

2026 Azerbaijan Grand Prix - Saturday

Baku, 26 September 2026 – Audi Revolut F1 Team missed out on points at the Azerbaijan Grand Prix, the opening race of a triple-header, with Nico Hulkenberg running in P10 until the closing stages.

Both drivers produced clean, patient drives on a circuit where the team's lack of straight-line speed made overtaking and defending difficult. Nico held a place in the top ten before Carlos Sainz closed in and passed him on Baku's long straight, while Gabriel was unable to make significant progress through the field. The team now heads to Sepang for the Bahrain Grand Prix, where it will continue to optimise the new package introduced this weekend.

Allan McNish, Racing Director: "Our plan was always to go long and be ready to take advantage of any Safety Car: that helped us run in the points towards the end of the race, which would have been a small reward for all the effort the whole team put in overnight to fight back from a difficult qualifying. We did come close, but always knew this track would not fully suit our car. We leave Baku disappointed, but ready to go again in Sepang in a week's time, a track whose layout should better suit our car."

Nico Hulkenberg (Car 27):

Race result: 11th

Fastest lap: 1:46.850 (Lap 45)

Strategy & Pit Stops: Start (New Medium) - Lap 33 (New Soft)

"Points looked in reach for a bit, so it's disappointing to miss out. I was running in P10 towards the end, but the cars ahead started battling, which cost us some time and allowed Carlos to get into my tow. The Williams was very quick down the straight, and there wasn't much I could do to hold him back. That's been a bit the story of our weekend. We were missing straight-line speed, and around here that makes it difficult to make progress or defend. We take it on the chin and move on. We have a few days now to go through the data, understand the package better and see what we can get out of it next weekend."

Gabriel Bortoleto (Car 5)

Race result: 13th

Fastest lap: 1:46.336 (Lap 46)

Strategy & Pit Stops: Start (New Medium) - Lap 31 (New Soft)

"It hasn't been the easiest weekend, but the race itself was quite promising in terms of pace. The new package has been delivering, particularly in the middle sector, where the car felt quite strong. We had good pace behind the other cars, so it was encouraging to see that after some struggles on Thursday and Friday.

"The feeling wasn't the same on the straights, where we lacked pace. Still, while it's obviously not ideal to be outside of the points again, I am happy to see the moderate progress we made today: some positives we can take into the next race."

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About Audi Revolut F1 Team

Audi Revolut F1 Team is the official factory team of Audi, as the brand enters the FIA Formula 1 World Championship for the first time in 2026. This project, in which Audi will create its own hybrid drive system ('power unit') developed in Germany, represents the ultimate expression of the manufacturer's 'Vorsprung durch Technik' philosophy and embodies a long-term commitment to compete at the pinnacle of motorsport with the clear objective of challenging for world championships by 2030. Audi Revolut F1 Team is based in three locations: the power unit is developed by Audi Formula Racing GmbH at the Audi Competence Center Motorsport in Neuburg, Germany; the chassis is engineered and race operations are managed from the state-of-the-art facilities of Audi Motorsport AG in Hinwil, Switzerland; while the Audi Motorsport Technology Centre UK in Bicester, United Kingdom, provides a foothold in the heart of 'Motorsport Valley', with direct access to top F1 talent and key strategic partners. This integrated structure provides complete control over the project, embedding a culture of precision, innovation, and relentless performance. Audi's entry is strategically timed to coincide with new Formula 1 regulations focused on increased electrification, as the electric share of the hybrid drive is raised to almost 50%, and the introduction of 100% sustainable fuels. The entry into Formula 1, one of the most important platforms in the world, serves as a high-tech catalyst for the entire Audi brand, acting as a global stage to demonstrate technological leadership and connect with new, diverse audiences by creating cultural impact that resonates far beyond the race track.



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