

2018 24 HOURS PRESS KIT – THE WEC 2018-19 SUPER SEASON

A landmark eight-round season
of the FIA World Endurance Championship

For the first time in its history, the FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC) is to be contested over eight rounds spanning 2018 and 2019. Races will take competitors in this Super Season to some of the most famous circuits on the planet and twice to Le Mans!



Always keen to draw as many teams as possible to put on a stunning show for spectators, the ACO and the FIA have introduced a Super Season for 2018-19. The World Endurance Championship (WEC) thus comprises eight rounds on three continents, from May 2018 with the season-opener, the Total 6 Hours of Spa-Francorchamps, until June 2019 with the 24 Hours of Le Mans. A completely new calendar that will give competitors the opportunity to race at circuits across the world and compete twice on the iconic tracks of Spa-Francorchamps and Le Mans!

The 2018-19 WEC Super Season Calendar

- 5 May 2018 → Total 6 Hours of Spa-Francorchamps (Belgium)
- 16-17 June 2018 → 24 Hours of Le Mans (France)
- 19 August 2018 → 6 Hours of Silverstone (Great Britain)
- 14 October 2018 → 6 Hours of Fuji (Japan)
- 18 November 2018 → 6 Hours of Shanghai (China)
- 15 March 2019 → 1,000 Miles or 8 Hours of Sebring (USA)
- 4 May 2019 → Total 6 Hours of Spa-Francorchamps (Belgium)
- 15-16 June 2019 → 24 Hours of Le Mans (France)

New regulations for an even greater show

The ACO and the FIA have worked hard to make the premier league of endurance racing, the LMP1 class, even more attractive. The regulations have been revised to level the playing field and ensure great on-track entertainment with some serious battles between the hybrid LMP1s and the other cars. The privateer (non-hybrid) LMP1s thus



benefit from a more favourable set of regulations than in the past (aerodynamics, fuel allocations, etc.) to help close the performance gap with the Toyota TSO50 Hybrids. The organisers' choices have clearly paid off as the LMP1 class now boasts ten cars – two fielded by a manufacturer (Toyota) and eight by private teams.

Alongside these technical changes, the new 2018 regulations also permit mechanics to work on cars and change tyres during refuelling. This step is likely to make pit stops more spectacular – and faster, which will have an impact on team strategy.

A more balanced championship

For better balance between the long races (24 Hours of Le Mans and 1,000 Miles or 8 Hours of Sebring) and the six-hour rounds, the points allocation system has also been revised. A win at the French endurance classic will now be worth 50% more points than at a six-hour round (it was double points in 2017), while victory at the 1,000 Miles (or 8 Hours) of Sebring earns an extra 25%. Finally, the FIA WEC World LMP1 Championship title will no longer be awarded to a manufacturer but to a team, which means the privateers can compete with Toyota for the crown. This Super Season really promises some fantastic motorsport action!