



A bodywork change following his C Sports Racing win was apparently all it took for Hans Peter to claim the championship in Formula Atlantic.



RACE 11 Formula Atlantic  
**TWO FOR TWO**

First Hans Peter walked the CSR race for an easy win. He then took the fenders off his CSR and - voila! - he had a Formula Atlantic. Peter then took pole and added the FA championship to his curriculum vitae.

It was well past half season when Peter and crew chief (and defending FA champion) Mirl Swan decided to run their CSR in its originally intended state as an Atlantic. Peter quickly whipped off four National wins, qualifying for the Runoffs. His mastery carried over as he placed his Phenix Label Swift 014 on the pole at 1:21.596, a tick ahead of the experienced Tonis Kasemets in his Flexovit/Parallax/Hoosier/MK/Elite/Pabst Swift 014. Next came the Grant boys, David and Keith, in their Swifts, followed by Dan Selznick, David Wilcox, Fabio Castellani, and Jacek Mucha.

In a soggy start, Kasemets won the drag race into the first turn and held it over Peter. Keith Grant never got past Turn Two as the wet conditions caught him out and he spun into the wall. Kasemets kept the lead over Peter, with David Grant, Wilcox, Castellani and Mucha following. Peter harried Kasemets unmercifully, pulling alongside several times. Finally, on lap four, Peter got inside Kasemets at Turn Six and moved ahead at the following corner. At the end of the lap Peter had a 2.2sec lead and the race for first was essentially over.

"At the start I went as good as I could expect," Peter reported. "It was a drag race and I had played it about 100 times in my mind [the night before]. I figured that Tonis [Kasemets] was more experienced and would be able to get me on that. This was my first rain race in five or six years. I figured it would be a good idea to stay right behind him and see what he was doing. I noticed that I had better grip in the slow corners and he was quicker down the straight. I watched to see where I could close up on him and I used about the only corner that we have left on this track to pass. Tonis took the racing line, which was very nice of him as he could have taken the blocking line, but I got alongside and pushed up the hill. From then on I got about two seconds and just kept it there."

Kasemets held second for the duration. "I had a different strategy than Hans," said Tonis. "I had different rain tires on because I could not get the tires I wanted. I had a good car but he got past and ran well, just ahead, holding the pace over me - so we tried to keep pace hoping some bad thing would happen to him. But he did a good job, stayed clean and he deserved to win."

David Wilcox, driving an old Swift DB-4, drove a fine race.

**“AT THE START I WENT AS GOOD AS I COULD EXPECT”**

Hans Peter

RACE 11  
Formula Atlantic  
Hans Peter  
Kansas City Region  
Swift 014



FORMULA ATLANTIC RESULTS

| QUALIFYING: Pos. Driver/Region (Car) Time | Session  |
|---|----------|
| 1. Hans Peter (Swift 014) 1:21.596        | 1:21.596 |
| 2. Tonis Kasemets (CH Swift 014)          | 1:22.596 |
| 3. David Grant (MK Swift 014)             | 1:23.596 |
| 4. Keith Grant (MK Swift 014)             | 1:24.596 |
| 5. Dan Selznick (Swift 014)               | 1:25.596 |
| 6. David Wilcox (Swift 014)               | 1:26.596 |
| 7. Fabio Castellani (CH Swift 014)        | 1:27.596 |
| 8. Jacek Mucha (Swift 014)                | 1:28.596 |
| 9. Dan Selznick (Swift 014)               | 1:29.596 |
| 10. David Wilcox (Swift 014)              | 1:30.596 |
| 11. John P. Witherspoon (Swift 014)       | 1:31.596 |
| 12. John P. Witherspoon (Swift 014)       | 1:32.596 |
| 13. John P. Witherspoon (Swift 014)       | 1:33.596 |
| 14. John P. Witherspoon (Swift 014)       | 1:34.596 |
| 15. John P. Witherspoon (Swift 014)       | 1:35.596 |
| 16. John P. Witherspoon (Swift 014)       | 1:36.596 |
| 17. John P. Witherspoon (Swift 014)       | 1:37.596 |
| 18. John P. Witherspoon (Swift 014)       | 1:38.596 |
| 19. John P. Witherspoon (Swift 014)       | 1:39.596 |
| 20. John P. Witherspoon (Swift 014)       | 1:40.596 |

On lap 6 he passed David Grant for third, followed by John Witherspoon, who had advanced all the way from 13th in a stunning drive in his Swan Racing Swift. Castellani followed in sixth.

Witherspoon took Grant, then relieved Wilcox of third on lap 8. Wilcox fought back, retaking third on lap 11, holding it until the penultimate lap, when he took the escape road at Turn One, with a happy Witherspoon moving past. Wilcox recovered for fourth, with Castellani and Mucha rounding out the top six.

Witherspoon was delighted. "I did not know I finished third. I saw Dave go off but thought that I had finished about seventh or eighth. When I came in I found out that I was third...!" Witherspoon's run was also good enough to give him the Sunoco Hard Charger award for FA.

Unable to get the rain tires he wanted, Kasemets (09) wasn't able to challenge for the win.



An interesting race, made more so by the rain, Peter's double and the fine drives of Witherspoon and Wilcox. Kasemets came close to the Triple Crown, but was deprived by Hans Peter, now two for two.

Tom Schultz