



# Race Preview

## SINGAPORE GRAND PRIX 18-20 September 2015

After the high speeds of Monza, Formula One journeys to a circuit of a very different nature to begin a seven-race sequence of season-ending 'flyaway' races, with Round 13 of the 2015 FIA Formula One World Championship taking place at Singapore's glittering Marina Bay Street Circuit.

One of only two full night races on the calendar, the Singapore Grand Prix presents drivers and teams with a tough set of challenges, not the least of which is the duration of the race. With 23 corners spread over a winding 5km course, laps of Marina Bay are long and arduous, especially in a climate that regularly sees ambient temperatures exceed 30° Celsius at the 8pm race start time and in-car temperatures rise to 60° Celsius during the race.

In keeping with its street-circuit nature, grip is at a premium in the early practice sessions and track evolution across the weekend is extreme. Thus, set-up is something of a moving target and finding the right settings to deal with changing grip levels, fluctuating temperatures and the bumpy street surface is a tough task for teams.

Because of the high temperatures, the enclosed nature of the track and the many corners, brakes also come under pressure and it's not uncommon for drivers to have to nurse fading brakes to the chequered flag.

Finally, choosing the right strategy is also a difficult call, with the race often seeing safety car periods that upset the best laid of pre-race plans.

Lewis Hamilton arrives here in control of the Drivers' Championship standings with 53 points in hand over nearest rival, Mercedes team-mate Nico Rosberg. The Briton also carries the momentum of two consecutive wins with him into this weekend. The Marina Bay Street Circuit is a fickle mistress, however, and with so many variables in play here, the form guide offers few guarantees.



### CIRCUIT DATA

#### MARINA BAY STREET CIRCUIT

**Length of lap:**

5.065km

**Lap record:**

No lap record yet exists for the 2015 circuit layout.

**Start line/finish line offset:**

0.137km

**Total number of race laps:** 61

**Total race distance:** 308.828km

**Pitlane speed limits:**

60km/h in practice, qualifying, and the race

### CIRCUIT NOTES

- ▶ The track has been re-aligned between turns 10 and 13 and now uses the left hand side of the Anderson Bridge.
- ▶ Arrangements for cars to re-join the track having gone into the run-off area at Turn One will be made, i.e. lines and bollards to follow as at the second chicane in Monza.

### DRS ZONE

- ▶ There will be two DRS zones in Singapore. The first detection point will be at the exit of Turn Four and the first activation point will be 48m after Turn Five. The second detection point will be 80m before the apex of Turn 22 and the activation point will be 45m after the apex of Turn 23.

<b>ROUND 13</b>	SINGAPORE GRAND PRIX	<b>START TIME</b>	20:00 Local - 12:00 GMT
<b>RACE DATE:</b>	20 SEP 2015	<b>CIRCUIT LENGTH:</b>	5.065KM
<b>CIRCUIT NAME:</b>	MARINA BAY STREET CIRCUIT	<b>RACE DISTANCE:</b>	308.828KM
<b>NUMBER OF LAPS:</b>	61	<b>LAP RECORD:</b>	n/a

<b>KEY</b>	
Speed Kmh	Timing Sector
Braking  125 3	Gear  T3 36.1
Sector 1	Sector 2
Sector 3	
Circuit	Start
Finish	
DRS Detection	DRS Activation
Run-off Areas	
FIA Medical & Safety Cars	Marshal Posts
Light Panels	



## FAST FACTS

- ▶ This will be the eighth Formula One Singapore Grand Prix. The race joined the F1 calendar in 2008 and has been run each year since.
- ▶ Singapore is regularly the longest race of the year in terms of duration. Every F1 grand prix at the Marina Bay Street Circuit has come to within four minutes of the two hours time limit set by Formula One's regulations, a limit which results in the leader being shown the chequered flag when he crosses the control line at the end of the lap following the lap during which the two-hour period ended.
- ▶ Two of the last three races have been ended by the clock rather than lap count, with 2012's race ending after 59 laps and last year's finishing on lap 60 of the planned 61. The longest race thus far, in terms of duration, was the 2012 race which lasted 2hrs, 0mins and 26 seconds 22 seconds longer than last year's race.
- ▶ The Singapore Grand Prix has a 100 per cent record of safety car intervention. Of the 424 laps raced here over the past seven years 45 laps have been under the safety car across 10 safety periods.
- ▶ The seven F1 races here to date have been won by just three drivers. Sebastian Vettel is the most successful driver here with three consecutive victories from 2010-2013, all for Red Bull Racing. Lewis Hamilton has two wins, in 2009 for McLaren and then for Mercedes last year, and Fernando Alonso also has two victories, at the inaugural race in 2008 for Renault and then in 2010 for Ferrari.
- ▶ Victory this weekend would see Lewis Hamilton match the win record of his boyhood hero, Ayrton Senna, who took 41 career victories from 161 starts. Curiously, if Hamilton crosses the line first on Sunday he will reach Senna's total in the same number of grand prix starts as the Brazilian.
- ▶ Hamilton can match another benchmark this weekend. Should he take pole position on Saturday he would match the record for most consecutive poles, again set by Senna, who took eight in a row between the Spanish Grand Prix of 1988 and the 1989 US Grand Prix in Phoenix. Hamilton's pole position at the Italian Grand Prix saw him match the single-season consecutive pole record of seven set by Alain Prost between the South African Grand Prix and the Canadian Grand Prix of 1993.
- ▶ The Singapore Grand Prix has been won from pole position five times, with Hamilton winning from the front of the grid in 2009 and 2014, Alonso in 2010 and Vettel in 2011 and 2013.
- ▶ Force India's Nico Hulkenberg scored the only fastest lap of his career to date here in 2012. The German recorded a time of 1:51.033 at an average speed of 164.480km/h.
- ▶ Valtteri Bottas will make his 50th grand prix start this weekend. The Finn made his first grand prix weekend appearance in practice for the 2012 Malaysian Grand Prix for Williams. He made 14 more practice appearances before making his race debut for the Grove outfit at the 2013 Australian Grand Prix. He has raced every grand prix since, with the exception of this year's Australian Grand Prix from which he was forced to withdraw due to injury. Bottas has so far scored 281 career points and seven podium finishes, with a best placing of second, in Britain and Germany last year.

# RACE STEWARDS BIOGRAPHIES

## GARRY CONNELLY

**DEPUTY PRESIDENT, FIA INSTITUTE; DIRECTOR, GLOBAL INSTITUTE FOR MOTOR SPORT SAFETY; DIRECTOR, AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF MOTOR SPORT SAFETY; F1, WTCC STEWARD; FIA WORLD MOTOR SPORT COUNCIL MEMBER**

Garry Connelly has been involved in motor sport since the late 1960s. A long-time rally competitor, Connelly was instrumental in bringing the World Rally Championship to Australia in 1988 and served as Chairman of the Organising Committee, Board member and Clerk of Course of Rally Australia until December 2002. He has been an FIA Steward and FIA Observer since 1989, covering the FIA's World Rally Championship, World Touring Car Championship and Formula One Championship. He is a director of the Australian Institute of Motor Sport Safety and of the Global Institute of Motor Sport Safety. He is a member of the FIA World Motor Sport Council.



## VINCENZO SPANO

**FIA PRESIDENT OF THE SPORTING COMMISSION OF THE AUTOMOBILE AND TOURING CLUB OF VENEZUELA**

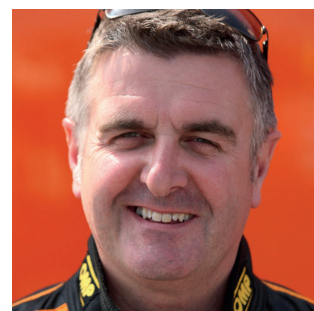
Italian-born Vincenzo Spano grew up in Venezuela, where he went on to study at the Universidad Central de Venezuela, becoming an attorney-at-law. Spano has wide-ranging experience in motor sport, from national to international level. He has worked for the Touring y Automóvil Club de Venezuela since 1991, and served as President of the Sporting Commission since 2001. He was president for two terms and now sits as a member of the Board of the Nacam-FIA zone. Since 1995 Spano has been a licenced steward and obtained his FIA steward superlicence in 2003. Spano has been involved with the FIA and FIA Institute in various roles since 2001: a member of the World Motor Sport Council, the FIA Committee, and the executive committee of the FIA Institute.



## MARTIN DONNELLY

**FORMER FORMULA ONE DRIVER**

Ulsterman Martin Donnelly was a star of junior racing categories in the 1980s before making his grand prix debut with the Arrows team at the 1989 French GP at Paul Ricard, substituting for Derek Warwick. He qualified 14th and raced to a creditable 12th. He was offered a race drive at Lotus alongside Warwick for 1990 and started 12 races, recording a best finish of seventh at the Hungarian GP. However, his time in Formula One was cut short when, later in the season, a suspension failure caused a huge accident in practice for the Spanish GP at Jerez. Despite the serious injuries he suffered, Donnelly recovered sufficiently to race competitively in national events. He now runs Donnelly Track Academy in Norfolk, England and has held a number of racing team management positions.







# FORMULA ONE TIMETABLE & FIA MEDIA SCHEDULE

## THURSDAY

**Press conference** 18.00

## FRIDAY

**Practice session 1** 18.00-19.30

**Practice session 2** 21.30-23.00

**Press conference** 23.15

## SATURDAY

**Practice session 3** 18.00-19.00

**Qualifying** 21.00-22.00

Followed by unilateral and press conference

## SUNDAY

**Drivers' Parade** 18.30

**Race** 20.00

Followed by podium interviews and press conference

## ADDITIONAL MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES

### QUALIFYING

All drivers eliminated in Q1 or Q2 are available for media interviews immediately after the end of each session, as are drivers who participated in Q3, but who are not required for the postqualifying press conference. The interview pen will be located close to the media centre entrance in the paddock.

### RACE

Any driver retiring before the end of the race will be made available at the TV pen interview area. In addition, during the race every team will make available at least one senior spokesperson for interview by officially accredited TV crews. A list of those nominated will be made available in the media centre.

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## FIA COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

press@fia.com

T +33 1 43 12 58 15

