
Super Sophia is ready to shine

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HHC Motorsport's rookie driver Sophia Floersch has made a bright start to her Kickstart Energy Ginetta Junior Championship campaign with a host of impressive performances at Brands Hatch. The young driver from Germany has quickly found her comfort zone driving the Ginetta G40 and has already won over many fans with her positive attitude and committed driving style. Although Sophia was disappointed with her performance in race two, she has many positives to take away with her heading into the rest of the season.

Like many drivers who compete in the Kickstart Energy Ginetta Junior Championship, Sophia's racing career began in karts where she found much success, acquiring crucial sponsorship deals along the way. After competing in Friday's test session at Brands Hatch, Sophia was excited and upbeat ahead of final practice on Saturday, eager to impress teams and fans alike with her car racing debut approaching. Throughout the session, Floersch was flirting with the top of the leaderboard and held first position for a large part of the session before ending practice a close second to TCR rookie Dave Wooder.

As qualifying drew near, Sophia was focussed on the job in hand and knew one small mistake could cost her several positions on the grid with the close nature of the series. Throughout the session Floersch improved and ended qualifying in fifth, a great effort for a rookie driver competing in the championship for the first time. However, Sophia was disappointed that she wasn't closer to the front, displaying the winning attitude which has helped her to multiple karting victories. When looking at the times, her frustrations were realised as her ideal lap time would've put her on pole but unfortunately Sophia couldn't hook up both sectors in one complete lap.

Later in the day Floersch took to the track for her maiden Kickstart Energy Ginetta Junior Championship race, starting on the third row of the grid. After making a good start, Sophia fell to sixth but quickly regained her composure as she re-entered the top-5 and maintained fifth position during the course of the race. With high expectations set by herself heading into the weekend, Sophia was disappointed that she couldn't challenge for the win but collecting a trophy for the third highest rookie served as a welcoming confidence booster after a challenging introduction to the championship.

Determined to come back stronger for race two, Sophia appeared driven yet relaxed as the drivers made their way into the paddock area before the event got underway. Floersch's demeanour in and around the team is one of pure professionalism, nonetheless her personality shines through off the track with Sophia possessing a wonderful type of charisma which is sure to earn her an ever increasing fan base. When race two got underway, misfortune struck as contact from another driver spun Sophia and damaged her bonnet before the race was red flagged for an unrelated incident. Luckily for Floersch she was able to retake her position of fifth when the race got underway for a second time but an unfortunate spin caused further damage to her bonnet. Despite nearly falling a lap behind, Sophia drove her heart out to stay on the lead lap and was hugely committed at every corner despite her Ginetta G40 suffering damage. Her resilience paid off as a late safety car came out which allowed Floersch to catch up to the pack and narrowly miss out on a points scoring finish. It may not have been the result the young rookie was looking for, but Sophia showed great character and desire with a never give up attitude which will serve her extremely well throughout her career.



Sophia relaxing in the paddock area before race two of the weekend

Even though the championship standings state otherwise, Sophia was a standout driver during the opening meeting of the Kickstart Energy Ginetta Junior Championship with her raw talent shining through. At only 14 years of age, Floersch already holds many impressive qualities both on and off the track and a level of maturity which is rarely shown by drivers in the infancy of their careers. With the next round of the championship at Donington just over a week away, Floersch will be preparing herself for another challenging weekend but there is no doubt that we will see Sophia fighting for victories in races to come.

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