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ABU DHABI TO REMAIN THE SEASON-ENDING F1 **RACE FOR** ANOTHER **TEN YEARS**

Motorsport fans can look forward to many more F1 races in Abu Dhabi after a new 10-year contract extension to continue hosting the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix at Yas Marina Circuit was announced.

Yas Marina Circuit hosted its inaugural race in 2009 and since then has proved a firm favourite among local, regional and international fans.

The current agreement was set to expire after the FORMULA 1 ETIHAD AIRWAYS ABU DHABI GRAND PRIX 2021, but an all-new deal means the track will host the last F1 race of the season for many years to come.

There have been some incredible moments on the track over the years. Who could forget Sebastian Vettel clinching the title in 2010 on a day where one of the four drivers could have taken the title, the two final-day battles Lewis Hamilton and Nico Rosberg had to try and take the crown.

The new deal guarantees plenty more of this to come - which is only good news for fans!



North Hairpin

Changes to the North Hairpin section of the circuit are some of the most significant. The former Turn 5 and Turn 6 chicane has been removed and the previous Turn 7 hairpin has been widened to a 20-metre-wide corner which will now be approached at around 300kph.

Hotel Section

The hotel sequence may appear similar but each of the corners from the former Turn 17 through to Turn 20 have been opened on the inside. The new design is limited by the passing under the hotel, but opening the corners should reduce tyre slide to keep drivers on the track and maintain a tightly packed field for a thrilling race.

Marsa Corner (South Marina)

The newly named Marsa Corner now features an iconic super elevated hairpin at Yas Marina Circuit, with cornering speeds of up to 240kph. This exciting new corner will be an exchilarating challenge for the drivers.

Three big track changes to look out for at the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix

There are some exciting changes at Yas Marina circuit ahead of the 2021 Abu Dhabi Grand Prix.

The above track changes have been implemented, which are set to make for an even more exciting race than usual.

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Staying Safe at Yas Marina Circuit

As we all enjoy returning to top-class sporting events, there are some things you will have to do to maintain safety guidelines.

Visitors over 16 must be fully vaccinated at least 28 days prior to the event with a UAE government approved Covid-19 vaccine and present a green pass through AI Hosn app and negative PCR test within 96-hours to enter the venue.

Children under 12 don't need vaccination or to present a negative PCR test. Children between 13-15 require a 96-hour negative PCR test result only.



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Masks are to be worn at all times Temperature checking

Venue Sanitization

Social Distancing

RAPID RUSSELL



At the age of just 23, Britain's George Russell has the racing world in the palms of his hands. A huge motorsport talent from an early age, Russell has impressed F1 bosses since debuting in 2019 with Williams - his current drive. Staring out in karting while still in primary school, Russell immediately showed he knew where the front of the grid was - claiming titles for fun in the proving ground of race drivers.

In 2014, Russell would make his single seater debut in Formula 2.0 Renault, while entering Formula 4 in the same year. Despite his tender years, he would find himself locked in a battle for the BRDC Formula 4 Championship going into the final race of the season. Having claimed pole, he would go on to win the race and the title by three points.

It was at this point he would win the prestigious McLaren Autosport BRDC Award, and also become the youngest ever driver to be named on the British Racing Driver's Club SuperStars programme.

From here Russell would enter Formula 3 and GP3, before heading to Formula 2 in 2018.

A thrilling season of racing against fellow F1 youngster Lando Norris would come down to the final race in Abu Dhabi - with Russell taking the win and the title.

The natural progression was then to join the big boys in F1.

Russell had already experienced some test drives from 2017 onwards, but officially entered his rookie season in 2019 with a drive for Williams.

> It was a tough place to cut his teeth with a largely uncompetitive car, but everyone in and around the sport knew - and still knows the talent is there.

G. RUSSELL

WILLIAMS

RACING

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Russell's standing was made clear when asked to stand in for a coronavirus-hit Lewis Hamilton at the 2021 Belgian Grand Prix. Team boss Toto Wolff clearly had a lot of confidence in the youngster predicting a top-five finish. After being a fraction away from pole position, Russell would boss much of the race before misfortune with a faulty tyre change and slow puncture meant he would finish in ninth place - securing the first points of his career and much admiration from onlooking fans and experts.

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Russell will drive alongside Hamilton in the 2022 season having signed to take over from Valterri Bottas at McLaren the battle of these two talented Brits is mouthwatering.

2018 FIA FORMULA 2 CHAMPIONSHIP

HIS FIRST POINTS IN F1 AT THE 2020 SAKHIR GRAND PRIX



IN BEL











Alfa Romeo fact - While never winning the Constructors' Championship, two drivers have taken the individual F1 World title in an Alfa Romeo

Championships • 0

Kimi Raikkonen fact - The Finn has been in F1 for 20 years - winning 21 races and securing 103 podiums in that time

Antonio Giovinazzi fact - When debuting in 2017, Giovianzzi was the first Italian driver on the grid since 2011



KIMI RAIKKONEN

ANTONIO GIOVINAZZI





2021 ****

@ALPHAROMEORACING



Alpine fact - This is the first season we have seen Alpine in F1 (it was formerly Renault) - and despite a difficult first race, they managed to finish in the points for 15 consecutive races after that

Championships - 0

Fernando Alonso fact - A two-time drivers' champion, Alonso has started 331 Grand Prix and is closing in on 2000 total points

Esteban Ocon - The 25-year-old's family sold their home to fund Ocon's karting career - this risk ultimately paid off with him making his F1 debut in 2016



FERNANDO ALONSO

ESTEBAN OCON







@ALPINEF1TEAM



Alpha Tauri fact - Seen as the sister to Red Bull Racing, the team has only been in F1 since 2020 but already has a Grand Prix win to their name

Championships - 0

Pierre Gasly - Racing is in Gasly's blood, with both his father, and grandfather having competed on the track

Yuki Tsunoda - At just 21 years old Tsunoda is the youngest driver on the grid and drives the number 22 car made famous by Jenson Button



PIERRE GASLY







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@ALPHATAURIF1



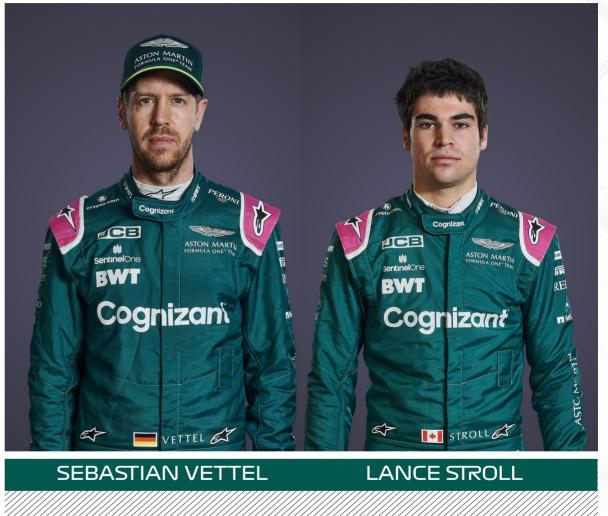


Aston Martin fact. Aston Martin has been associated with Fl for more than 60 years, having debuted back in 1959

Championships - 0

Sebastian Vettel - An all-time great, Vettel has four Championship wins, 53 race wins, and more than 3000 points across a 15-year career

Lance Stroll - In 2017 Stroll became the second-youngest driver to ever finish an F1 race on the podium, he was just 19







@ASTONMARTINF1



Ferrari fact. Ferrari won the Constructors' Championship in every decade from the 1960s to the 2000s. They have been waiting since 2008 for their latest crown.

Championships - 16

Charles Leclerc - Despite its fame within the sport, Leclerc is one of only five F1 drivers to come from Monaco

Carlos Sainz - Sainz is from great driving pedigree, with his father, Carlos Snr, being a two-time world rally champion







@SCUDERIAFERRARI



Haas fact - When finishing sixth in their first Grand Prix in 2016, Haas was the first American team to pick up points since 2002

Championships - 0

Nikita Mazepin - In his debut season this year Mazepin almost won the fastest lap honour in Belgium, before his time was sadly rescinded because of bad weather

Mick Schumacher - The 22-yearold might just have racing's biggest boots to fill - his father is seventime world champion Michael, while uncle Ralph was also pretty handy too having won six Grands Prix



MICK SCHUMACHER











@HAASF1TEAM



McLaren fact - Monaco was the venue for McLaren's F1 debut in 1966 - they are the second oldest team currently on the grid

Championships - 8

Daniel Ricciardo - Due to his driving style, the Australian is often referred to as the 'honey badger' after the most fearless creature in the animal kingdom

Lando Norris - Norris's early interest in motorsport was actually in bikes rather than cars



DANIEL RICCIARDO

LANDO NORRIS







@MCLARENF1

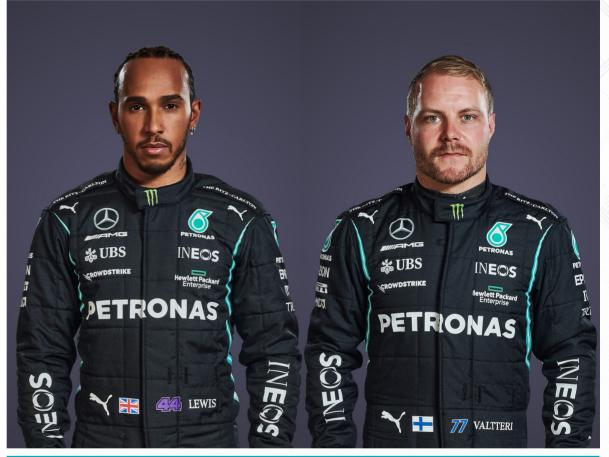


Mercedes fact - The team's seven Constructors' Championship wins have come in each of the last seven seasons

Championships - 7

Lewis Hamilton - Famously wore a special helmet to mark the UAE's 44th National Day in 2015 as it matched his race number

Valtteri Bottas - An Fl driver for eight years, Bottas also served in the Finnish army, with the rank of lance corporal



LEWIS HAMILTON









2021

@MERCEDESAMGF1



Red Bull Fact - Owned by the famous drinks company, Red Bull won back-toback championships from 2010-2013

Championships - 4

Sergio Perez - The Mexican has the record for the longest wait for an F1 Grand Prix win having claimed victory at his 190th attempt in 2020 at Bahrain.

Max Verstappen - In 2015, the Dutch driver became the youngest driver in F1 history at the age of 17 years and 166 days







@REDBULLRACING

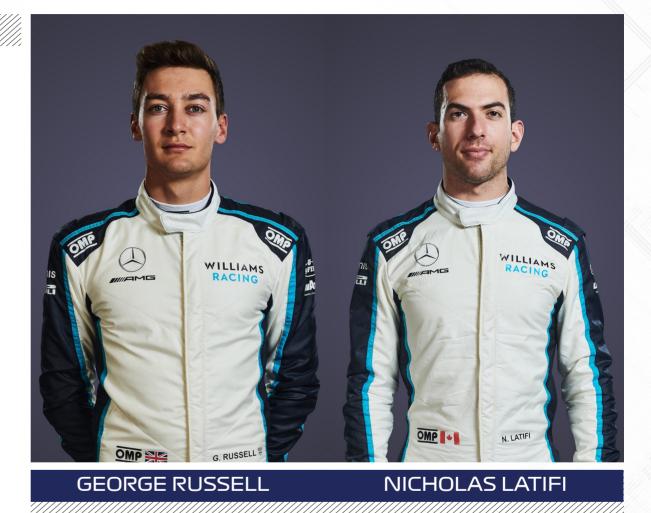
WILLIAMS RACING

Williams fact - The team was established in 1977 thanks to Frank Williams who sadly passed away in November this year

Championships - 9

Nicholas Latifi - The race number six is a reference to a nickname given to his home city of Toronto

George Russell - Having debuted in 2019, Russell achieved his first podium this season in Bahrain

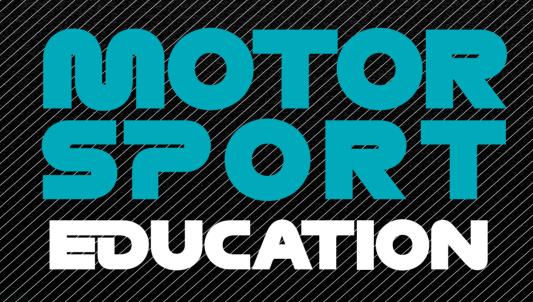






@REDBULLRACING







FIA RULES OF THE ROAD







FIND OUT MORE ABOUT HOW YOU CAN GET INTO RACING WITH YAS MARINA CIRCUIT



Hot



F4

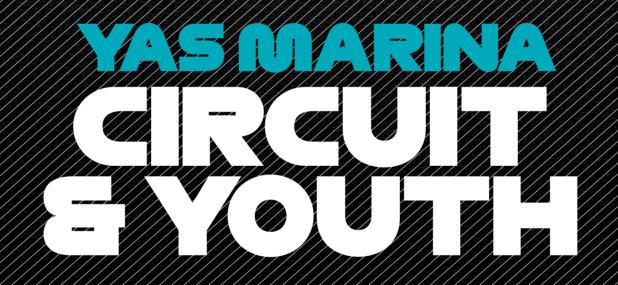
If you are looking to get into competitive racing we might have the perfect solution.

The F4 UAE Championship is open to all drivers aged 15 years or older and is intended as a first step from karting into the world of formula car circuit racing.

Grids are slightly smaller than you might find elsewhere are this gives drivers the opportunity to really hone their race skills and get some valuable experience behind the wheel, in a competitive but friendly and supportive environment

Drivers must be in possession of an FIA National licence or above and all registered drivers are eligible to score Championship points and Driver awards.





MEET RASHID AL DHAHERI

CPAROLIN

At what age did you know what career path you wanted to explore?

Some are in their teens. Some perhaps are in their 20s. Some people never really find out.

Could you imagine knowing what you wanted to do at just three years of age?

That is how old Rashid Al Dhaheri was when he gazed up at the Ferrari garage at Yas Marina Circuit in 2011. Formula 1 had been held at the circuit for two years at this point, and here stood an infant many would think was more suited to toy cars rather than the noises and sights of a team operation.

Pit stops, mechanical work, driver interactions - Rashid was transfixed.

He didn't go unnoticed and was invited in by the team, and from here he knew where his future lay. Two years later - yes, he was still only five, Rashid was climbing inside a kart and getting his first experiences of driving. Hooked, he would go on to be trained in Italy which helped him get onto the race grid at Al Ain Raceway during the opening round of the 2013-2014 UAE Championship, which he finished as runner-up.

Since then, Rashid has won multiple races; he is a record-holder in the UAE as the 5-time Dubai O Plate Champion, Macao International Kart Grand Prix Champion, and multiple World Series of Karting (WSK) Championships.

If we bring the clock forward to today, it is incredible to think Rashid is still only 13-years-old - but is making a huge impact in the sport. He is now a fixture on the European

karting scene and was the winner of this year's WSK Champions Cup at Adria.



Results like that make people sit up and take notice and there are questions being asked in influential circles as to just how good Rashid can be.

Speaking earlier this year, Rashid told F1 Feeder Series website: "I have been fortunate enough to be racing in Europe since I was six years old, so I have changed and developed throughout my formative years. I started early as I recognized that this would serve to advance my motorsport racing skills. In this respect, Europe is the foremost place in the world to develop motor racing skills and in particular Italy."

And it is quite clear where he wants his career to eventually progress to.

"My ultimate goal is to reach Formula 1, of course I recognise that this is a grand objective and reaching there will not come easily and not be delivered on a silver platter. I will work hard and push myself and with support I hope to be able to reach this target.

"I will take it step by step and learn along the way. I am focused on what is in front of me and there is an aim to reach Formula 4, which is the next step up from karting."

European media have been quoted as saying the sky is the limit for Rashid, and we will be tracking his progress keenly over the coming years.

Hopefully we will see you line up on the F1 grid in Abu Dhabi, Rashid!



It has been a very close fight in the front. Almost made it. There is always something to learn and improve, the journey is the destination. Thankful to my team.



Rashid on his latest season

Did you know? Away from the track Rashid is a talented pianist

Did you know? Rashid is fluent in four languages - Arabic, Italian, German and English





WHAT CAN YOU DO AT



ADNOC TrainYAS Ladies Presented by ADSC

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TrainAM by Abu Dhabi Cycling Club

TriYAS Presented by ADNOC





TriYAS





Yas Racing Series Yas Super Street Challenge SWS Karting



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YAS MARINA CIRCUIT ON SOCIAL MEDIA

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Don't forget to use #AbuthabiGP whenever you post from the FORMULA / ETHAD ARWAYS ABU DHABI ORAND PRIX 2027

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