

ROUND 1 SAKHIR BAHRAIN



ALL TIMES LOCAL GMT +3

FRIDAY
18 MARCH

12:35
Free Practice
45 min.

19:25
Qualifying Session
30 min.

21:30
Press Conference*

SATURDAY
19 MARCH

19:40
Sprint Race

23 Laps
45 min. +1 Lap

Grid set by reversing Top 10
of Qualifying Results

20:50
Press Conference*

SUNDAY
20 MARCH

13:40
Feature Race

32 Laps
60 min. +1 Lap

Grid set by
Qualifying Results

15:05
Press Conference*

*Note: You can join the Press Conference via Zoom upon request.

THE STORY SO FAR

The opening round of the 2022 FIA Formula 2 Championship officially gets underway this weekend in Sakhir, just two weeks after the 22-strong field took to the Bahrain International Circuit for pre-season testing. This year marks a sixth exciting year for the Championship, which returns with a 13-round, 26-race season.

It was PREMA Racing's Jehan Daruvala who went quickest on Day 1 of pre-season testing earlier this month, going five tenths quicker than Trident's Calan Williams. The Indian racer, who



switches to the reigning Team Champions for the new season, featured in the top 4 in both the morning and afternoon session, but he set his fastest lap on the cooler track in the second session of the day.

Carlin's Liam Lawson became the first driver to set a time under 1m 42s when he finished at the top of the leaderboard on Day 2 in Sakhir after a handful of teams opted to run Qualifying simulations. The Red Bull junior finished

the afternoon session 0.473s ahead of Campos Racing's Ralph Boschung and ART Grand Prix's Théo Pourchaire, who set identical lap times.



Day 3 saw third-year Felipe Drugovich go quickest in the morning session, with a sandstorm ultimately preventing afternoon running. The Brazilian driver, who returns to MP Motorsport after a year with Virtuosi, finished ahead of his new teammate Clément Novalak with both drivers posting fewer than 30 laps at the top of the leaderboard.

THE CHALLENGERS

Among the returning drivers to impress at pre-season testing in Bahrain was Liam Lawson, who finished in the top five in all but one session across the three days of running. The New Zealander also topped the timesheets on the morning of Day 1 and the afternoon of Day 2.

MP Motorsport's Felipe Drugovich was the second returning driver to finish in the top ten in all but one session during testing earlier this month. The Brazilian driver went quickest on Day 3 and also put his MP in P2 in the morning of Day 1.



Lawson's new Carlin teammate, Logan Sargeant, was the only driver in the field to finish all five sessions inside the top ten. The Williams Racing Driver Academy member posted times in the top five on four occasions and also clocked in the quickest time of any rookie, with a 1:41.133 on Day 2.

TRACK DATAS Bahrain International Circuit

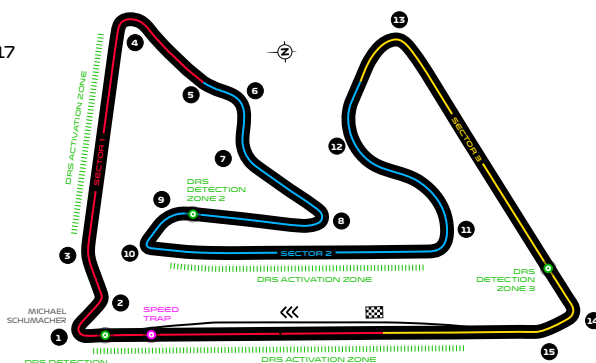
5.412 KM

Start/Finish
Offset - 0.246 km

LAP RECORD
1:38.907 (196.985 KM/H)
Charles Leclerc (PREMA Racing) in 2017

SATURDAY 19.40
SPRINT RACE
23 LAPS >> 124.230 KM
45 min. +1 Lap

SUNDAY 13.40
FEATURE RACE
32 LAPS >> 172.938 KM
60 min. +1 Lap



2020 POLE POSITION
1:41.479 (191.992 KM/H)
Callum Hott (UNI-Virtuosi)

MAXIMUM SPEED SPEED TRAP
314.8 KM/H
Antonio Fuoco (PREMA Racing) in 2017

COMPOUND ALLOCATION



2020 FEATURE RACE
TYRE WINNING STRATEGY
15 laps ● Medium >> 17 laps ○ Hard
Felipe Drugovich (MP Motorsport)
from P2 Grid Position

FROM THE GRID



Liam LAWSON
Carlin

pretty good position with driving and car set-up for the races. I'm looking forward to driving here again. Last year we had a very good start to the season here. This year I'd like to have that same kind of start but keep it consistent throughout the year as well.

In terms of the track itself, I like driving it and, in the past, I've had some pretty good results here. I think the most unique thing about this place is the tyre degradation and how abrasive the surface is. It's very, very aggressive, but it's also very hot so tyre wear is probably the highest on the whole calendar and it's always pretty exciting during the races. In terms of the actual layout, it's just

a fun track, it's got a mix of high speed and low-speed sections with the big main straight so it's just a nice circuit to drive.

Turn 1 is the biggest overtaking opportunity, it's a big straight into a hairpin, but there are a few others too. There's Turn 4, which is an opportunity after the DRS Zone, there's also an opportunity at Turn 8 on the inside there. There are plenty of opportunities to overtake.

It was a reverse grid race that I won in Bahrain last year, so ideally, we want to be qualifying higher and doing it in the Feature Race. That's definitely the target for the opening weekend."

"I'm feeling good about coming back to Bahrain, I like this circuit a lot. It's a track where we as a Championship do a lot of testing so everybody is always in a

TYRE TALK

Mario ISOLA
Pirelli Motorsport Director

"Bahrain will be an important weekend for Pirelli with the debut of our 18-inch tyres in Formula 1: A change that was already made with success in Formula 2 two years ago. Since then we've watched drivers such as Mick Schumacher, Yuki Tsunoda and Guanyu Zhou gain valuable experience with the larger size, and we look forward to seeing which talented young drivers will excel in F2 this season. For Bahrain we have nominated the P Zero White hard and P Zero Red soft tyres. This is the same selection as last year, except that the hard compound has been modified for 2022. In addition to providing better resistance, this new compound increases the performance gap to the medium, with the aim to create more exciting strategic options during races. In fact, during the pre-season tests, we've noticed a huge gap between the new hard and the soft, and this could lead to unexpected race strategies. As always in Bahrain, the difference in track temperature between the day and night provides an extra challenge, although the teams and drivers gained some experience of this during the recent pre-season tests."

STAT PACK



Théo Pourchaire is the highest-placed driver returning from last year's campaign, having finished 5th in the standings in 2021.

10

10 rookies will start the 2022 campaign at the Bahrain International Circuit, including nine new FIA Formula 3 graduates.

18

This year a total of 18 drivers on the Formula 2 grid will be F3 alumni, including 2021 Champion Dennis Hauger and 2021 vice-Champion Jack Doohan.

21

The average age of this year's grid is just 21 years old, with Théo Pourchaire the youngest driver at just 18 years old.

7

There are already seven race winners on this year's grid, with a total of 13 race wins amongst them. There are also nine podium finishers among this year's field, sharing a collective 36 trophies.

Two drivers, Liam Lawson and Felipe Drugovich, have won races at the circuit under the current configuration. The New Zealander claimed a win on his F2 debut in 2021, while the MP driver won the penultimate Feature Race of 2020.



The Formula 2 race lap record at the Bahrain International Circuit is 1:38.907, set by Charles Leclerc with PREMA Racing in 2017.

2022 ENTRY LIST

ON-BOARD
CAMERAS

PREMA Racing



1 Dennis HAUGER

NOR 18 y/o

HAU

2 Jehan DARUVALA

IND 23 y/o

DAR

Virtuosi Racing



3 Jack DOOHAN

AUS 19 y/o

DOO

4 Marino SATO

JPN 22 y/o

SAT

Carlin



5 Liam LAWSON

NZL 20 y/o

LAW

6 Logan SARGEANT

USA 21 y/o

SAR

Hitech Grand Prix



7 Marcus ARMSTRONG

NZL 21 y/o

ARM

8 Jüri VIPS

EST 21 y/o

VIP

ART Grand Prix



9 Frederik VESTI

DNK 20 y/o

VES

10 Théo POURCHAIRE

FRA 18 y/o

POU

MP Motorsport



11 Felipe DRUGOVICH

BRA 21 y/o

DRU

12 Clément NOVALAK

FRA 21 y/o

NOV

Campos Racing



14 Olli CALDWELL

GBR 19 y/o

CAL

15 Ralph BOSCHUNG

CHE 24 y/o

BOS

DAMS



16 Roy NISSANY

ISR 27 y/o

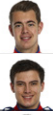
NIS

17 Ayumu IWASA

JPN 21 y/o

IWA

Trident



20 Richard VERSCHOOR

NLD 21 y/o

VER

21 Calan WILLIAMS

AUS 21 y/o

WIL

Charouz Racing System



22 Enzo FITTIPALDI

BRA 20 y/o

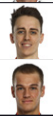
FIT

23 Cem BÖLÜKBAŞI

TUR 24 y/o

BOL

Van Amersfoort Racing



24 Jake HUGHES

GBR 27 y/o

HUG

25 Amaury CORDEEL

BEL 19 y/o

COR

2022 STANDINGS

DRIVER STANDINGS

POS.	DRIVER	SPRINT	FEATURE	PTS	SHUFFLE
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					
9.					
10.					
11.					
12.					
13.					
14.					
15.					
16.					
17.					
18.					
19.					
20.					
21.					
22.					

TEAM STANDINGS

POS.	DRIVER	SPRINT	FEATURE	PTS	SHUFFLE
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					
9.					
10.					
11.					

MEDIA PLATFORM

The FIA Formula 2 Media Kit and stats sheet are now available via our media platform, along with a selection of driver interviews.

[FIA F2 MEDIA ASSETS](#) [CLICK HERE](#)

SEASON RECAP

POLE
POSITION

SPRINT RACE
WINNER

FASTEST
LAP

FEATURE RACE
WINNER

FASTEST
LAP

1	18-20 March	Sakhir SAHRAH Bahrain International Circuit		.	.	.	.	.
2	25-27 March	Jeddah SAUDI ARABIA Jeddah Corniche Circuit		.	.	.	.	.
3	22-24 April	Imola ITALY Autodromo Enzo e Dino Ferrari		NEW VENUE	.	.	.	.
4	20-22 May	Barcelona SPAIN Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya		.	.	.	.	.
5	27-29 May	Monte Carlo MONACO Circuit de Monaco		.	.	.	.	.
6	10-12 June	Baku AZERBAIJAN Baku City Circuit		.	.	.	.	.
7	01-03 July	Silverstone UK Silverstone Circuit		.	.	.	.	.
8	08-10 July	Spielberg AUSTRIA Red Bull Ring		.	.	.	.	.
9	29-31 July	Budapest HUNGARY Hungaroring		.	.	.	.	.
10	26-28 August	Spa-Francorchamps BELGIUM Circuit de Spa-Francorchamps		.	.	.	.	.
11	02-04 September	Zandvoort NETHERLANDS Circuit Zandvoort		NEW VENUE	.	.	.	.
12	09-11 September	Monza ITALY Autodromo Nazionale Monza		.	.	.	.	.
13	18-20 November	Yas Island ABU DHABI, UAE Yas Marina Circuit		.	.	.	.	.