



PRESS RELEASE

MOTORSPORT

Boulogne-Billancourt – April 26, 2021

The MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV has Valencia **WEEKEND'S MIXED CONDITIONS COVERED!**

Despite the fact that Valencia has hosted Formula E's official pre-season test every autumn since 2017, the championship paid its first competitive visit to the Spanish venue this weekend.

Circuit Ricardo Tormo may be familiar territory for the teams, but this time they were treated to a brand new track layout, and the weather had a few surprises in store, too! Instead of the expected warm, dry, springlike conditions, the latter turned out to be overcast and humid for Saturday's action, with the thermometer failing to exceed 15° C. The situation was brighter, milder and, above all, drier the next day, although the track was still damp for Race 2's qualifying session.

The reasonably fast, 15-turn, 3.376-kilometre configuration chosen by the organisers to celebrate the first e-prix to be held at the circuit featured few tight corners, one of the exceptions being a complex chicane positioned at the beginning of the pit straight.

In addition to the unfamiliar track layout, the chief challenge for tyres was the cocktail of high average speeds, more frequent hard-braking than is normally seen in Formula E and an abrasive surface which, together, contrasted with the constraints generally associated with the street circuits – like Rome a fortnight ago – that the series tends to favour.

As usual, however, the MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV rose to the occasion to contribute to yet another weekend of exciting racing. "We have complete confidence in the versatility of our Formula E tyre but we were far from thinking it would need to showcase its qualities over such a broad spectrum of conditions in the course of a single weekend at Valencia," reports Jérôme Mondain, the manager of Michelin's Formula E programme. "The rain, the differences in temperature and the constraints associated with the fact that Valencia is a permanent facility were a real challenge. And while we are familiar with many of the track's configurations, the one chosen by the organisers came with a number of added difficulties, including a section of run-off road and painted markings ahead of Turn 6. For us, though, it was another opportunity to show that it is possible for a single tyre to cover different types of weather and situations at this level of single-seater racing, at street venues and permanent circuits alike. That's what makes the MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV so unique in world-class FIA-sanctioned racing."



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Saturday's e-prix was won by Nyck De Vries (Mercedes EQ), ahead of Nico Müller (Dragon Penske Motorsport) and Stoffel Vandoorne (Mercedes EQ). **Sunday's race** saw Jake Dennis (BMW i Andretti) claim his maiden Formula E victory, followed over the line by André Lotterer (Tag Heuer Porsche Formula E Team) and Alex Lynn (Mahindra Racing).

The next round of the 2020/2021 ABB FIA Formula E World Championship on May 8 will take teams to Monaco where teams will face another new circuit layout.

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