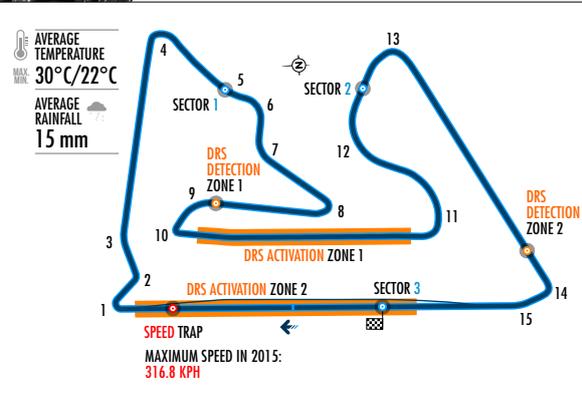


<p>TIMEZONE GMT+3</p>	<p>FRIDAY 14TH MAY</p> <p>11:30-12:15</p> <p>FREE PRACTICE</p>	<p>FRIDAY 14TH MAY</p> <p>20:00-20:30</p> <p>QUALIFYING</p>	<p>SATURDAY 15TH APRIL</p> <p>13:10</p> <p>FEATURE RACE</p>	<p>SUNDAY 16TH APRIL</p> <p>14:35</p> <p>PRESS CONFERENCE</p>	<p>SUNDAY 16TH APRIL</p> <p>14:15</p> <p>SPRINT RACE</p>	<p>15:20</p> <p>PRESS CONFERENCE</p>
	<p>Bahrain International Circuit</p> <p>5.412 KM <small>Start/Finish Offset 0.246 km</small></p>	<p>LAP RECORD 2014 1:38.865 (197.068 KPH) <small>Jolyon Palmer (DAMS)</small></p>	<p>32 LAPS</p> <p>172.938 KM <small>60 Min.</small></p>	<p>23 LAPS</p> <p>124.230 KM <small>45 Min.</small></p>		

COMPOUND CHOICE Prime Medium Soft **WARM UP** Norman Nato - Pertamina Arden



“Bahrain is quite a difficult circuit to find the limit to make a good laptime, because you have to brake right on the limit, especially at turn 1: it’s quite bumpy, so it’s difficult to find and stay on the limit, and it’s so demanding on the brakes. Sector 1 is more about braking, sector 2 is about slow corners, and sector 3 in qualifying you can feel that you are losing your tyres, and you just have to manage them to the line.”

“For qualy that’s tough, to make the tyre last for the full lap, and for the race it’s one of those where you

really have to think about managing your tyres. It’s quite demanding, and it will be really hot next week for the race: the forecast is that it will be around 33 degrees, which extreme. In Bahrain if you are leading it is easier to manage your tyres, but if you are further back it’s much worse, so qualifying is really important for the whole weekend.”

“The race is all about set-up, to adapt the car for the tyres: during the test we saw it was easy to lose 2-3 seconds from lap to lap, so the key will be to manage this and find consistency. But the test was good: I have raced with Arden before but the team is completely new, so it was important to work and to get to know each other better. And I think we have done this, we are working well together, and are ready for the season.”

THE STAKES



The FIA Formula 2™ Championship debuts this weekend at the Bahrain International Circuit in Sakhir, Bahrain as the first round of the 2017 championship gets underway. As the penultimate step in the motorsport ladder, Formula 2 hosts a hugely competitive grid of race and championship winners all looking to take the final step in their careers before nabbing the ultimate prize, a seat in Formula 1.

The grid, which includes multiple GP2 race winners such as Luca Ghiotto, Norman Nato, Artem Markelov, Johnny Cecotto, Nobuharu Matsushita and Jordan King as well as five of the top six drivers from the 2016 GP3 campaign, including champion Charles Leclerc and vice champion

Alexander Albon, promises to provide electric action on track as they compete to be the first Formula 2 champion.

The teams and drivers return to Bahrain after a successful pre-season test at the circuit 2 weeks ago: DAMS driver Nicholas Latifi set the pace across the 3 day period with a time of 1:40.541 on the 2nd day, just ahead of Nyck de Vries at Rapax on the final day. As such the circuit is well known to the whole grid, who will be working hard on setting up their cars to management tyre wear, which is particularly tough here. To that end Pirelli will provide the drivers with their Medium and Soft compounds for this round.

PIRELLI'S RACING MANAGER MARIO ISOLA SAYS:

Bahrain is a circuit we know well, where we tested with GP2 – as it was known then – last year. Now we have a new name, Formula 2, which underlines the intention of the championship perfectly, providing a natural stepping-stone to Formula 1. The 2017 tyres we are supplying are exactly the same as last year, because together with the promoter we felt that they were doing exactly the job that was required:

providing opportunities for overtaking and preparing the drivers for future challenges. Of course, Formula 1 takes a slightly different direction in terms of tyres this year, whereas Formula 2 sticks with the characteristics we had before. For Bahrain, thermal degradation will be a key factor, especially with the Formula 2 races being held in the heat of the day, as opposed to in the evening for Formula 1.”

NOTEWORTHY

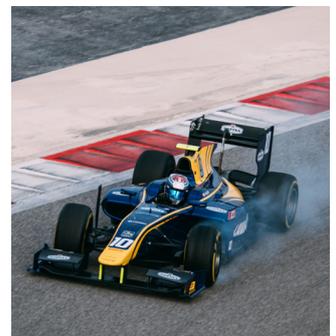
- ◆ This week is the first round of the FIA Formula 2 Championship, an all-new series which will take place over 11 rounds (22 races) in ten countries between April and November 2017.
- ◆ The F2 press conferences following the qualifying session and the Feature Race will be held in the F1 press conference room in the F1 paddock.
- ◆ Brazilian Sérgio Sette Câmara is the youngest driver on the grid (18).



- ◆ The ten teams are competing from 6 countries across Europe, and all formerly raced in the GP2 Series.
- ◆ The second of 2 pre-season tests was held at the Bahrain International Circuit, just over 2 weeks ago. Of the 6 sessions held across 3 days, Nyck de Vries topped the most with 3 (Day 2 PM, Day 3 AM and PM), Charles Leclerc claimed the honours first (Day 1 AM) ahead of Luca Ghiotto (Day 1 PM), and Nicholas Latifi claimed the remaining session (Day 2 AM).



- ◆ Latifi set the fastest time across the 3 days with a best lap of 1:40.541 (Day 2 AM): the top 3 drivers in the Day 3 AM session (Nyck de Vries, Oliver Rowland and Nobuharu Matsushita) set times between



Latifi and Ghiotto, who was P2 in the Day 2 AM session and rounds out the top 5 times across the test.

- ◆ The Championship's official website can be found here: WWW.FIAFORMULA2.COM
- ◆ Follow us on Twitter: @FIA_F2
- ◆ Follow us on Instagram: @fiaf2championship.
- ◆ The 2017 FIA Formula 2™ Championship Media Kit is available for download in our Media Zone: WWW.FIAFORMULA2.COM



MEDIA ZONE
Username fiaf2media
Password fiaf2mediapass

2017 ENTRY LIST

SEASON STATS

PREMA Racing	1	Charles Leclerc MON 19 y/o	LEC	
	2	Antonio Fuoco ITA 20 y/o	FUO	
Racing Engineering	3	Louis Delétraz SUI 19 y/o	DEL	
	4	Gustav Malja SWE 21 y/o	MAL	
RUSSIAN TIME	5	Luca Ghiotto ITA 22 y/o	CHI	
	6	Artem Markelov RUS 22 y/o	MAK	
ART Grand Prix	7	Nobuharu Matsushita JPN 23 y/o	MAT	
	8	Alexander Albon THA 21 y/o	ALB	
DAMS	9	Oliver Rowland GBR 24 y/o	ROW	
	10	Nicholas Latifi CAN 21 y/o	LAT	
Campos Racing	11	Ralph Boschung SUI 19 y/o	BOS	
	12	Stefano Coletti MON 28 y/o	COL	
MP Motorsport	14	Sérgio Sette Câmara BRA 18 y/o	SET	
	15	Jordan King GBR 23 y/o	KIN	
Trident	16	Nabil Jeffri MAS 23 y/o	JEF	
	17	Sergio Canamasas ESP 31 y/o	CAN	
Rapax	18	Nyck de Vries NED 22 y/o	DEV	
	19	Johnny Cecotto Jr. VEN 27 y/o	CEC	
Pertamina Arden	20	Norman Nato FRA 24 y/o	NAT	
	21	Sean Gelael INA 20 y/o	GEL	

16 The number of different licenses out of 20 drivers.

22.35 The age average of the grid.

3 The 2016 Top 3 GP3 Series drivers have graduated to the FIA Formula 2 Championship (Leclerc, Albon and Fuoco).

1 Matsushita is the only F2 driver to have previously scored a podium at Bahrain International Circuit at the wheel of the car currently used in the Championship.

2017 CLASSIFICATIONS

DRIVERS' STANDINGS				TEAMS' STANDINGS			
POS. DRIVER	FEATURE*	SPRINT*	PTS SHUFFLE	POS. TEAM	FEATURE*	SPRINT*	PTS SHUFFLE
1.				1.			
2.				2.			
3.				3.			
4.				4.			
5.				5.			
6.				6.			
7.				7.			
8.				8.			
9.				9.			
10.				10.			
11.							
12.							
13.							
14.							
15.							
16.							
17.							
18.							
19.							
20.							

Following the results of the 2016 GP2 Series™ Teams Championship classification, the 2017 FIA Formula 2™ Championship grid will carry the following numbers.

ON-BOARD CAMERAS

2017 SEASON RECAP

		POLE POSITION	FEATURE RACE WINNER	FASTEST LAP	BONUS POINTS FOR FASTEST LAP	SPRINT RACE WINNER	FASTEST LAP	BONUS POINTS FOR FASTEST LAP
1	14-15-16 April	Sakhir BAHRAIN Bahrain International Circuit						
2	12-13-14 May	Catalunya SPAIN Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya						
3	25-26-27 May	Monte Carlo MONACO Circuit de Monaco						
4	23-24-25 June	Baku AZERBAIJAN Baku City Circuit						
5	07-08-09 July	Spielberg AUSTRIA Red Bull Ring						
6	14-15-16 July	Silverstone GREAT BRITAIN Silverstone Circuit						
7	28-29-30 July	Budapest HUNGARY Hungaroring						
8	25-26-27 August	Spa-Francorchamps BELGIUM Circuit de Spa-Francorchamps						
9	01-02-03 September	Monza ITALY Autodromo Nazionale Monza						
10	06-07-08 October	Jerez de la Frontera MALAYSIA Circuito de Jerez						
11	24-25-26 November	Yas Marina ABU DHABI / UAE Yas Marina Circuit						