

FERRARI, MERCEDES AND RED BULL CLOSELY MATCHED IN FREE PRACTICE WITH THE 2016 POLE TIME ALREADY BEATEN IN FP1

TRACK TEMPERATURES PEAKED AT 54 DEGREES BUT UNCERTAIN WEATHER PREDICTED FOR TOMORROW

0.6 SECONDS SEPARATE SOFT FROM ULTRASOFT WITH AROUND 0.3 SECONDS BETWEEN MEDIUM AND SOFT

Hockenheim, July 20, 2018 – As Hockenheim returned to grand prix action for the first time since 2016, track temperatures in FP2 peaked at more than 50 degrees centigrade, with Ferrari, Mercedes and Red Bull closely matched. Red Bull's Max Verstappen set the fastest time of the day on the P Zero Purple ultrasoft in FP2 (nominated alongside the medium and soft), as this compound made its debut on the relatively short Hockenheimring.

Despite today's unexpectedly warm conditions, the weather is expected to worsen tonight with the possibility of rain on Saturday, before more dry weather on Sunday. This could add an extra element to the strategy calculations, with around 0.9 seconds currently separating all the nominations in Germany from medium to ultrasoft.

MARIO ISOLA - HEAD OF CAR RACING

"Hockenheim had higher than anticipated temperatures today, but all the tyres performed entirely in line with expectations, with no issues whatsoever. The medium tyre was actually a bit closer to the soft than expected in these conditions, because of the high temperatures. However, the warm weather may change tomorrow, which will obviously have an impact on tyre behaviour and race strategy. Today's free practice session was all about the teams and drivers re-familiarising themselves with the Hockenheimring and assessing how the 2018 tyres interact with the circuit. From what we can see so far, all three compounds look to be viable options for the race, but there are still many more developments to come with plenty of data to analyse".

FREE PRACTICE 1 – TOP 3 TIMES

DRIVER	TIME	COMPOUND
Ricciardo	1m13.525s	ULTRASOFT NEW
Hamilton	1m13.529s	ULTRASOFT NEW
Verstappen	1m13.714s	ULTRASOFT NEW

FREE PRACTICE 2 – TOP 3 TIMES

DRIVER	TIME	COMPOUND
Verstappen	1m13.085s	ULTRASOFT NEW
Hamilton	1m13.111s	ULTRASOFT NEW
Bottas	1m13.190s	ULTRASOFT NEW

FP1 - BEST TIME BY COMPOUND

COMPOUND	DRIVER	TIME
ULTRASOFT	Ricciardo	1m13.525s
SOFT	Vettel	1m13.796s
MEDIUM	Verstappen	1m15.055s




FP2 - BEST TIME BY COMPOUND

COMPOUND	DRIVER	TIME
ULTRASOFT	Verstappen	1m13.085s
SOFT	Verstappen	1m13.356s
MEDIUM	Hamilton	1m13.703s

MOST LAPS BY COMPOUND SO FAR



COMPOUND	DRIVER	LAPS
ULTRASOFT	Hulkenberg	26
SOFT	Sirotkin	28
MEDIUM	Sainz	29

TYRE STATISTICS OF THE DAY

			
Kms driven*	1312	1874	2679
Sets used overall**	15	26	38

* 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	
	21.5 psi (front) 20.0 psi (rear)	-3.50° (front) -2.00° (rear)	

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