

Formula 1: Drivers of Elite



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History of a sport with strong sensations

Formula 1 or F1 also known as Grand Prix Racing, is the highest class of single seat open-wheel formula auto racing.

The first course was in 1894, a pioneering road race in the streets of France. Cars evolved through the Edwardian years, the bleak twenties, the German domination of 1930s and the post war years of Italian supremacy. In time, the cars became faster and more preferment. The speed record is on a Honda car which hit 220mph in November, 2005. More, circuits were built to make people participate to such events. Also, very strict security measures were settled to protect the public and the pilots.

The first race with the appellation "Grand Prix" was in 1901's French Grand Prix in Le Mans won by Ferencz Szisz who covered the 700 miles at 63.0 mph. In 1908, the first course in the United States happened.

Circuits and stables

Today, the Formula 1 has become so popular that many countries of the world want to welcome a "Grand Prix".

For the season 2007, there are 17 Grand Prix in the world. There are 11 stables: Ferrari, McLaren Mercedes, Williams, Toyota, Toro Rosso, Super Aguri F1, Renault, Red Bull Racing, Honda F1, BMW Sauber and Spyker MF1. But since the F1 exists, there were 65 stables.

The influence of the Formula 1 gained all the world. It is only in 1950 that the World Drivers Championship and the World Constructors Championship were created and people starts following this sport with passion.

The first course involved 7 teams and marked the big success of Alfa Romeo and its pilot Giuseppe Farina. Each constructor wants to prove how innovator it can be.

Since 1950, the Formula 1 took place over the 5 continents with 36 courses in different places. Cars are faster and more reliable.

Nowadays, Formula 1 is the most expensive sport in the world, with an annual team budget of millions of dollars.

Since the beginning of the 21st century, Michael Schumacher broke many records but last year, he retired. Who will be the next elite driver in the future?

Evolution of cars from 1950s to 2006:



Special data which cost expensive:

- THE F1 OVERALL COSTS FOR THE 10 TEAMS IS \$2,141,100,000
- DRIVER'S SALARY FOR FERRARI IS \$44,000,000
- CAR MANUFACTURING COST FOR ALL THE TEAMS IS \$19,250,000
- MICHAEL SCHUMACHER IS THE HIGHEST PAID RACING DRIVER IN THE WORLD AND SECOND HIGHEST EARNING SPORTSMAN IN THE WORLD AFTER TIGER WOODS

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LANDMARKS

The most successful formula 1 driver ever



Michael Schumacher is the biggest champion of the history of car racing retired at 37 years old, after 16 seasons at the highest level. He won 7 titles of World Champion, in front of Fangio with 5 titles, Prost with 4 titles and Senna with 3 titles. Schumacher won 91 races. He has exceptional ambition, confidence, intelligence, motivation, dedication and deter-

mination.

After the grand Prix of Italy, he announced that he will leave the world of F1 at the end of the season. But he will keep working with Ferrari. Now, it is Kimi Raikkonen signed for 3 years with Ferrari and would like to do as well and even better than Schumacher.

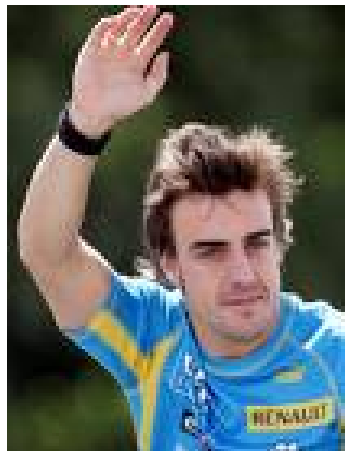
Some surprising data:

- MICHAEL SCHUMACHER PARTICIPATED IN 249 RACES
- HE CLIMBED UP THE PODIUM 241 TIMES
- HE DID 68 POLE POSITIONS
- IN 2004, HE EARNED ABOUT 80 MILLIONS OF DOLLARS THE YEAR

Who is going to take over after Schumacher?

"When you start out in a team, you have to get the team work going and then you get something back."

Michael Schumacher



After Fernando Alonso's second coronation, 2007 is the year of renewal. He is designed as Schumacher's successor. Without M. Schumacher, F1 puts on transfers and new rules.

At 25 years old, he owns many titles. He became the youngest double world champion. Also, he is the youngest author of pole posi-

the youngest winner of grand Prix. His route forged his definite and belligerent character.

He signed for the 2007 season with McLaren, which didn't even win a course last season. He said "I am persuaded that it (McLaren) was the best team to choose to have the most competitive car in the future."

Raikkonen is one of the best pilot and wants to take advantage of being with Ferrari and do a good season. He said " I am not Michael Schumacher and the stable doesn't expect me to be him."

Presented as deserving heir of Michael Schumacher, he knows that he will not be entitled to the error.

According to the website www.f1-action.net, the best pilot for 2006 was Michael Schumacher, second Fernando Alonso and third, Kimi Raikkonen.

The duel between Alonso and Raikkonen remains to follow. Who will be the future World Champion 2007?



The new measures for 2007

For the new season starting March, 18 in Melbourne, Australia, the F1 adopted new rules in the Sporting and Technical Regulations made by the FIA. (International Union of the Automobile).

First of all, after participating in 216 races Michelin decided to stop providing tires for F1 cars. The rule of tires has changed many times and each time, Michelin reacted efficiently by providing

very preferment products. But FIA announced that this sport will have only one manufacturer in 2008. This result lowers the competition, so Michelin came to decision to stop working with F1. Now, only Bridgestone is the only supplier for 2007. This choice was made to create closer racing and also to reduce testing and development costs. The Engine of the cars used during the last 2 races of 2006, will be used during the 2007, 2008, 2009 and

2010 seasons. Then, safety measures are reinforced. In each car, a GPS marshalling system with a cockpit light display of flag signals is introduced. Moreover, all cars must be fitted with a medical warning light in the driver's cockpit. Finally, the crash tests have become more rigorous. After the announcement of the international Automobile Federation last year, F1 has to develop energy efficiency and other "green" technology.



Transfers for 2007's season

The season 2007 will begin soon with many transfers of pilots into new stables.

Team	Pilot 1	Pilot 2	Team	Pilot 1	Pilot 2
Renault	G. Fisichella	H.Kovalainen	Honda F1	J. Button	R. Barrichello
McLaren	F. Alonso	L. Hamilton	Red Bull	D. Coulthard	M. Webber
Ferrari	K. Raikkonen	F. Massa	BMW Sauber	N. Heidfeld	R. kubica
Toyota	R.	J. Trulli	Skyper MF1	C. Albers	A. Sutil
Williams	N. Rosberg	A. Wurz	Super Aguri F1	T. Sato	A. Davidson
Toro Rosso	NA	NA			

" The favorite is the one who makes the best work during the winter, who is the best prepared during the tries of the spring, and who makes most progress during the season."

Norbert Haug,
director of
Mercedes Motosport

The last news

Before the new season begins, teams test their pilots and the reliability of their cars on the circuits. Ferrari's cars are very preferment. Indeed, the two pilots, Massa and Raikkonen, were in the top three of the last testing classification in Bahrain. But the most impressive result was V. Liuzzi who took

the Ferrari Toro Rosso to ninth place. Some pilots preferred testing their car in Barcelona, Spain. After the results in Bahrain, F. Alonso decided to change his schedule and spend the final two more pre-season testing days after seeing Ferrari's invigorated pace with its definite bodywork package. Competi-

tion starts very aggressively.

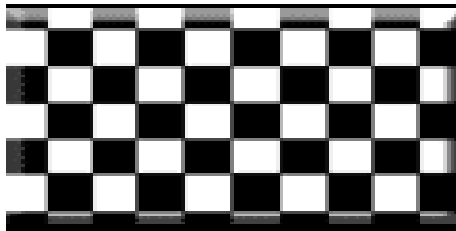
Concerning other expenses, the Dubai company Union Properties intends to borrow \$1.6 billion from banks to build official formula one theme parks. F1 continues showing us the amazing amounts spent for this sport.



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It is your chance to drive a F1 racing car

Henceforth your dream can become true, you can try the formula 1.

Now, it is possible to drive the car like the professional drivers on famous circuits. This formation costs from 360 Euros up to thousands.

You spend the entire day with professionals, all the meals and drinks are providing and then, you have the chance to be in a F1 car for a few laps.

You get on a F1 three seats and you will feel the same strong sensations and the same emotions as your favorite pilot.



Before driving a Formula 1 car, you should try the PlayStation 2 or 3 which brings the same thrill of open wheel racing and thunderous engines. The screens reflect the same excitement of Formula 1.

