



F1 Championship Round 4: Brazil

Qualifying 1 – 12 Drivers

Round 4 started with 12 drivers waiting in the pit lane for the green light for the start of qualifying 1. The first few laps saw a black flag being given out to Julian Philippe for an inside line manoeuvre, pushing a driver out of the way giving him the advantage to overtake. There was a lot of pack racing throughout with drivers finding it hard to put in their personal best times. At the chequered flag the three eliminated drivers were Kevin Rosental – P10, Ka Wai Wong P11, and Jianyang Wang – P12

Qualifying 2 – 9 Drivers

After the loss of three drivers there was a lot more space on the circuit and all drivers were posting quicker times than in Q1. A clean session, all drivers had done all they could by the end but for three drivers their best wasn't quick enough. John Teasdale – P7, Lee Maguire – P8, Wen Lang – P9 and James Benson – P10.

Qualifying 3 – 6 Drivers

The last qualifying was a shootout for pole position. Shirley Hennessy was showing good pace in the session and after a solid performance was just knocked down by a position by Dwayne Marsden who just pipped her to the post in second. David Softley once again managed to post the best lap time and start the race in pole.

Starting Grid

P1	David Softley
P2	Dwayne Marsden
P3	Shirley Hennessy
P4	Jonny Elliot
P5	Julian Philippe
P6	Mitch Millet
P7	John Teasdale
P8	Lee Maguire
P9	Wen Lang
P10	Kevin Rosental
P11	Ka Wai Wong
P12	Jianyang Wang



The Brazil Grand Prix 71 Laps

After a short break the drivers were back in their karts taking their starting positions for the gruelling 71 lap race. A few of the returning drivers already knew what to expect and knew that to get through this would require a lot of concentration and stamina.

Lights out on the grid and Dwayne Marsden had only one thing on his mind, getting a quick start and closing off any gap on the inside line to stop Shirley Hennessey getting through. Unfortunately for Shirley she had to brake to avoid any contact and with everyone pedal to metal she did well to get out of the 1st few corners still in 5th position. Coming over the bridge Mitch Millett managed to get on the outside line as he managed to stay alongside Julian Philippe he found himself on the inside line on the exit and moved himself up to 4th a much better start than in previous races.

The early stages of the race saw a few drivers swapping and changing positions. After a poor qualifying round Lee Maguire was fighting his way through the pack some times getting a bit too close to his competitors at the end of Lap 5 he had managed to pick up a second bumping warning the marshals were keeping a close eye on him any more and a black flag would be called. 8 Laps in to the race David Softley was holding tight in 1st place but coming under pressure from a quicker Dwayne Marsden knowing he was gaining on him David switched to a defensive line but could not hold on and eventually had to concede his place when Dwayne Marsden made a move up the inside on the 1st hairpin. 2 Laps later Jonny Elliot saw the same gap on David Softley and again made a move up the inside on the same corner David Softley now down in 3rd. By lap 11 of the race the quick pace of the leading pack was catching the back markers and the marshals were on hand with their blue flags moving the slower drivers out of the way.

On lap 25 there was an incident on circuit where a Jonny Elliot's kart had failed so in order for the marshals to safely rescue him full circuit yellows came in to effect. But for many drivers on the track they failed to notice the warning signals and the marshals on the track as they continued racing so black flags were issued to 5 drivers. Having served their penalties the drivers were allowed back on to the track but the time served in the sin bin was enough to almost flip the field over 5 of the top drivers who were fighting for a podium were now towards the back of the field and had some ground to make up.

At this stage of the race David Softley has managed to push forward and get a 6 second lead from his next rival Lee Maguire. The marshals were on top form keeping the blue flags out trying to keep it a clean race but even with the aid of the blue flags drivers were still finding it difficult to pass as Gordon Lindsay found out on lap 33 as he chooses the wrong path to try and pass a back marker he has to anchor on his brakes to avoid contact which opened the door for Mitch Millett to pass and move in to 5th.

The race settled down for a while with only a few positions being lost due to bad moves around back markers who were still being blue flagged by the marshals. Jonny Elliot had done well to get himself back in to the top 3 with some good overtakes all be it with the help of backmarkers slowing down some of his competitors.

This late stage of the race the field was keeping its shape drivers were finding it hard to gain positions around the circuit. A few incidents were occurring on the track as Jianyang Wang was getting indecisive as to what line to take to let faster drivers past as he was weaving across the track to avoid drivers he was causing more harm then good. A black flag was issued so the marshals could give some advice.

As we entered the final 10 laps of the race Dwayne Marsden was coming under pressure from Jonny Elliot having battled his way back in to 2nd place he was closing on Dwayne putting him under pressure. As at the start of the race with David Softley taking a defensive line so too did Dwayne. Jonny was heaping on the pressure and giving a few knocks to the back of Dwayne's kart in which he picked up a bumping warning. Dwayne was showing good composure to stay on his defensive line and keep the door closed so Jonny couldn't get past. In the last couple of laps he managed to find a gap ahead of Jonny and quickly switched back to a quick line to take his kart across the line at the chequered flag for the victory.

1st – Dwayne Marsden, 2nd – Jonny Elliot, 3rd – Julian Philippe