

MOLECULE Racing™

Christodoulou Makes up Championship Ground on the Streets of Trois-Rivieres

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Benicia, CA

Making his first appearance on a temporary street circuit Adam Christodoulou experienced a weekend full of ups and downs yet still managed to make up ground on points leader Peter Dempsey in Round Ten of the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear for the Grand Prix of Trois-Rivieres.

Driving the #11 Molecule Labs JDC Motorsports Mazda, the UK native started the weekend on a lofty note after topping the opening practice session on the 1.521-mile circuit. "The 1st session on the Friday went surprisingly well, at 1st it was a bit daunting knowing that there is very little room for error, it's a bit like the oval scenario, if you make a mistake then there's a nice concrete wall to support you either side of the track," Adam explained. "I took my time getting to know the place before I started pushing, at the end of session one I was battling it out for fastest lap, we put new tires on and we topped the charts."

After going over data and making a few changes to the car, Christodoulou would post the second fastest time in the final practice session of the weekend. "The 2nd session went really well, ending up second in the standings. I was happy with my pace and I knew that it was going to be close in qualifying."

Hopes of a pole run were dashed in qualifying when a red flag was brought out as championship points leader Dempsey made contact with the wall under the Arch corner as Christodoulou was preparing to set his flying laps. "At the start of qualifying I was 2nd out the pits and the drivers in the previous qualifying session were already producing times quicker than testing, so I knew the pace was going to be quick. We chose to go out on old tires for the start of the qualifying to get a base line before we put on new tires but unfortunately things didn't quite go to plan," Adam revealed.

"Unfortunately for me, my main rivals made contact, causing one of them to have a puncture putting him in the wall. By the time the track was cleared qualifying was finished. I wasn't happy with qualifying, because I knew I had the pace to be on the front row but I was left in fourth position for the start of the race."

Sunday's championship battle started on pre-grid as Dempsey's team failed to get his car to pre-grid on time, forcing him to start from pit lane while the rest of the field moved up a position. Christodoulou would rocket off of the standing start to jump into the lead by the second corner but an opening lap incident further back in the field would force him back into third place. "Because we hadn't completed the lap I had to give back the positions I had made up at the start, putting me back to 3rd. I felt robbed. It was an extremely close race, there was a group of 6 cars all battling it out trying to get ahead of each other."

Fighting an engine that was down on power in the closing laps Christodoulou was hanging on in third place when a restart on the closing laps presented an opportunity to gain another position. As the green flag came out on the final lap Christodoulou sought to move into second place.

"There were only minutes to spare before the chequered flag dropped and we had one last restart with one lap to go, I tried a move for 2nd place, but couldn't pull it off allowing 2 cars past. I couldn't believe it, I had 3rd place and I made a minor error moving me back to 5th, I attempted to make at least one place up but the chequered flag was out and the race was over. The racing was so close and it showed. If anyone made a slight error they paid for it losing positions or not finishing."

"I had mixed emotions after the race, I was annoyed I didn't make it on the podium, but I was happy to finish the race and I gained valuable points in the championship so that there is only a 10 point difference in the championship now with 3 rounds to go," Adam said. "And for Trois-Rivieres itself the atmosphere



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was unbelievable, the crowds were packed, there were plenty of activities going on during the day and evenings of the race weekend.”

The series now heads to Mosport International Raceway in Ontario, Canada, for Round Eleven of the Championship on August 27-29.

About Molecule Labs

Molecule Labs has its roots in both specialty chemical manufacturing and motor sports. Over the years, its creator, Michael Guasch, has often worn a lab coat one day and a racing suit the next. His unique understanding of these two distinct professions brought Molecule™ Technical Fabric Care System into being. Guasch's expertise developing innovative protective chemicals led to the sale of one of his national brands to a Fortune 500 company in 2005. But instead of retiring, he decided to devote more time to racing.

With his increased time on the racetrack, Guasch realized that his Nomex® racing suits required special care that dry cleaning and ordinary laundry products could not provide. So he returned to the lab to develop a new line of protective chemicals and care products specifically formulated for Nomex® and other technical fabrics. After two years of development and testing, in the lab and on the track, Guasch and his new company have created the four-step Molecule™ Technical Fabric Care System. Additional information on Molecule Labs can be obtained from the corporate website @ <http://www.moleculelabs.com>

