



SPANISH GRAND PRIX *PRACTICE SESSIONS*

MERCEDES DRIVERS TOP BOTH FREE PRACTICE SESSIONS IN SPAIN USING MEDIUM TYRES IN FP1 AND SOFT TYRES IN FP2

DRY AND WARM CONDITIONS FOLLOWING YESTERDAY'S RAIN. VARIABLE WINDS AFFECT FP2 TIMES

LAST YEAR'S POLE POSITION TIME BEATEN ALREADY IN FP1

Montmelo, May 12, 2017 – Mercedes topped the time sheets ahead of Ferrari and Red Bull during the two free practice sessions today, both on the medium and the soft tyres. The hard and the medium tyres only were used during FP1, with the teams then moving onto the soft tyres in the more representative conditions of FP2. Although yesterday was affected by rain, washing the surface clean of rubber that had been laid down before, conditions were dry and warm today, with FP2 finishing in 27 degrees ambient and 42 degrees on track.

Much more than 1.5 seconds has been seen so far between the medium and soft tyres, but track conditions were slower in the afternoon than the morning, mainly due to variable gusts of wind: a well-known phenomenon in Barcelona. This meant that the actual performance gap was difficult to assess. As usual, the surface was 'green' and slippery in the morning, but is still evolving with more rubber being laid down.

MARIO ISOLA - HEAD OF CAR RACING

"The quite strong and variable gusts of wind have made it tricky for the teams to set consistent times during FP2; added to the interruption with the red flag towards the end that stopped the long runs, it hasn't been easy to put together some reliable data so far. However, we've seen a gap of about 1.8 seconds between the hard and medium in FP1, and there is expected to be an eventual performance gap of more than 1.5 seconds between medium and soft. These two will be the race tyres, and as expected we've seen some degradation on both. Understanding this more precisely will be the key to the race strategy."

FREE PRACTICE 1 – TOP 3 TIMES

DRIVER	TIME	COMPOUND
Hamilton	1m21.521s	MEDIUM NEW
Bottas	1m21.550s	MEDIUM NEW
Raikkonen	1m22.456s	MEDIUM NEW

FREE PRACTICE 2 – TOP 3 TIMES

DRIVER	TIME	COMPOUND
Hamilton	1m20.802s	SOFT NEW



Bottas	1m20.892s	SOFT NEW
Raikkonen	1m21.112s	SOFT NEW

FP1 - BEST TIME BY COMPOUND

COMPOUND	DRIVER	TIME
HARD	Hamilton	1m 23.531s
MEDIUM	Hamilton	1m 21.521s




FP2 - BEST TIME BY COMPOUND

COMPOUND	DRIVER	TIME
MEDIUM	Bottas	1m 23.062s
SOFT	Hamilton	1m 20.802s

MOST LAPS BY COMPOUND SO FAR

COMPOUND	DRIVER	LAPS
HARD	Ocon	14
MEDIUM	Massa	26
SOFT	Bottas	28

TYRE STATISTICS OF THE DAY

			
Kms driven*	879	2625	1778
Sets used overall**	24	39	20

* The above number gives the total amount of kilometres driven in FP1 and FP2 today, all drivers combined.

** Per compound, all drivers combined.

MINIMUM PRESCRIBED TYRE PRESSURES



22.5 psi (fronts) - 20 psi (rears)



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