

# Charlie *Kimball*

## KIMBALL CONTINUES PROGRESS AT THE EURO SPEEDWAY

American Charlie Kimball continued his challenge in the Formula 3 EuroSeries this past weekend, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of April, at the Lausitzring road course of the EuroSpeedway in Germany. The young driver made successful progress in the practice sessions before qualifying, setting one of the fastest times in the wet session. However when it came to qualifying, Kimball struggled, managing to qualify only 17<sup>th</sup> position. He drove superbly well in Race 1 to finish ninth and continued to make progress by finishing eighth in Race 2.

After varied track conditions during the three practice sessions for the weekend, qualifying was dry, cloudy and cold. Kimball struggled through the session to find the balance of the car and was only able to set a time fastest enough to place him 17<sup>th</sup> on the grid. The American said, "I am incredibly disappointed because I know I am better than 17<sup>th</sup> in this field. I have struggled with the car and we are fundamentally lacking in pace. I am however confident I can race through the field."

Race 1 was again held in dry conditions and Kimball took full advantage of the first few laps to improve his position. After the safety car was deployed early in the race, the Signature driver was comfortably running in 10<sup>th</sup> position, chasing down ninth. He continued to drive confidently and strongly and made two successful passes into the first corner. He outranked Manor driver Kohei Hirate and then slipped passed Prema Power Team driver Joao Urbano a few laps later.

Kimball was disappointed but pleased with how he drove: "The car was twitchy and I was struggling with extensive set-up issues, however I kept my head in the race, made some great passes and caught my car every time it tried to get away from me! It does however drive me crazy that if I had finished one position better, I would be starting on pole for Race 2."

Kimball's finishing position in Race 1 meant he started Race 2 from 9<sup>th</sup> on the grid. He didn't make the best start but made it through the first lap cleanly. Kimball then focused on running down Urbano again and was able to pressure the Portuguese driver into a mistake with three laps to go. Kimball then held station to finish the race in 8<sup>th</sup> and kept hard charging ASM driver Giedo van der Garde behind him.

The young American said after Race 2, "We made some setup changes to the car, and while it didn't solve the problems, the car was much more predictable and consistent. I was pushing to the limit on every lap but we were still about a second off the pace. I am pleased with how I performed but we need to go to work on the car before the next race."

Kimball will next be on track at the German circuit of Oschersleben, the 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> May. In the meantime he will be spending some time with the Signature team at their factory in France and continuing his physical training program.

### About Charlie Kimball:

Charlie Kimball is a successful young American racing driver forging a career in the highly competitive world of open wheel racing. He has spent the last few years racing in some of the most competitive racing categories in the world including British Formula 3, Formula 3 Euroseries and the World Series by Renault. The 2009 season sees Kimball returning to the United States as he challenges for the title in the Firestone Indy Lights Championship.

For more information, please visit [www.CharlieKimball.com](http://www.CharlieKimball.com), or email [Charlie@CharlieKimball.com](mailto:Charlie@CharlieKimball.com).

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**Website** [www.CharlieKimball.com](http://www.CharlieKimball.com)  
**USA** 89 Pino Court Camarillo CA 93010  
**England**  
**Sponsorship + Investment** Gordon Kimball

**Email** [Charlie@CharlieKimball.com](mailto:Charlie@CharlieKimball.com)  
**Tel** +1 805 388-8886 **Cell** +1 805 444-2606  
**Mobile** +44 (0) 779 278 8950  
**Tel** +1 805 445-9263 **Cell** +1 805 469-8815