resounding applause from the spectators. Traber won before his rival counterpart. This would have the same result in the second race but Devis went into a spin during an attack and lost quite a bit of time.

Scheibner won in the 76 GT category before Enea / Mario Casoni and the winner of the previous day Thomas Verhoeven (both driving Porsche 911).

In the GT built up 1965, Michael Menden broke away from his pursuers and won before Wolfram Seehaus (both driving Chevrolet Corvette) and Marc Devis who was driving a Shelby Mustang in this category. Menden had to retire in the second race and the others advanced forward in their positions. Günther Alth came in third with his Jaguar E Type.

Ralf Oehme (Porsche 911) won in the 2500 ccm class on Saturday but he had to give way to the Marcos of Michiel Campagne the next day.

Thomas Fritz won in both races for the Touring Cars built up to 1965 in the 1600 ccm class before his Lotus Cortina colleague Alex Korle.

The win for the highest class went to Reinhold Gröpper (Ford Mustang) whose colleague Dirk Waaijenberg drifted to the second position or respectively third position earning thunderous applause from the spectators. After a breakdown in the first race, Fritz Vogel / Beat Müller came in second on Sunday with their Ford Falcon. The fastest Touring Car pilot in the 76 category was Helmut Stein who crossed the finishing line twice as the leader with his Ford Escort MK 1 before Paul Singer (Porsche 914). Eric Rickenbach secured the winning points for Sports Cars and GTP with his Ford GT 40 against Armin Zumtobel (Porsche 904).

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