



CIRCUIT OF THE AMERICAS

# UNITED STATES GRAND PRIX



## Sprint Qualifying

LEWIS HAMILTON #44

P8

	POS	TIME	TYRES	LAPS
FP1	P8	1'33"965	Hard, Medium	25
SQ1	P4	1'34"226	Medium	5
SQ2	P10	1'34"012	Medium	6
SQ3	P8	1'33"035	Soft	3

## CHARLES LECLERC #16

### P10

	POS	TIME	TYRES	LAPS
FP1	P20	1'36"080	Hard, Medium	18
SQ1	P13	1'34"913	Medium	6
SQ2	P8	1'33"938	Medium	6
SQ3	P10	1'33"104	Soft	3

Weather: sunny, dry. Temperatures: air 40°C, track 42°C

## Lewis and Charles will be on a charge in the Sprint

Hamilton starts eighth on row four, with Leclerc right behind him on the fifth row.

### FP1

- Lewis got through his planned programme with no difficulties. The session was briefly stopped so that debris from Lance Stroll's car could be removed at turn 19.
- Both drivers worked on preparing for the race and for Sprint Qualifying. Lewis ran the Medium compound tyre, which it is obligatory to use in the first two parts

of qualifying, that decides the grid for the 100 km race which starts tomorrow at 12.00 (19.00 CEST).

- Charles had also gone out on Mediums before having to pit without setting a time, so that his only lap time from the run he had done earlier was on the Hard tyre.
- Charles had a gearbox problem in the closing minutes of the session.

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## SQ1

- Prior to the session, the gearbox on Charles' SF-25 had been changed following the problem in free practice.
- All the cars were on Medium tyres as per the regulations.
- Lewis got through to the next phase comfortably on his first run, but Charles needed to go again and encountered a lot of traffic on his flying lap.

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## SQ2

- Once again in this session, Medium compound tyres were obligatory.
- Charles and Lewis both needed to do two runs to ensure they made the cut to the final phase.

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## SQ3

- Now it was time for the remaining 10 drivers to fit Softs.
- As is often the case in Sprint Qualifying, they all went for just one run: Lewis and Charles put in two solid laps that netted them the eighth and tenth places respectively.
- Tomorrow, after the 19 lap Sprint Race, parc ferme restrictions are lifted and the teams can work on the cars ahead of qualifying for the Grand Prix at 16 local (23 CEST).



We'll need to review today's session, as the car showed promising pace and I was generally satisfied with its balance in FP1 and SQ1. However, for the rest of Sprint Qualifying, I found it challenging to maintain that pace. We'll regroup tonight to discuss the best approach for tomorrow's race given our starting position.

## Lewis Hamilton

#44



My lap in SQ3 was clean and I didn't leave anything on the table. Maybe we could have fine tuned the car a bit more if we had done some more runs on the Medium compound this morning, but the maximum we could have gained there would be a tenth.

We will give everything to find something more for tomorrow, but for now it seems that this is the potential of our car this weekend.

## Charles Leclerc

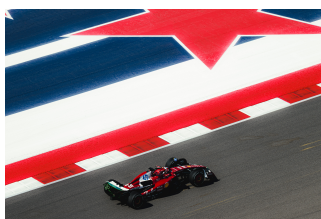


#16



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