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Dennis Marschall battles through to last-minute victory

- Dennis Marschall wins Race 1 of final weekend in 2014 Formel ADAC season
- Maximilian Günther defends championship runner-up spot with P2
- Neuhauser Racing clinch team title with two races to go

Hockenheimring: Race 1

Date:	4th October 2014	Race:	22/24
Weather:	Sunny, 17°C	Track length:	4,574 metres
Pole:	Maximilian Günther	Laps:	15
Winner:	Dennis Marschall	Fastest lap:	Dennis Marschall (01:45.292)

Hockenheim. The finish of the first Formel ADAC race of the season finale at the Hockenheimring could hardly have been more thrilling. Dennis Marschall (18, Germany, Lotus) secured victory on the final lap with an overtaking manoeuvre on Maximilian Günther (17, Germany, ADAC Berlin-Brandenburg e.V.). Newly crowned champion Mikkel Jensen (19, Denmark, Neuhauser Racing) completed the podium party in third place.

“I had been hoping to end the season on another high, and everything worked out brilliantly,” said Lotus rookie Marschall after his second win of the season. The die was cast on the 15th and final lap. After going on a charge and posting several personal best times, ADAC Sports Foundation protégé Marschall gradually reduced the deficit on pole-setter Günther. Marschall pulled off the decisive overtaking move on the 17-year-old on the way to the Mercedes-Tribüne.

But Günther was unwilling to yield and launched a counter attack. There was a slight contact with Marschall’s car. While the series newcomer emerged unscathed, Günther briefly lost control of his single-seater. He regained control of his Formel ADAC powered by Volkswagen at the last moment to cross the finish line in second place.

Günther defends championship runner-up spot

Günther may have missed out on a fifth victory of the season but still had reason to celebrate. The ADAC Sports Foundation protégé secured the championship runner-up trophy ahead of time, a piece of silverware that he had already won the previous year. His closest rivals, Tim Zimmermann (18, Germany, Neuhauser Racing) and local favourite Marvin Dienst (17, Germany, ADAC Berlin-Brandenburg e.V.) were unable to finish higher than P5 and P9 respectively. With his current points tally, Günther cannot be caught in the last two races at the historic Hockenheim track.

Günther appeared to be a certain winner for a long time. Starting from pole position, the defending and now new championship runner-up quickly pulled away from the rest of the field, extending a lead of almost three seconds. He benefited from a close-fought scrap between Jensen and Marschall for second place. Marschall had lined up in P4 on the grid but managed to overtake the Danish champion on the second lap, thereby paving the way for his subsequent success.

Joel Eriksson (16, Sweden, Lotus) crossed the finish line in fourth place ahead of Neuhauser Racing’s Zimmermann. The two series newcomers fought a number of thrilling battles in the opening stage of the race until Eriksson successfully won through on the fourth lap.



Media information

Neuhauser Racing win team championship

Neuhauser Racing secured an early win in the team championship thanks to Jensen's 15th podium finish and Zimmermann's fifth place. The Austrian team head the overall standings on 577 points. They have a lead of 93 points on second-placed team Mücke Motorsport, who compete under the aegis of the ADAC Berlin-Brandenburg e.V. The outfit led by team boss Hannes Neuhauser can no longer be caught.

Having previously finished runners-up on three occasions, Neuhauser Racing have now won the championship for the first time, and they enter the record books as the last team champions in the seven-year history of Formel ADAC. Next season marks the debut of the new ADAC Formula 4, the successor to the series which has spawned such talents as Formula 1 test driver Pascal Wehrlein. Neuhauser Racing had already notched up victory in the drivers' championship with Jensen on the previous race weekend at the Sachsenring.

Comments from the Top Three

Dennis Marschall (18, Germany, Lotus), Winner:

"I had been hoping to end the season on another high, and everything worked out brilliantly. After a somewhat difficult qualifying session, we changed the setup yet again before the race. I noticed within the first few metres that the car was a lot better than yesterday. I got off to a good start, immediately moved up to third and then quickly went past Mikkel Jensen. From this moment on, I gradually closed the gap on Maximilian Günther at the front. On the final lap, I got a perfect slipstream advantage. At the hairpin, I placed myself on the outside but then crossed back and accelerated past him on the inside. Shortly after that, there was a contact between us, but fortunately my car didn't suffer any damage."

Maximilian Günther (17, Germany, ADAC Berlin-Brandenburg e.V.), Second:

"I'm a bit disappointed that I could ultimately only finish second. But I'm not going to reproach myself, as I did everything correctly. At the start, I immediately held on to the lead, and my race pace was good. Unfortunately, I kept losing time on the opposition on the long straight in the middle sector. I tried everything I could to keep Dennis Marschall behind me. Obviously, it's a pity to lose the race win on the final lap. But anyway, I gave it everything I'd got, and I had no chance against the differential in speed. Shortly before the end of the race, there was a misunderstanding when I tried to win the position back. Unfortunately, there was a bit of a bump, but at least we were able to keep driving. This result means that I've now got the championship runner-up trophy in the bag. That was my objective for the weekend, and it's nice to have achieved it in the first of the three races."

Mikkel Jensen (19, Denmark, Neuhauser Racing), Third:

"Unfortunately, that just wasn't our race. I lost one position right at the start. Even if Dennis Marschall hadn't passed me there, it was going to happen sooner or later. Sadly, our car wasn't fast enough today. Also, I was struggling with understeer. I'm glad that we have at least secured the team championship. That means we have achieved the absolute maximum this year."

Formel ADAC on TV

Sat 4th October	4.00pm	Internet	Live stream, Race 2: www.adac.de/formel-adac
Sun 5th October	3.05pm	Internet	Live stream, Race 3: www.adac.de/formel-adac
Mon 6th October	1.40am	kabel eins	ran Racing – ADAC GT Masters Magazine
Fri 10th October	2.00pm	SPORT1	ADAC GT Masters Magazine
Sat 11th October	9.00am	SPORT1+	ADAC GT Masters Magazine



Media information

Media Contact

Formel ADAC

Robert Seiwert, adrivo Sportpresse GmbH

Tel: +49 (0) 89 189 659 260; mobile: +49 (0) 160 9797 3030; email: adac@adrivo.com

ADAC eV

Kay-Oliver Langendorff, Head of Communication (Motorsport and Classic Cars)

Tel: +49 (0) 89 7676 6936; mobile: +49 (0) 171 555 5936; email: kay.langendorff@adac.de

www.adac.de/formel-adac

