



## MALAYSIAN GRAND PRIX QUALIFYING

**LEWIS HAMILTON CLAIMS POLE FOR MERCEDES  
LOWERING ONCE MORE THE SEPANG LAP RECORD**

**FERRARI'S KIMI RAIKKONEN AND RED BULL'S MAX VERSTAPPEN  
USE JUST THREE SETS OF SUPERSOFT THROUGHOUT QUALIFYING**

**ONE PIT STOP POSSIBLE FOR 56-LAP RACE TOMORROW: IN THE CASE OF  
HOTTER CONDITIONS, A TWO-STOPPER COULD BE CHOSEN**

*Kuala Lumpur, September 30, 2017 - Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton has claimed pole position for the Malaysian Grand Prix, following a dramatic qualifying held in warm conditions with just over 40 degrees of track temperature.*

*Both Mercedes drivers, as well as the Ferrari of Kimi Raikkonen and Red Bull of Max Verstappen, got through Q1 using the soft tyres only, which were around 0.8 seconds per lap slower than the supersofts during free practice.*

*From then on, the supersoft tyre was used throughout the rest of qualifying, which unusually took place at 5pm: two hours after tomorrow's scheduled race start time.*

### MARIO ISOLA - HEAD OF CAR RACING

*"The supersoft was used throughout the qualifying hour, apart from four drivers who ran the soft to set their quickest times in Q1. Once more, the general tendency of seeing faster times this season after bringing softer compounds than last year has continued, with this year's pole position nearly three seconds faster than the 2016 equivalent. Despite the increased demands on the tyres and faster cornering speeds – which have led to the quicker lap times, with the lap record falling many times this weekend – it's possible we'll see a one stop race tomorrow, using a supersoft-soft strategy. A two-stopper could become interesting if conditions are significantly warmer than in qualifying today. However, the variable weather here means that Sepang is always one of the hardest races to predict."*

### HOW THE TYRES BEHAVED TODAY



**RED SUPERSOFT**

Used throughout the majority of qualifying: top 10 will start on this.



**YELLOW SOFT**

The top four drivers in Q1 used the soft to get through the session.



**WHITE MEDIUM**

Seen in FP3 but unlikely to feature in race, with a big performance gap to soft



### FREE PRACTICE 3 – TOP 3 TIMES

DRIVER	TIME	COMPOUND
Raikkonen	1m31.880s	<b>SUPERSOFT NEW</b>
Vettel	1m32.042s	<b>SUPERSOFT NEW</b>
Ricciardo	1m32.091s	<b>SUPERSOFT NEW</b>

### QUALIFYING TOP 10

DRIVER	TIME	COMPOUND
Hamilton	1m30.076s	<b>SUPERSOFT NEW</b>
Raikkonen	1m30.121s	<b>SUPERSOFT NEW</b>
Verstappen	1m30.541s	<b>SUPERSOFT NEW</b>
Ricciardo	1m30.595s	<b>SUPERSOFT NEW</b>
Bottas	1m30.758s	<b>SUPERSOFT NEW</b>
Ocon	1m31.478s	<b>SUPERSOFT NEW</b>
Vandoorne	1m31.582s	<b>SUPERSOFT NEW</b>
Hulkenberg	1m31.607s	<b>SUPERSOFT NEW</b>
Perez	1m31.658s	<b>SUPERSOFT NEW</b>
Alonso	1m31.704s	<b>SUPERSOFT NEW</b>

### MOST LAPS BY COMPOUND SO FAR

COMPOUND	DRIVER	LAPS
<b>MEDIUM</b>	Stroll	9
<b>SOFT</b>	Ericsson	23
<b>SUPERSOFT</b>	Palmer	17
<b>INTERMEDIATE</b>	Gasly	13
<b>WET</b>	14 drivers	1



## BEST TIME BY COMPOUND SO FAR

COMPOUND	DRIVER	TIME
MEDIUM	Stroll	1m36.781s
SOFT	Hamilton	1m31.605s
SUPERSOFT	Hamilton	1m30.076s
INTERMEDIATE	Verstappen	1m48.962s

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