



2023 Birkett Six-Hour Relay – Team Managers & Drivers’ Briefing
Silverstone GP Circuit
Saturday 28th October 2023

These notes are to be read in conjunction with the Final Instructions

QUALIFYING

Qualifying sessions will run continuously in sessions by car letter designation (i.e., all ‘A’ cars together) – please listen carefully for paddock tannoy announcements.

Qualifying DOES NOT SET THE GRID so there is no need to attempt a quick time - ensure all team drivers do a minimum of three laps. Note that any cars/driver letter can start the race and cars can go out in any order during the race itself – (it does not need to be A,B,C etc).

ASSEMBLY

The assembly area is on the Copse runway – see the Final Instructions for location - and ensure you arrive promptly in advance of your qualifying session but not before the previous ‘letter session’ has been released.

Each team’s chosen starting car/driver for the race start should head to the assembly area IN GOOD TIME and no later than 11.20am.

START PROCEDURE

The race will start behind the Safety Car. See Final Instructions and note this is **NOT a ‘rolling start’ by definition.**

Follow the Safety Car in single file in grid order. The race starts when the Safety Car is flagged away from the start line.

Towards the end of the lap the Safety Car will turn its flashing beacons off and then enter the pit lane. Cars **MUST NOT OVERTAKE** until they pass the green flag at the start/finish line.

DRIVING STANDARDS

This is a six-hour race so no first corner heroics are required; you cannot win on the first corner, but you can lose.

There is a very wide range of performance – both straight line and cornering - in the Birkett and all drivers need to be fully aware of the challenges this brings, specifically with regards to extreme closing speeds.

The race has an excellent safety record, and we intend to maintain this by ensuring driving standards remain high throughout. Drivers can expect penalties if they transgress in this area.

Drivers of faster cars should not crowd slower cars - all drivers have the same right to race and remember that smaller cars may be difficult to see when alongside.

Drivers of slower cars should avoid confusing indications or indecision in braking area when being overtaken by a faster car – stick to the racing line and faster cars will find their own way past.

DO NOT rely on blue flags as marshals will not know race order.

Do not fight quicker cars when being lapped.

PIT LANE

The pit lane speed limit is 60kph & starts at the line positioned at the start of the pit lane.

Refuelling must take place outside and around the back of the garages only, with the driver out of the car and an extinguisher on hand.

The Stop/Go penalty box position is on the right at the start of the main pit area and will be indicated by a board.

Note that a Stop/Go penalty **CANNOT** be served in conjunction with a Pit Stop/Driver Change.

Be aware of the restricted number of team personnel in pit lane and ensure all personnel are correctly attired in tabards. Note that the pit lane is a very hazardous environment and photography/videography is only permitted for signed-on media personnel.

Team Managers must remember that they are responsible for the behaviour of all team members and penalties can apply to the team if any team member infringes pit and pit lane regulations.

Communication with Team Managers will be via SMS or WhatsApp. Please ensure Race Admin have the correct mobile phone number for your Team Manager, keep the phone with you and always switched on.

SIGNALS

Black flag and penalty boards (with car number) will be shown from the start/finish line position. Ensure you are aware of penalties (especially for exceeding track limits) which are shown in the matrix in the finals. Note that in-race penalties cannot be appealed (C2.1.6).

RESPECT YELLOW FLAGS

Always, i.e., slow down, no overtaking until you pass a green flag.

SAFETY CAR

The Safety Car will enter the circuit when instructed by the Clerk of the Course, **it is not obliged to pick up the race leader**. Form a train behind the Safety Car ASAP with a gap of no more than five car lengths between each car.

Whilst in operation the Safety Car will remain at steady pace, **be very alert to fluctuations of speed and sudden slowing further back in the train due to the number of cars – this can almost reach standstill**.

The pit lane will remain open but will be closed whilst the train passes. Once you are released from the end of the pit lane, proceed to safely catch the train whilst respecting yellow flag and track conditions.

NOTE: Once the Safety Car period ends a green flag will be shown on the start/finish line, and **OVERTAKING IS NOT PERMITTED until the start/finish line is crossed**.

THE SAFETY CAR MAY GO THROUGH THE PIT LANE IF THE INCIDENT IS ON THE PIT STRAIGHT.

Deployment of the Safety Car indicates there is a serious incident. Rescue units or other vehicles may be on circuit and marshals, or other staff may be on track adjacent to the incident. Extra care and vigilance is therefore required.

Full details of the Safety Car procedures are in the finals and in the 'Blue Book' – you are responsible for having read and understood them.

END OF RACE

Once the race ends cars will be directed back to the paddock from the pit lane.