

SPORTS

sports

Future stars set for pre-season tests at BIC

More than 50 of racing's future stars to participate in F2, F3 pre-season tests next week

TDT | Manama

More than 50 of motor-sport's future stars will be taking to the track next week at Bahrain International Circuit (BIC) in Sakhr for three days of official pre-season testing in Formula 2 and Formula 3.

The tests will be held from Sunday to Tuesday between 9am and 7:45pm each day.

According to the official entry lists, there are 22 drivers representing 11 teams in Formula 2, with another 30 for 10 teams in Formula 3.

Headlining the participants in both series are Mick Schumacher and David Schumacher. Mick is the son of legendary Formula 1 driver Michael Schumacher and he will be testing in a Formula 2 car. David is the nephew of Michael Schumacher and son of ex-Formula 1 driver Ralf Schumacher. He will be testing in Formula 3.

The tests are a part of both series' preparations for the start of their 2020 seasons, which will be held in support of the Formu-



A car in action at BIC (file photo)



A car on track at BIC (file photo)

la 1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix at BIC from March 19 to 22.

Mick Schumacher will be a part of PREMA Racing alongside teammate Robert Shwartzman. Also set to take to the track are Sean Gelael and Dan Ticktum of DAMS, Guanyu Zhou and Callum Iltott of UNI-Virtuosi, Marcus Armstrong and Christian Lundgaard of ART Grand Prix, Yuki Tsunoda and Jehan Daruvala of Carlin, and Jack Aitken and Guilherme Samaia of Campos

Racing.

The rest of the Formula 2 testing roster includes Louis Deletraz and Pedro Piquet of Charouz Racing System, Nobuharu Matsushita and Felipe Drugovich of MP Motorsport, Artem Markelov and Giuliano Alesi of BWT HWA Racelab, Roy Nissany and Marino Sato of Trident, and Nikita Mazepin and Luca Ghiotto of Hitech Grand Prix.

In Formula 3, David Schu-

macher will be testing with Charouz Racing System. Joining him on the team are Niko Kari and Igor Fraga.

Others are Oscar Piastri, Fredrik Vesti and Logan Sargeant of PREMA Racing; Max Fewtrell, Liam Lawson and Dennis Hauger of Hitech Grand Prix; Theo Pourchaire, Alexander Smolyar and Sebastian Fernandez of ART Grand Prix; Lirim Zenedeli, Devlin DeFrancesco and Oliver Caldwell of Trident; and

Enzo Fittipaldi, Jake Hughes and Jack Doohan of HWA Racelab.

The field is completed by Richard Verschoor, Bent Viscaal and Lukas Dunner of MP Motorsport; Calan Williams, Federico Malvestiti and Matteo Nannini of Jenzer Motorsport; Clement Novalak, Enaam Ahmed and Cameron Das of Carlin Buzz Racing; and Alexander Peroni, Alessio Deledda and Sophia Floersch of Campos Racing.

The Formula 2 drivers and teams will have the first chance to sample the new 18-inch Pirelli tyres—acting as a first step towards Formula 1 making the same change for 2021—during their three-day test.

Formula 3 will make use of the state-of-the-art floodlights at BIC to allow for separate sessions to take place each day. The tests will mark the first-ever action in Bahrain for the Formula 3 championship.



Headlining the participants in both series are Mick Schumacher (son of legendary Formula 1 driver Michael Schumacher) and David Schumacher (son of ex-Formula 1 driver Ralf Schumacher)

Shafiq XI edge KIMS in CBA Div D League

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Shafiq XI defeated KIMS by 8 wickets in CBA Division D 25 overs League.

Shafiq won the toss and elected to bowl first. KIMS opener Arun (77) scored half century gave a good start. Ali Asgar and Fadel took three wickets each for Shafiq that helped them to restrict KIMS for 157 runs. Chasing the target, Shafiq XI opener Juzer's (76) unbeaten half century and Mansoor's 41 runs helped them to reach the target in 21st over at the loss of 2 wickets.

Shafiq XI 163/2 in 20.4 overs (Juzer 76, Mansoor 47) beat KIMS CC 157/10 (Arun 77, Ali 3/17, Fadel 3/33) by 8 wickets

United CC 221/6 (Nishad 51, Fahad 45, Azhar 44) beat CEBARCO 190/10 (Milon 42, Rahees 2/18) by 31 runs

Brave Warriors 178/6 (Salman 60, Majeed 4/16) beat Masters CC 111/10 (Shihab 15, Salman 3/11, Waqar 3/30) by 77 runs

Hyderabad Boys 155/8 (Gurvinder 39, Mahesh 41, Rishabh 2/29) beat Young Blasters 88/10 (Uzair 16, Shami 4/15) by 67 runs

Bulls 165/8 (Anil 34, Rijo 23) beat RUCT 152/8 (Faisal 50, Sunil 2/26) by 13 runs

Indian delights 146/9 (Lenu 35, Ali 3/40) beat Spartans 104/10 (Siddiqi 35, Nesar 3/15, Jerin 3/15) by 42 runs

Super Kings 158/4 in 14 overs (Suraj 71, Depu 31) beat Rising Stars 154/7 (Binu 37, Deepu 4/17) by 6 wickets

Bahrain GP just 20 days away, BIC set to light it up

TDT | Manama

Only 20 days remain until the highly anticipated start to the weekend's events in the Formula 1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix 2020, which takes place March 19 to 22 at Bahrain International Circuit (BIC).

The four-day event is set to LIGHT IT UP! with the very best of global motor-sport and non-stop family entertainment.

This year's Bahrain Grand Prix is the second of a record 22 rounds on the 2020 FIA Formula 1 World Championship. It will be the first night race of the season and BIC will be joining Formula 1 and national carrier Gulf Air in commemorating their 70th anniversaries.

The weekend's Formula 1 action will be complemented by three highly competitive support series. These include the returning FIA Formula 2 Championship and the Porsche Sprint Challenge Middle East, plus the FIA Formula 3 Championship, which will be making its Bahrain Grand Prix debut.

Headlining the off-track entertainment will be the series of fantastic concerts by three of the biggest names in music today. Kicking off the live performances will

be Grammy Award-winning producer, songwriter and DJ Afrojack on the Friday (March 20) night of the race weekend. Then, on Saturday (March 21), global superstar Khalid and Top 10 DJ and producer Don Diablo will perform in an epic night of music.

Fans are urged not to miss out on this year's race weekend. Tickets to the Bahrain Grand Prix are selling fast and all those excited to attend are advised to purchase theirs as soon as possible.

All who purchase a Main Grandstand ticket will have a chance to take home a pair of Formula 1 Paddock Club three-day passes worth almost US\$10,000 in an exciting new raffle. This is the first time this prestigious prize has ever been offered for the Bahrain Grand Prix.

Interested race-goers have until March 7 to buy their Main Grandstand ticket in order to be a part of the draw. Those who have already secured their Main Grandstand seats have also already been entered automatically.

The grand prize of two Formula 1 Paddock Club passes will give the winners access to one of the most exclusive locations from where to enjoy this year's Bahrain Grand Prix.



F1 cars in action at BIC (file photo)

A four-day Main Grandstand ticket costs BD150 apiece, while a Batelco Grandstand ticket for all four days is BD120. There are also Batelco Grandstand tickets for only Saturday and Sunday priced at BD100 apiece; and also Friday-only tickets at BD60 each. Furthermore, a four-day ticket to the Turn One Grandstand costs BD100; whereas University and Victory Grandstand four-day tickets are BD60 apiece.

Also as a part of the entertainment, BIC is bringing back one of the crowd-favorites from last year's race, which is also literally the biggest attraction at BIC's F1

Village vending area. The 42-metre high giant Ferris Wheel, with 27 gondolas, will once again tower over the circuit, while there will also be a carousel-like Ghost Rider speed ride to enjoy.

Amongst the loads of other attractions are carnival games, kids' play areas, stage acts and roaming acts such as renowned street performer Abraham Thill, a life-sized Toy Brigade, a Hot Air Balloons travelling parade, Funky Style Band from Italy, Jam Batucada musical show from Spain, long-time favourites at BIC events Dr. Bubbles and Pop the Balloonman, and so much more.

Nadal cruises into quarter-finals at Acapulco

AFP | Los Angeles

World number two Rafael Nadal stepped up his bid for a third ATP Mexico Open title with an impressive display of serving and shot-making to beat Serbian youngster Miomir Kecmanovic on Wednesday.

The Spaniard hit 20 winners as he kept his hopes alive of regaining the top ranking with a 6-2, 7-5 victory over the 20-year-old Kecmanovic to reach the quarter-finals at the Acapulco hardcourt tourna-



Spain's Rafael Nadal returns the ball to Serbia's Miomir Kecmanovic

ment.

"He's a very dangerous player. Young, with a lot of power. I'm very pleased with the victory," Nadal said.

"I played a very good first set and that's important for me. That gives me confidence."

Next up for Nadal is Kwon Soon-woo, who reached his fourth quarter-final of the month with a 7-6 (7/2), 6-0 upset against eighth-seeded Dusan Lajovic.

South Korea's Kwon also reached the last eight in Pune, New York and Delray Beach.

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