



Norma Driver Trophy Benelux – Round 4: Circuit Zolder

## Bert Longin, Stienes Longin, Christoff Corten and Giorgio Maggi win the 24 Hours of Zolder

- Krafft Racing claim victory in their first participation
- Bert Longin joint-record holder for number of victories in the 24 Hours of Zolder
- Sam Dejonghe (Deldiche Racing by JTB) and Bert Longin (Krafft Racing) leaders in Norma Driver Trophy Benelux

**HEUSDEN-ZOLDER – Bert Longin, Stienes Longin, Christoff Corten and the Swiss driver Giorgio Maggi superbly clinched victory in the 24 Hours of Zolder. Following the twenty-four hour race the foursome brought the Krafft Racing Norma M20 FC home in first spot, getting the better of the Porsche of the four times winner Belgium Racing and the McDonald's Racing Norma M20 FC manned by François Bouillon, Koen De Wit, Frédéric Vervisch and Kris Cools. As such two Norma machines were on the overall podium following Zolder's gruelling endurance race, two years after the French constructor's previous victory. Worth noting also the excellent third place in the Norma Driver Trophy Benelux for T2 Racing Norma M20 FC of Stephan Britzinger, Mike Fenzl, Marc Weber, Dirk Vleugels and Alex Cascatau.**

*"The Norma M20 FC was the chosen pre-eminent battle weapon for the 24 Hours of Zolder", Norma Driver Trophy Benelux-coordinator Vincent Desschans commented. "Victory in the 24 Hours of Zolder in 2017 and the full scorecard in the Belcar Endurance Championship 2019 influenced many prominent teams to appear at the start with the French CN Prototype. More than that: all CN Prototypes on the entry list were Norma cars and each in turn grabbed the lead at a given moment. Goes to show how intense the battle was."*

Nonetheless the 24 Hours of Zolder is a pretty tough competition, and due to various incidents and collisions the night claimed its victims. Even the eventual Krafft Racing winner was not spared. *"Roughly around midnight the alternator on our Norma M20 FC #11 gave up the ghost, whereby we lost quite a few laps in the pit box", Bert Longin added. "With that we lost our place as leaders, but we were fully determined to battle it out for an overall podium place. As it transpired we could even look at setting our sights on a victory, something completely unexpected due to our loss of time during the night. To win this race for the sixth time and that together with my son Stienes, a mere week after he became a father, is quite simply out of this world. Stienes, Christoff Corten and Giorgio Maggi were*





*the perfect teammates and implemented our strategic plan right through in its finest details."*

The competitors of the Norma Driver Trophy Benelux can now enjoy a thoroughly deserved summer break, prior to tackling the penultimate meeting of the season. During the final round of the NASCAR European Championship weekend, to be held at Circuit Zolder on 6<sup>th</sup> October, a 125 minutes race is scheduled.

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### **Calendar 2019**

17-19 May: DTM (Circuit Zolder – 2 races)

31 May - Jun: Superprix (Circuit Zolder)

12-13 July: 25H VW Fun Cup (Spa-Francorchamps)

8-11 August: 24H Zolder (Circuit Zolder)

5-6 October: American Festival NASCAR Finals (Circuit Zolder)

19-20 October: Finaleraces (TT Circuit Assen)

