

SIGP 2019 RACE REPORT

We arrived at the incredible Sunpadow facilities in Xiamen, China for open practice on Wednesday.

Sharing the track with all the other classes meant a little bit of waiting in between runs. Limited on practice I was happy with the direction of setup for the 989. Team mate Merlin Depta joined us on Thursday, working together we were comfortable with the car performance. The track having a different style of grip and varying in speed between the morning and night runs made it a challenge to follow.

Friday we started with 2 qualifying runs, using the 'rocket round' format of single fastest 4min. The first round of Qual I tried a different engine, getting a tune. Unfortunately while on a good pace I ran out of fuel on the second of three qualys. The 3rd round was held the following night, with near perfect conditions I was able to take the TQ position giving us a direct spot in the 45 minute A main!

Tyre strategy was going to play a key role for the main, the tyre wear rate was very high. Having a good start I was able to lead the field controlling my pace knowing I needed to conserve tyres, dropping to second place after the first round of fuel stops I was still comfortable hoping the strategy would work, unfortunately around the 15min mark my motor would decide it was too hot and stopped running! My great pit team did their best to get me back out circulating, having lost too much time and a broken engine I could not fight my way back up.

This event was truly amazing! Having over 250 entries with a great atmosphere really makes a race meeting special. Highly recommended!

I would like to say a big thank you to all the volunteers and race officials.

Also Huge thankyou to the Serpent Family/Team!!

Cheers,

Jeff Hamon