

FORMULA 1 GRAN PREMIO DE MÉXICO 2015

Mexico City, October 30, 2015

FORMULA 1 GRAN PREMIO DE MÉXICO 2015 PRACTICE 1

It is fast and red so far!

Red was the color of the day, each time the “go-light” was turned on, at the beginning of FORMULA 1® first practice session on its return to Mexico after 23 years absent.

Toro Rosso’s teenager, Max Verstappen, set the best time of 1 minute 25.990 seconds in a lap; Daniil Kvyat was the second fastest for the Scudery Red Bull Senior, three tenth of second behind, then both, Sebastian Vettel and Kimi Räikkönen’s Ferrari scarlet scored the very same time as Kvyat; and the second Red Bull, Daniel Ricciardo’s finished in fifth place.

The local hero, Sergio Perez, experienced a tiny setback after session had began by the time his Force India had came in the stadium zone, then he recovered and finish in ninth position, while, the rest of the drivers were becoming familiar with the track to begin with the complex procedure of the car preparation in order to face the multiple challenges imposed by this impressive circuit.

Among the many support messages received by the 25-year Mexican, there was one from his favorite football team “America” which said: “Let’s go ‘Checo’ Perez, go fly like an Eagle”, something that Checo will definitely attempt to do this weekend.



His teammate, Nico Hulkenberg, arose as the most grumpy driver of the morning. The 27-year German, had to check his car first due to a possible failure on the brakes. Then he went out and complaint about steering; and didn’t get any happier with the tire wear during his third try, finishing in 16th place.

You may ask yourselves, where were the other famous colors like the Silver Arrows? They had a varied morning. Lewis Hamilton finished among the fastest of the 90-minute session, but in 11th position. His teammate, Nico Rosberg, caused a commotion when his car squeaked till he brake a little before hitting the wall in curve 12 and later he burn out the rear brakes after briefly passing times just a few minutes

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before. However, the German got to rejoin the session and finished in sixth place, just half second and five places ahead his British teammate.

The FORMULA1® comeback took place on wet weather that's why many drivers skidded with hard tires on their way out to the track during the first minuets, so the first important decision taken this weekend was replacing Pirelli hard tires for medium compounds (soft).

With this change, Valtteri Bottas from Williams sped up immediately and the times began to decrease quickly, which made clear why the Autodromo Hermanos Rodriguez will be one of the fastest tracks of the season.

Mercedes used computerized simulators to predict a maximum time less than 1minute 20 seconds; while Pirelli confirmed that, without a doubt, this weekend we will witness the highest speeds in the year.

Half an hour ago during free practices, something unusual happened: the name of Jolyon Palmer, the 24-year British driver and third reserve of Lotus, led the clock. Palmer, GP2 2014 champion, will take the place of Romain Grosjean as Lotus main driver in 2016. Even though his time took him by surprised as well being the fastest, there was also the rumor that he could have taken the short-cut on the path 10. Palmer finished in place 15th finally.

The slowest of the 20 drivers was Will Stevens in the Manor 28 from Ferrari that quickly lost his team leader John Booth. The best time set on the journey was Steven's with 1:32.866, almost nine seconds late in comparison with the red racing cars ahead.

As the heat was turning up and drivers were allowed to use the soft compound (yellow), we hope that times go down and maximum speeds exceed the 360 km/hr or more during the rest of the journey.

Download photos from the First Practice Session of the FORMULA 1 GRAN PREMIO DE MEXICO 2015® on our Media Center entering the following link: www.ahr.mx/f1/mediacenter/

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