



# NEWS *CIK-FIA Championships*

**THE LEADERS OF THE CIK-FIA EUROPEAN CHAMPS TAOUFIK (MAR – FA KART-VORTEX OK), EDGAR (GB - EXPRIT-TM OKJ), DE CONTO (I - CRG-TM KZ) AND KÖHLER (D – TONY KART-VORTEX KZ2) ARE READY FOR LAST ROUND, NEXT WEEKEND IN KRISTIANSTAD (S). LIVE STREAMING ON CIKFIA.TV AND CIKFIACHAMPIONSHIP.COM.**

**No. 26 – 26<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2017**

**THE CIK-FIA EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP AT ITS LAST EVENT IN KRISTIANSTAD.** After last Sunday's heated duels, which thrilled the attendance on the stand of the circuit in Alaharma (FIN), the CIK-FIA European Championship is heading to the sixth and last decisive appointment. The final event of the season is taking place in Kristianstad (S) next weekend; it is going to be again a spectacular show, made even more interesting by the battle for the European titles. The two rounds in Scandinavia with the OK, OKJ, KZ and KZ2 categories are the final act of a series of six events which started in April with the season-opener in southern Europe, in Sarno (ITA) and then moved north as far as the Scandinavian countries. Very likely, the European titles will be awarded only in the last stages of the Swedish competition, with new drivers joining the battle for the leadership. The Championship outcome is going to be unpredictable until the end for OK, OKJ and KZ2, while in KZ the Italian Paolo De Conto has already grabbed the victory at the recent round in Le Mans (F): for this category, the battle is still open for the podium places.

**FOLLOW THE FINAL SHOWDOWN ON VIDEO.**

The closing day of the European Championship from Kristianstad – Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July – will be available on video for all the Motorsport fans eager to follow every minute of the duels on track. The web-channels **cikfia.tv** and **cikfiachampionship.com** will start streaming the event at 10:30am, with the last Heats. Double appointment on Motorsport.TV with the usual special report – next week - with the highlights of the two weekends from Alaharma and from Kristianstad.

**TAOUFIK LEADS THE FINAL SPRINT FOR THE OK TITLE.**

It is the first time that a driver from Morocco can aim at a CIK-FIA title: Sami Taoufik (FA Kart-Vortex-LeCont), while celebrating on the podium of Alaharma, showed to be aware and proud of it, wrapping himself in the flag of his country. Taoufik has grown steadily during the last two seasons: the victory in Finland pushed him to the top of the standings with 64 points. Behind him, with a gap of 8 points, the Spanish Pedro Hiltbrand (Tony Kart-Vortex), while another Spaniard, David Vidales (Tony Kart-Vortex), has lost ground since the beginning of the season: he lost the leadership and he is now third with 52 points. In fourth position we find two drivers with 51 points: the French Theo Pourchaire (Kosmic-Vortex) and the Russian Pavel Bulantsev (Tony Kart-Vortex). Despite the gap with the leadership, they still stand a good chance.

**CIK-FIA EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP (Rd5)  
CIK-FIA EUROPEAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP (Rd5)  
CIK-FIA EUROPEAN KZ CHAMPIONSHIP (Rd4)  
CIK-FIA EUROPEAN KZ2 CHAMPIONSHIP (Rd3)**

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**CIK-FIA EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS**

21-23/04	Sarno (I)	KZ - OK - OKJ
12-14/05	Genk (B)	KZ - KZ2 - Academy Trophy
09-11/06	La Morgal (E)	KZ - OK - OKJ
30/6-02/7	Le Mans (F)	KZ2 - OK - OKJ - Ac. Trophy
21-23/07	Alaharma (FIN)	OK - OKJ - Academy Trophy
<b>28-30/07</b>	<b>Kristianstad (S)</b>	<b>KZ - KZ2 - OK - OKJ</b>



**TAOUFIK (#119, ABOVE) IS THE NEW LEADER OF OK CATEGORY. IN 2<sup>ND</sup> PAGE, THE LEADERS OF THE OTHER CATEGORIES: EDGAR (#216, OKJ); DE CONTO (#4, KZ); KÖHLER (#332, KZ2); HANDSAEME (#508, ACADEMY TROPHY).**

PHOTOS BY PRESS.NET IMAGES

## EDGAR KEEPS THE LEADERSHIP IN OK JUNIOR.

The English Jonny Edgar (Exprit-TM-Vega) is still the leader of the OK Junior, thanks to the magnificent victory achieved in Alaharma after a thrilling duel with the Australian Jack Doohan (FA Kart-Vortex). Edgar, who scored his second victory after the success in the season-opener in Sarno, is followed by his fellow countryman Harry Thompson (FA Kart-Vortex), second with 70 points. Thompson showed great skills in scoring the third place in Alaharma, and he is the most dangerous rival for Edgar in the race for the title. Third place, with 59 points, for the French Hadrien David, who overtook the German O'neill Muth (both drivers on Zanardi-Parilla). The latter, however, can still aim at a podium position thanks to his 53 points. Fifth place - with 42 points - in the championship standings for the English Christopher Lulham (Tony Kart-Parilla).

## FINAL SPRINT FOR THE PODIUM POSITIONS BEHIND THE LEADER DE CONTO.

The title of the KZ was already awarded to the Italian Paolo De Conto (CRG-TM-Bridgestone) at the second round in Oviedo (E). So, in the last round of Kristianstad drivers will battle only for the remaining podium positions. Patrik Hajek (Kosmic-Vortex) is currently second with 57 points, behind De Conto with 100. The Czech driver leads the race to the runner-up position ahead of two Dutchmen, Marijn Kremers (Birel-TM) and Stan Pex (CRG-TM), who are currently third with 53 points. Another Dutch, Bas Lammers (Sodi Kart-TM), can still aim at a good result from his fifth position with 46 points.

## IN HOT PURSUIT OF KÖHLER, THE LEADER KZ2.

It was one of the many turns of the events occurred in this season which brought the German Leon Köhler (Tony Kart-Vortex-Bridgestone) to the top of the standings with 47 points. In the surprising finale of the second round in Le Mans (F), in fact, the retirement of the Italian Matteo Viganò (Tony Kart-Vortex) revolutionised the standings: the Italian missed a victory which was already his and, at the same time, he lost the overall leadership. He got overtaken also by his fellow countrymen Paolo Ippolito (Lenzo-LKE) and Alex Irlando (Sodi-TM), who are both second with 42 points. Viganò is still one of the frontrunners thanks to his 4<sup>th</sup> place (40 p.) and he is eager to redeem himself in Sweden. Good chances also for the Lithuanian Rokas Baciuska (Sodi-TM), fifth with 35 points.

## HANDESAEME WINS THE ACADEMY TROPHY.

It wasn't easy for the Belgian Xavier Handsaeme to win the Academy Trophy, even though his most dangerous rivals, the Dutch Tijmen van der Helm and the French Sami Meguetounif, had some trouble in Alaharma. The Brazilian Francisco Melo D. Porto won the Final ahead of Handsaeme who, thanks to this result, managed to win the CIK-FIA Trophy. Van der Helm, third in the race, is the runner-up, while Melo is third. Fourth position for the Dutch Mike van Vugt, ahead of Meguetounif (all drivers on Exprit-Vortex-Bridgestone).

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