

## Rules of 'The Grand Prix League' 2010

**1) Submitting Your Entry Form:** When you have completed your Entry Form please email it before the Closing Date to [clerkofthecourse@thegrandprixleague.net](mailto:clerkofthecourse@thegrandprixleague.net). First, please do check you have:

- Selected a Team of eight Drivers with one from each Driver Group, including no more than one Ace Driver.
- Nominated your Pit Stop Strategy.
- Read and agreed to the Rules and Conditions.
- Provided an active email address.
- Arranged how you will pay your Entry Fee.

I will try to process all Entry Forms within three days of receiving them and then email you to either confirm your Team has been accepted or tell you of any problems. Once I have accepted your Team you will not be allowed to change your Drivers or Pit Stop Strategy until the opening of the first Pit Stop Window (see Rule 9). All Entry Fees should be paid by the date of your first Pit Stop or I reserve the right to issue your Team with a 'Drive-through Penalty'.

**2) Requesting a Second Team:** You can request entry of a Second Team by selecting the option on the Entry Form. After processing your Entry Form I will email you a Second Team Request giving more details. The Request that you return will be processed in just the same way, except that it will be set-aside until the Closing Date has passed. Then, all the Second Teams I have accepted will be placed in chronological order and used to fill any remaining spaces in the League (normally, the number of Teams in the League will be limited to 40). All GPL Rules & Conditions apply equally to Second Teams, except as outlined in Rule 15).

**3) Incorrect Entry Forms and Late Entries:** I will email you as soon as possible if you submit an incomplete or incorrect Entry Form. I will not accept your Team until you have submitted a corrected Entry Form. If the Closing Date passes before the errors are corrected, your Team will not score at the first Round and it may lose its place in the League to any Second Teams I have accepted. Late entries (i.e. those received after the first Round) will only be accepted at my discretion.

**4) GPL Team Numbers:** As soon as possible after the Closing Date, I will publish a list of all the Teams accepted into the League. This will include your unique Team Number based on your final placing in last season's GPL or - if you didn't take part - in the date and time order that your Team was accepted. If your Second Team is accepted, it will be assigned a Team Number consecutive to your First Team.

**5) GPL Errors or Omissions and Your Risks:** Although I'll make every effort to provide up-to-date and accurate information on the Entry Form and the Website, if the participation of any Constructor or Driver is in doubt I will assume that you accept the risks should you select them. I will also assume you accept the possibility that the FIA may amend or revoke regulations during the season which may affect your Team. During the season, I will try to keep you informed of any significant developments involving your Drivers so you can make informed Pit Stop decisions. I reserve the right to issue rule additions or clarifications in response to changes in the procedure or regulation of Formula One.

**6) How Points are Awarded:** Qualifying Points will be awarded on the basis of the official Qualifying Classification as published by the FIA on their website. Grid demotions applied by the Race Stewards for driving offences, engine or gearbox changes etc will not be included unless reflected by the FIA Qualifying results. Other changes to the Starting Grid made after the publishing of Qualifying Classification

and before the start of the race will also not be included. Only Drivers who are classified by the FIA as finishers will score Finishing and Improvement points in the GPL. Drivers disqualified from a race will lose all points scored during the race but retain any points scored in qualifying. If the FIA or Race Stewards decide instead to remove points from a Constructor but not their drivers then the Drivers will score points in the GPL. If a Driver is banned for several Rounds, Rule 7) will apply. If a race is stopped short of full distance, be run as the aggregate of two races, declared void etc, the FIA's interpretation of the result will be followed. Ordinarily, the Qualifying Classification and Race Classification used for League calculation will be those published by the FIA on their website; should these be or become unavailable those on the Formula One Administration Ltd website will be used as an alternative.

**7) When a Constructor Replaces a Driver:** If a Constructor replaces a Driver, by choice, injury, suspension etc. his replacement will continue scoring points for you as if he were the original Driver. If a Constructor is excluded (i.e. they are not allowed to compete in one or more subsequent Rounds), elects to miss any Rounds or withdraws indefinitely during the course of the Championship you must either complete the season with a reduced number of Drivers or make use of Pit Stops. The only exception would be if the exclusion/withdrawal is for the entire remainder of the season and it reduces any particular Driver Group to just one Driver in which case the Group will become void at the first following Round. You would retain points scored by any Drivers you selected from that Constructor up to the date of their exclusion/withdrawal. This would still apply even if (in the case of exclusion) the team/driver were retrospectively removed by the FIA from the official race results. You will not be offered any compensation for points lost. Should the FIA substitute another Constructor for one that has been excluded or withdrawn, the replacement will ordinarily be ineligible for selection in the GPL. However, if the new Constructor appears dependable and their inclusion can be achieved fairly, I may opt to incorporate them after suitable notice.

**8) Publishing of the League Table:** Generally, the Latest League Table will be posted on the Website within six hours of a Grand Prix. This Table must be regarded as provisional; should there be any appeals resolved in the days following a Grand Prix, an updated League Table may be posted. However if an appeal does not conclude before the next Round, the provisional League Table will be confirmed and used as the basis for the League Table at that Round. In this case, whatever the outcome of the delayed hearing there will be no retrospective correction of the League Table. If there is an appeal regarding a disqualification etc at the final Round of the season, the League Table will be confirmed and considered final if the appeal is not heard during the following 14 days. Generally, no changes to scores will be made except to correct source, typographic or computational errors. Any errors found with the data plus any corrections will be posted on the Website.

**9) Pit Stop Window:** A Pit Stop Window is the period between the Sundays of any two successive Rounds. On those Sundays on which a Grand Prix is scheduled your Team will be "locked" for that 24-hours; any Pit Stop Proposal I receive during that time will be set aside for inclusion at the next Round. When a Window opens that is significant for your Nominated Pit Stop Strategy, I will email you a reminder Pit Signal. However, whether or not the Pit Signal is sent and/or received, responsibility for ensuring that a Proposal is submitted within the Pit Stop Window remains yours and yours alone.

**10) Making a Pit Stop:** To activate your Pit Stop, you should make a Proposal by email stating which Driver you wish to drop and the name of his replacement in that same Group. At the time of your Pit Stop, you'll keep as part of your Total Score the points to date of the Driver you drop, thereafter collecting those scored by the replacement Driver. At any Pit Stop, you may change only one Driver but you may also take your Pit Stop Penalty whilst retaining the same Team. Teams should always consist of one Driver from each Group, however you are allowed to include in that selection (if you so wish) one additional Ace Driver at each Pit Stop. In the same email, you should also ensure you Nominate which Tyre you wish to run until your next Pit Stop or the end of the Season. Penalties for Pit Stops will be deducted during League calculations at the first following Round. If a Round of the Championship is cancelled, postponed etc, I will apply appropriate discretion regarding Pit Stops.

**11) Number and Timing of Pit Stops:** You must Nominate both Hard and Soft Tyres at least once during the course of the season; thus you will be obliged to make at least one Pit Stop. You may however make as many additional Pit Stops as you like, provided a Pit Stop Window is open (see Rule 9).

**12) Failed Pit Stops:** If you fail to send a Pit Stop Proposal before your Nominated Tyre reaches 'Failure' or send one that is incorrect or incomplete, your Team will be regarded as 'In The Pits'. It will then score zero points at the next Round and I will send you a final Pit Stop Signal. If you then send a belated Proposal your Team will resume scoring at the next Round and you will be excused the listed Pit Stop Penalty. There will be no compensation for points lost during an extended period 'In The Pits'. Any Team that remains 'In The Pits' for three Rounds will be 'Retired' from the competition. I will not accept subsequent Proposals for Retired Teams.

**13) Communications:** Please send all GPL related emails to the address given in the Entry Form or Pit Stop Proposal Form or via the link on the Website. I will aim to answer these emails within three days. If you don't receive a reply, please contact me as soon as possible. Please be aware of your Pit Stop Strategy and act accordingly and in good time. With emails where the timing is important, the 'Time Received' of the email will be the last word. I can accept no responsibility for the vagaries of email systems and reserve the right to ignore emails received more than three days after 'Time Sent'.

**14) Naming of the GPL Champion:** The Player who achieves the highest Total Score from all Rounds will be declared The Grand Prix League Champion. In the event of a points tie, the Champion will be the Player who has the lower Team Number. Following the final Round, the Organiser will publish an updated League Table as usual before carrying out a final audit. A final League Table will then be published and barring unusual circumstances, the Champion will be declared not more than five days after the final Round. Further to Rule 8), if there is an appeal at the final Round of the season, the Champion will only be declared within five days if the outcome of any such appeal would not materially affect the Players in prize winning places. Otherwise, the Champion will be declared as soon as possible after the appeal hearing or after 14 days, whichever is the sooner.

**15) Awarding Prizes:** All Entry Fees (minus any PayPal fees) will be pooled to form the Prize Fund. The Grand Prix League Champion will receive the official trophy at the end of the season (if available) and a share of the Prize Fund, allocated in the following proportions: Champion 70%, Second placed 20%, Third placed 10%. Players achieving a prize-winning position with their Second Team will receive only half the relevant proportion, the other half being

returned to the Prize Fund for the other prizewinners. Should Second Teams occupy all three prize-winning positions, all Prizes will be at the original proportions shown above. Players who fail to pay their Entry Fee by Round 10 will not receive Prizes, their share being returned to the Prize Fund for the other prizewinners. As the Organiser, any share of the Prize Fund that should fall to me will be donated to charity with corroboration posted on the website. All prizes will be presented as a cheque payable to the name shown on the Entry Form. Prizes should be claimed and cheques cashed within six months of award. Cheques will not be reissued after this time and any unclaimed monies will revert to the League for disposal as I see fit. No prizes will be paid in cash.

**16) If you have a Complaint:** If at any time you are unhappy with the running of the GPL, you should email your complaint to me, preferably copied to another Player. I will ensure you are then given the opportunity to examine the Excel spreadsheet used to produce the League Table and/or copies of the race results used in its calculation. If you are still dissatisfied and have a genuine grievance you may request your Team be withdrawn from the League, in which case I will refund your Entry Fee.

**17) How I will Apply the Rules:** I'm keen to maintain the good nature of the GPL, however Rules will be rigorously applied if you act contrary to the spirit of the competition. If a problem cannot be satisfactorily resolved your Team may be removed from the League after details of the dispute have been posted on the website. Players' continued participation in The League is entirely at my discretion as Organiser.

**18) Data Protection:** Only Players' names are displayed on the Website and by accepting the Rules of the GPL I will assume that you consent to such publication. Any other personal information you submit will not be shared with third parties except with your prior consent or where required by law. Your email address will not be used for unsolicited email or commercial purposes and will only be communicated with in connection with the running of The Grand Prix League. However, in such emails, you should be aware that your email address might be visible to other Players. No email address or other contact details are stored on the GPL Website and so remain inaccessible to email harvesters and robots. I use up-to-date firewalls and anti-virus software to keep personal data secure and to protect against loss and unauthorised disclosure. However, the GPL website is hosted by my ISP and therefore I have no influence on the security of its servers or the reliability and availability of the website.

**19) Gambling Laws (UK):** For the purposes of the UK Gambling Act 2005, The Grand Prix League is operated as 'non-commercial betting'. As such, although Entry Forms are available in the public domain, they may only be accepted from those personally invited by The Organiser or from their friends and families that they introduce. Entrants under the age of sixteen will be accepted only with the express consent of a parent/guardian and at my discretion.

**20) Disclaimer:** The Organiser runs The Grand Prix League (1996) as a sociable, non-profit making venture. No endorsement or association should be inferred with the FIA, FOA, FOTA or any drivers, constructors, circuits or sponsors of Formula 1. Views expressed in the Rules, on the Entry Form or on the Website are those of the Organiser.

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