

## POSITIVE FIRST FIA RACE FOR GERASIM SKULANOV



Gerasim Skulanov - Photo credit: Manuela Nicoletti

The **3<sup>rd</sup> Round of the FIA European Championship** on the **Sarno** racetrack has ended with excellent indications for the young talent of the CRG team, **Gerasim Skulanov**, who was able to compete as equals in terms of speed with the best drivers of the OK Junior class, during his first international race under the aegis of the FIA.

During free practice the young Russian **was consistently among the fastest drivers** and perhaps he just lacked a little experience when the track became very rubbered from qualifying on, but the fact he managed to make it to the Final and that he was able to fight against much more experienced drivers, it is certainly an excellent starting point for him. It must be said that in the Final he was stopped by a contact that saw him sliding down to P30, when he had already reached the points zone in the middle of the group.

**Simone Bianco** was more unfortunate as he was penalized by two contacts in the heats that stripped him of the Final. For the Italian driver, the weekend ended with a lot of disappointment, but also with the awareness of having the potential to achieve a significant result soon.

In the OK class, on the other hand, **Rasmus Joutsimies'** race lasted only one heat, stopped by a problem to his ribs and forced to retire from the event, while **Ksenia Phoenix** showed excellent progress on the track, setting excellent times. The Russian girl is doing a training course in karting aiming at subsequent automotive programs that the FIA is promoting for women and has proven to be very close in terms of performance to the best drivers in this demanding category.

For the drivers of the direct drive categories there will be no break until 25<sup>th</sup> July: this week the paddock will be rebuilt on the Spanish track of Zuera for the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of the Champions of the Future, a preparation race for the last test of the European Championship, which will take place in Zuera from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> July.