

**ABB FIA Formula E Championship 2017/2018
Round 6: E-Prix of Punta Del Este**

The MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV2 to face sandy Uruguayan beachside challenge

All-electric ABB FIA Formula E racing action returns to the southern Uruguayan coastal town of Punta Del Este this weekend for Round 6 of the 2017/2018 championship. Situated some 140 kilometres east of country's capital, Montevideo, the Atlantic resort has a permanent population of just 10,000, but that figure swells by a factor of forty come the southern-hemisphere summer, from January to March.

To cater for the expected interest in this year's race, the Punta Del Este E-Prix organisers have completely revised their spectator arrangements to ensure that it is a huge popular success. Frequently referred to as the Saint Tropez of Latin America, the resort previously hosted Formula E races in the competitions first two seasons. They took place in December, however, so this will be the first visit of the MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV2 – which was launched at the start of Season 3 – to the ocean-side venue.

The 2.785-kilometre circuit itself features 20 turns and a slightly curved start/finish straight. As in Mexico two weeks ago, the weather is likely to be particularly hot, too, with air and track temperatures expected to reach something like 30°C and 50°C respectively.

“The track layout is very similar to what we saw in Seasons 1 and 2, with the exception of the first chicane, which has been reversed,” notes **Serge Grisin**, manager of Michelin's Formula E programme. “The fact that the course runs along the Playa Brava beach – which is a favourite spot for local surfboarders – produces a unique situation, however, since the sea wind tends to blow sand onto the road. The result is lower grip and the likelihood of higher wear-rates. That said, everything passed off perfectly the first two times we were here and the data we have amassed with the current-generation MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV2 means we feel confident for the 2018 Punta Del Este E-Prix. The track actually features two different types of surface, one of which is in a poorer state than the other and offers less grip, but that's something we come across often in the course of the Formula E Championship, so we expect things to go well.”

The MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV2 is Michelin's second-generation Formula E tyre and was designed specifically for the championship's latest-specification single-seater cars which were introduced at the beginning of Season 3. Although it resembles a road tyre, the Pilot Sport EV2 is not only a genuine high-performance racing tyre but it is also capable of delivering in dry and wet conditions alike. Its longevity means it is able to cover the entire race day, from the first free practice session to the e-prix itself. In addition to boasting the best environmental footprint to be found in motor racing, its size – 18 inches, a choice unprecedented in world class single-seater racing – permits Michelin to collect valuable data for the development of its road tyres.



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