

MERCEDES AND FERRARI CLAIM A SESSION EACH AT A VERY HOT SILVERSTONE

NEW ASPHALT FEATURES HIGH GRIP AND PLENTY OF BUMPS

P ZERO ICE BLUE HARD MAKES 2018 DEBUT ON ONE OF THE MOST CHALLENGING TRACKS

Silverstone, July 6, 2018 – While England is often associated with changeable weather, conditions were dry and warm all day, with track temperatures in excess of 45 degrees centigrade. Similarly warm weather is expected for the rest of the weekend.

Mercedes was quickest in the first free practice session this morning, courtesy of Lewis Hamilton on the soft tyres, while Sebastian Vettel used the same compound to go fastest in the afternoon. While both sessions were notably quicker than their equivalents last year, Hamilton's pole time from 2017 is yet to be beaten.

The new track surface at Silverstone has contributed to these faster times, but drivers have also described it as bumpy. All three nominated tyres were used extensively today, with the P Zero Ice Blue hard making its 2018 debut.

MARIO ISOLA - HEAD OF CAR RACING

"No real surprises today, with all the compounds performing exactly as we expected them to and no issues encountered. This is despite Silverstone being one of the most demanding tracks of the year with its long and high-speed corners, intensified by high temperatures all day that are expected to continue into the weekend. The bumps and a changing wind direction were two more hurdles for drivers to overcome, but they managed to complete their scheduled programmes as planned, learning not only about the new surface but also about the hard tyre and how it relates to the end two other well-known compounds that we have brought to Silverstone. The gap between the compounds so far is slightly bigger than expected, with two seconds covering the whole selection here from hard to soft."

FREE PRACTICE 1 – TOP 3 TIMES

DRIVER	TIME	COMPOUND
Hamilton	1m27.487s	SOFT NEW
Bottas	1m27.854s	SOFT NEW
Vettel	1m27.998s	SOFT NEW

FREE PRACTICE 2 – TOP 3 TIMES

DRIVER	TIME	COMPOUND
Vettel	1m27.552s	SOFT NEW
Hamilton	1m27.739s	SOFT NEW
Bottas	1m27.909s	SOFT NEW

FP1 - BEST TIME BY COMPOUND

COMPOUND	DRIVER	TIME
SOFT	Hamilton	1m27.487s
MEDIUM	Verstappen	1m28.325s
HARD	Ricciardo	1m29.970s

FP2 - BEST TIME BY COMPOUND

COMPOUND	DRIVER	TIME
SOFT	Vettel	1m27.552s
MEDIUM	Raikkonen	1m28.591s
HARD	Bottas	1m29.573s

MOST LAPS BY COMPOUND SO FAR

COMPOUND	DRIVER	LAPS
SOFT	Gasly	23
MEDIUM	Vettel	24
HARD	Hulkenberg, Sirotkin	20

TYRE STATISTICS OF THE DAY

			
Kms driven*	229	998	1880
Sets used overall**	10	25	47

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

** Per compound, all drivers combined.

MIN. STARTING PRESSURES (slicks)		EOS CAMBER LIMIT	
	24.0 psi (front) 22.0 psi (rear)	-2.75° (front) -1.75° (rear)	

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