

2026 Singapore Grand Prix - Friday

Singapore, 9 October 2026

Allan McNish, Racing Director: "The first part of Sprint Qualifying is always a busy session for everybody, particularly with the red flag confining the crucial part to the final five minutes of action. We got through SQ1 reasonably comfortably and, while the first lap in SQ2 was good, the second wasn't quite optimal for either one of our drivers. Ultimately, Nico and Gabi were left in 12th and 14th respectively, with very little separating the two of them.

"I think we ultimately had the performance to be inside the top ten, and we were only a small margin away from achieving that. From a pure performance perspective, we have a clear focus for tomorrow's main qualifying session and will aim to make it one step further. However, before that we have the Sprint race, and we need to make sure we are in ready to make the most of any opportunity in that one, too."

Nico Hulkenberg (Car 27):

FP1: 18th / 1:34.884 (16 laps)

SQ1: 1:34.128 (8 laps)

SQ2: 12th / 1:33.420 (6 laps)

"It was a decent Sprint Qualifying. We had a very strong run in SQ1, and while SQ2 wasn't quite as competitive, I think it reflected where we are at the moment. Considering we had limited running in FP1, I'm reasonably satisfied with how the session went.

"It's going to be a tough weekend: hot, humid and physically demanding. We'll take what we've learned today, see where we can make some improvements overnight and then focus on getting the most out of the Sprint tomorrow."

Gabriel Bortoleto (Car 5):FP1: 16th / 1:34.736 (25 laps)

SQ1: 1:34.690 (8 laps)

SQ2: 14th / 1:33.466 (6 laps)

"Everything was very close in SQ2. I feel my final lap was decent, but I left a little bit on the table in the last sector, with a big snap at the second-to-last corner. With such small gaps between cars, that makes a difference. Overall, it's been an interesting day. We started well in FP1, but towards the end of practice we had a few issues, and I wasn't as happy with the car. At the start of qualifying, we were also off the pace we expected, but we managed to make a step forward and I felt more confident as the session went on. Still, it wasn't quite enough for SQ3. It's still early in the weekend and we're far from having everything optimised, so there's plenty to work on."

Contact:press@audif1.com

Will Ponissi, Head of Corporate and Race Communications, william.ponissi@audif1.com, +41 79 591 57 85

Nives Pavicic, Communications Manager, nives.pavicic@audif1.com, +41 76 384 07 50

Elena Rovelli, Communications Manager, elena.rovelli@audif1.com, +41 78 209 18 57

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.

