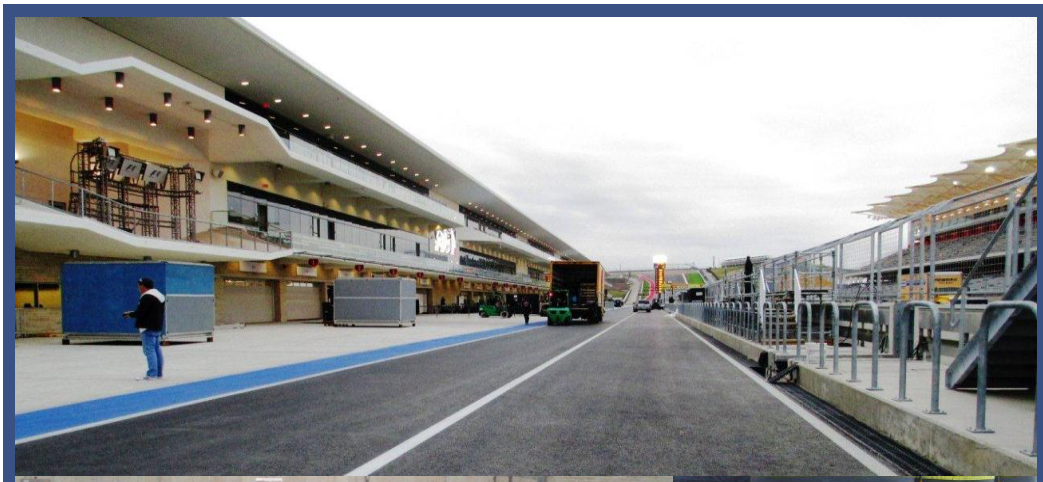
Officials Newsletter 2012
United States Formula 1 GP









Welcome Race Officials to the 2012 Formula 1 United States Grand Prix at Austin Texas.

The race Officials Newsletter originated in Melbourne Australia in 2000, and thanks to Lynne Huntting a life time member from SCCA plus Chuck Aksland from COTA, the Officials Newsletter is now at the inaugural 2012 United States Grand Prix in the great state of Texas.

The Officials Newsletter is written by officials, designed to share information about fellow officials, for officials. Along the way the newsletter will also include segments about the race, teams and interesting facts and interviews to highlight the diverse nature of Formula 1.

Welcome to THE 'Circuit of The Americas'

Welcome to Circuit of The Americas and the first United States Formula One Grand Prix since 2007. It's been a long time coming, and I know how excited all of you are to be part of this inaugural event. Many of you have come a long way, and from many countries to be here and part of this new adventure.

This year for the first time at a USGP, there will be a daily newsletter for all of the race officials and marshals. It's for and about you, with pictures and stories. Let us hear from you. We hope you like our project.

The Newsletter team consists of one American and three Australians, who have all worked together for several years at the Australian Grand Prix. The three Aussies are RICHARD McLEAN of Melbourne, RON SEARLE of Melbourne, and MICHAEL SHAW of Sydney. Yours truly, LYNNE HUNTTING, is from Oakland CA - San Francisco Region SCCA.

Have fun and be safe!

Welcome one and all…

"The new Circuit of The Americas is truly a Global Event. All of you are globally qualified and passionate about the sport … a global event". Nick Craw - President of ACCUS

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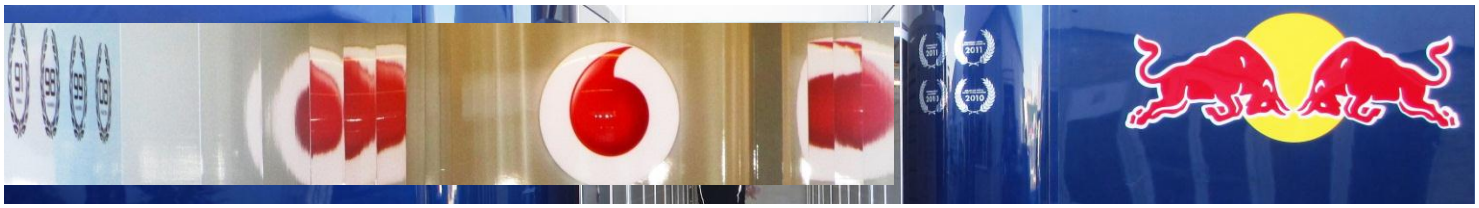

NICK CRAW, President of ACCUS (Automobile Competition Committee of the United States)



"Welcome to all the volunteer race officials and marshals. The inaugural United States Grand Prix at the new Circuit of The Americas is truly a Global Event. All of you are globally qualified and passionate about the sport. Formula One has harmonic appeal to true aficionados."

"FIA has been considering creating a world-wide plastic ticket/resume card, which would qualify volunteer race officials and marshals to work FIA events. It would look like a Gold Card or logbook, only less cumbersome."



For the first time in the United States, a Formula One race is sanctioned by ACCUS, the American ASN (National Sporting Authority) of FIA (Federation International de l'Automobile). In the past, the US F1 races had been sanctioned by SCCA (Sports Car Club of America) and/or USAC (United States Auto Club). New FIA rules treat each FIA race meeting as a global event and as such is sanctioned by the country's ASN.

RACE CONTROL is located in a first-floor wing of the Pit Lane F1 Garages. The two tiers of desk face away from the large glass windows adjacent to the track. The officials view a whole wall of TV monitors, showing each corner, track maps, and even wind velocity and direction for each corner.

CHARLIE WHITING is the FIA F1 Race Director, so he is in the Starter's Stand to start the race, and then 'calls' the race from Race Control. Charlie has a special portable desk module with all his Race Control equipment and technology, which travels to each Formula One race.



JO ANNE JENSEN is the Race Control Coordinator. A long-time member of SCCA, Jo Anne oversees all aspects of communication in Race Control including the equipment and cameras. She has also written a 'Process Document' which could be described as an Instruction Manual for the senior Race Control officials.

Working with Jo Anne as Senior Communicators are JIM SWINTAL, F1; SANDY BYRNES, Support Groups; PAUL LEYTON, Safety; and SUE FRANCO, Administration. Jim will be at the morning Marshal meetings.

Turn One is the highest point on the track, and many consider it the signature turn. The Observation Tower, in the center of the track, is 28 stories tall. There is an elevator, but to prove his mettle, COTA Chief of Safety, LON BROMLEY, walked up and down earlier this week. The top floor has a 360 degree panoramic vista view.









