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## Auto GP Monza: Riccardo Agostini on pole for series debut at Monza

By Peter Mills

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Auto GP debutant Riccardo Agostini will head an all-Italian front two rows for Saturday afternoon's opening race of 2013.

The Manor MP Motorsport driver demoted his predecessor as Italian Formula 3 champion, Sergio Campana, from the head of the timing screens just four minutes from the end of the half-hour session.

Agostini improved on his provisional pole time on his following tour, and achieved the honour of being the only man under the 1m36s barrier after recording a lap of 1m35.782s.

Campana's second position remained a worthy effort after technical trouble in free practice. Last year's Marrakech Auto GP victor only signed to drive for Guiseppe Cipriani's Ibiza Racing team days before this weekend's opening round.

[Free practice two pacesetter](#) Vittorio Ghirelli ended the afternoon in third for reigning champion team Super Nova International, ahead of Virtuosi UK's local racer Andrea Roda - who gained two positions on his final lap.

Romanian Robert Visiou, the youngest driver in the championship, is set to make his maiden Auto GP start from fifth place on the grid.

Kimiya Sato was the first to record a representative time a little under a third of the way into the session. The Japanese Euronova Racing driver maintained top spot until being usurped by Campana with 10 minutes left.

Sato would slip to an eventual sixth place ahead of team-mate Yoshitaka Kuroda.

Formula 2 champion Luciano Bacheta was 10th, two places ahead of his Zele team-mate, former HRT F1 driver Narain Karthikeyan.