



Hall ends Perth training on a high

PERTH – Matt Hall finished the final training session in Perth on Friday on a high note with the second-fastest recorded time after the Australian ace struggled somewhat in the two earlier training sessions on the race track just above the Swan River ahead of Saturday's Qualifying and his first home race in the Red Bull Air Race World Championship on Sunday.

Hall recorded a time of 1:31.37 over the 6.6-km track in Friday's compensation training round, where 10 of the 15 pilots got an extra training session based on the results in the last race in Abu Dhabi. Hall's time was only 0.16 behind the fastest time of the session set by Austria's Hannes Arch.

"Things have been pretty crazy this week with all my commitments and the interruptions with the weather, but now I'm really looking forward to getting into Langley Park, getting settled and enjoying my flying," said Hall.

"Hopefully everyone in Perth will get down there and cheer me on over the weekend," he added.

Hall and the other 14 pilots from 12 other countries around the world have been forced to set up their hangars at the Jandakot Airport due to heavy rain earlier in the week that made it impossible to fly out of the Race Airport set up on the grass of Langley Park next to the Swan River.

Hall, who was disqualified from the Training 4 session earlier on Friday afternoon after he just barely exceeded the 12-g limit, tends to start slowly in the early training sessions and gradually improve towards the Qualifying. He invariably tries to focus his attention on challenging sections of the track early on and experiment with finding better lines through the obstacle course of 20-metre high pylons before going for a top time in the latter sessions.

Hall had flown well in the Training 3 session on Friday morning, posting the seventh fastest time, a 1:32.61. That was less than three seconds behind Nigel Lamb of Britain in third place. Lamb then posted the fastest time in Training 4 ahead of defending champion Paul Bonhomme and Pete McLeod.

"Training 4 wasn't the desired result with an over-G," Hall said. "We have to work out the issue. I'm really happy with Training 3 in the morning. I was still playing around with a few of the lines. I can't wait to get back out there."

For more information on Matt Hall Racing go to www.matthallracing.com or contact Team Coordinator David Lyall at david@matthallracing.com



Hall, who knows that rival pilots racing in their home countries have often struggled with sub-par results in the past due to the heavy load of media commitments and the unintentional pressure of the myriad of well-wishers, has said he wants to channel the energy into a good result.

Ends

For more information on Matt Hall Racing go to www.matthallracing.com or contact Team Coordinator David Lyall at david@matthallracing.com