

**ABB FIA Formula E Championship 2017/2018
Round 8: E-Prix of Berlin**

***The MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV2
pays second visit to Berlin showpiece!***

Although Berlin has featured on the Formula E calendar since the championship's inaugural campaign back in 2014/2015, the circuit proposed by the German capital's authorities hasn't always been the same. The opening season saw the all-electric single-seater cars compete around a tortuous track on the apron of the city's former Tempelhof Airport. That configuration proved particularly tough on tyres but Michelin's original Pilot Sport EV rose to the occasion without a problem. Season 2 took teams to a city-centre venue in the bustling Alexanderplatz district, but the 2016/2017 series returned to Tempelhof for a double-header weekend following the cancellation of the initially-planned Brussels E-Prix. Although the location was the same as two years previously, the configuration had changed significantly and the new, faster, wider and more spectacular layout was widely acclaimed by competitors and fans alike. This time around, the same 2.25km loop – which features 10 turns, instead of 17 in 2015 – is being used and spectators will benefit from a near-complete view of the action.

The crowd will also be treated to the first public dynamic display of next season's 'Gen2' Formula E car equipped with Michelin's next-generation tyres, although the race itself will star the more familiar Season 4 single-seaters competing in Germany for the second time on MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV2s. After the parade of next season's futuristic car in the hands of ex-Formula 1 world champion Nico Rosberg, the 20 Formula E drivers will begin the Berlin E-Prix two hours later than the normal start time.

"Berlin is a very interesting track with a nice balance between the straights, tight turns and fast corners," says **Serge Grisin**, the manager of Michelin's Formula E programme. "On top of that, the organisers have had the clever idea of taking the cars through a transparent tunnel so that spectators watching from the E-Motion Club will be able to see them pass beneath their feet! Berlin is also a unique track because of its concrete-based surface which can be quite hard on tyres, especially early in the day. It is effectively the hardest-wearing circuit of the calendar but the MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV2 rose to the occasion perfectly in 2017 despite track temperatures in excess of 40°C. Every race springs its own surprises, but we feel confident for Saturday."

With only four more e-prix to come this season, the fight for the 2017/2018 titles is very close with several drivers still in contention. Just as they have done since the start of the season, the performance and safety characteristics of their Michelin tyres will allow them to focus on their quest for victory.



Didier Laurent – didier@autopressclub.com – Phone: +33.6.75.60.50.62

Alessandro Barlozzi – alessandro.barlozzi@michelin.com – Phone: +33.6.42.23.55.93