

= 2010 Singapore Grand Prix =

The 2010 Singapore Grand Prix ( formally the 2010 Formula 1 SingTel Singapore Grand Prix ) was a Formula One motor race held on 26 September 2010 at the Marina Bay Street Circuit , Marina Bay , Singapore . It was the fifteenth race of the 2010 Formula One season , and the third Singapore Grand Prix held as part of the Formula One World Championship . The 61 @-@ lap race was won by Ferrari driver Fernando Alonso who started in pole position . Sebastian Vettel finished second for Red Bull , his teammate Mark Webber was third .

Alonso held off Vettel to maintain his start line advantage on the first lap . Lewis Hamilton , who started third , fought off teammate Jenson Button to retain his start position . The top two remained the same through the first and only round of pit stops . Webber 's team , Red Bull , opted to pit him early allowing him to move ahead of Hamilton . The race was neutralised by the deployment of the safety car after Kamui Kobayashi and Bruno Senna crashed on lap 31 . Hamilton retired after a collision with Webber shortly after the race restarted on lap 36 . Alonso maintained his lead throughout the remainder of the race despite pressure from Vettel .

The race was Alonso 's second consecutive victory and his fourth of the 2010 season ; he had started from pole position to win the Italian Grand Prix two weeks earlier . The win meant Alonso moved into second place in the World Drivers ' Championship , eleven points behind leader Webber . Hamilton 's retirement meant he slipped to third , while Vettel 's second @-@ place finish moved him into fourth ahead of Jenson Button . In the Constructors ' Championship Red Bull extended its lead to twenty @-@ four points ahead of McLaren . Ferrari was a further forty points behind , with four races remaining in the season .

= = Report = =

= = = Background = = =

The 2010 Singapore Grand Prix was the fifteenth round of the 2010 Formula One season after taking a two @-@ week break from the previous race in Italy . The event was held at the Marina Bay Street Circuit in Marina Bay , Singapore on 26 September 2010 . The Grand Prix was contested by twelve teams with two drivers each . The teams ( also known as constructors ) were : McLaren , Mercedes , Red Bull , Ferrari , Williams , Renault , Force India , Toro Rosso , Lotus , Hispania , Sauber and Virgin . Tyre supplier Bridgestone brought four different tyre types to the race : two dry compounds ( super soft " options " and medium " primes " ) and two wet @-@ weather compounds ( intermediate and full wets ) . The soft compounds were denoted by a green stripe on their side @-@ walls ; the wet compound tyres were identified by a green line at the bottom of their central groove . The rules of 2010 Grand Prix races stipulated that all cars should use both types of tyre during a race unless the driver used any one of two wet @-@ weather compounds . Each driver was limited to eleven sets of dry tyres for the weekend .

Before the race , Red Bull driver Mark Webber led the Drivers ' Championship with 187 points . He was ahead of Lewis Hamilton in second with 182 points and Fernando Alonso in third on 166 points . Hamilton 's teammate Jenson Button was fourth with 165 points , and Sebastian Vettel was fifth on 163 points . Red Bull was leading the Constructors ' Championship with 350 points ; McLaren and Ferrari were second and third with 347 and 290 points respectively , while Mercedes on 158 and Renault with 127 points contended for fourth position . Red Bull , McLaren , and Ferrari had won the previous fourteen races of the season ( with victories being taken by Alonso , Button , Vettel , Hamilton and Webber ) . Felipe Massa ( twice ) , Robert Kubica had finished in second place , and Nico Rosberg ( three times ) , Massa ( twice ) and Kubica ( once ) had all finished in third .

Singapore was a critical race in the championship as all five drivers had a chance to take the lead with a victory . The situation was made difficult for Alonso as he had used his allocation of eight engines following the Italian Grand Prix , and to replace one would incur a ten @-@ place grid penalty . His rivals each had at least one untouched engine in reserve ; Webber had two .

Nevertheless , Alonso set himself the target to score points in Singapore . He also acknowledged that his car was not the fastest in the field and felt he needed five podiums in the season 's five remaining races . Webber stated that he was expecting Singapore to be a tough weekend for him after he had retired from the event in 2008 and 2009 , but felt there was still some time before a driver clinched the championship . After crashing out of the first lap of the Italian Grand Prix , Hamilton said he would push hard to stay in the running for the championship : " I 'll take each race as it comes , but I 'll also be making sure I get to the finish of the next five races , that 's more important than anything . I go to Singapore to win . " Hamilton felt Alonso was the favourite to win the Singapore Grand Prix and viewed the Spanish driver as his main rival for the Drivers ' Championship which was shared by Red Bull team principal Christian Horner . Button himself believed Alonso would have an extra advantage as the Spaniard 's teammate Massa was out of contention for the title .

The Marina Bay Street Circuit was resurfaced between turns three and seven , along with turns thirteen to seventeen , after drivers complained about its bumpiness following the 2009 Singapore Grand Prix . The Singapore Sling chicane was adjusted to allow for a more gradual curve to exist which enabled a safer exit for drivers . The outside wall at turn 21 was brought closer towards the race track to cover up half of a drain which was previously exposed to cars , and the pit lane was resurfaced to allow for a smoother exit for drivers rejoining the circuit . Hamilton , a vocal critic of the circuit 's condition , described it as " dangerous " because it had remained uneven , and said the Singapore Sling chicane was " the worst corner I have ever driven in Formula One " despite the safety modifications made to it . The organisers of the Singapore Grand Prix introduced a new machine to clean the surface of the track after drivers had problems with a dusty and slippery track surface in the previous year 's race . Two days before the first practice session , drivers expressed concerns over low visibility caused by rain showers combined with the glare from the circuit lighting .

There were two driver changes heading into the Grand Prix . Hispania Racing announced that Sakon Yamamoto , one of the team 's drivers since the tenth race of the season , was to be replaced for the weekend by the team 's reserve driver Christian Klien because he was suffering from food poisoning . Several journalists noticed a seemingly healthy Yamamoto in the paddock , suggesting that he had been dropped for sponsorship reasons instead . Team principal Colin Kolles confirmed that the arrangement would be for one race and Yamamoto would return to the cockpit at Suzuka . Pedro de la Rosa was summarily dropped by Sauber and replaced by Pirelli test driver Nick Heidfeld , who last drove for the Sauber team in 2009 . The change was made because of de la Rosa 's poor performance relative to that of teammate Kamui Kobayashi , and Heidfeld 's knowledge of the Marina Bay Street Circuit and the Yas Marina Circuit .

Several teams made modifications to their cars in preparation for the event . McLaren , Red Bull , and Williams all revised their front wings . McLaren 's revision was designed to separate airflow into two separate channels , with both directing airflow around the outside of the car 's front tyres . Red Bull 's design , used in the Friday practice sessions , had two vertical slots to the rear of its endplate along with another to avoid creating a vortex when it operated with the planes and endplate . A previous design , debuted at the British Grand Prix , was used both in qualifying and in the race . In addition , the team used a revised diffuser to allow for better management of airflow to the top of the diffuser 's side section . Williams ' design debuted for the first time and was designed to make the tyre act like a diffuser which took air in to improve its efficiency .

= = = Practice and qualifying sessions = = =

Three practice sessions ? two on Friday and a third on Saturday ? were held before the main Sunday race . The Friday morning and afternoon sessions each lasted ninety minutes . The third session was held on Saturday morning and lasted an hour . The first practice session was initially held on a wet track with a clear sky after rainstorms earlier in the day left standing water on parts of the circuit , and high humidity slowed the drying process . These conditions meant drivers used intermediate tyres first before dry tyres were utilised in the session 's closing minutes . Webber set

the fastest time of the first session with a late lap of 1 : 54 @. @ 589 , one @- @ tenth of a second faster than Michael Schumacher in second who was briefly quickest before Webber set his lap . Adrian Sutil , with a lap of 1 : 58 @. @ 827 , was third fastest , ahead of Vettel and Jaime Alguersuari . Button , Vitantonio Liuzzi , Sébastien Buemi , Kubica , and Vitaly Petrov rounded out the session 's top ten fastest drivers .

In the second practice session , when the track was still damp in some sections , Vettel set the fastest time of the night , a lap of 1 : 46 @. @ 660 on super @- @ soft tyres ; Webber finished with the second fastest lap . Button drove aggressively and battled Vettel for the fastest time throughout before he ended with the third quickest lap , half a second off Vettel 's pace . Alonso , who was fourth fastest , ran wide at turn 17 while on a quick lap and slid down the access road at the next corner ; he stalled while attempting to rejoin the track and abandoned his car requiring marshals to push his Ferrari away from the track . Hamilton was fifth , with Barrichello and Massa in sixth and seventh places . The two Mercedes drivers were eighth and tenth ; with Nico Rosberg ahead of Schumacher , separated by Kubica . Sutil 's Force India was launched into the air when he hit a kerb at the Singapore Sling chicane and his front @- @ left suspension was broken upon landing requiring him to miss half the session , and Alguersuari 's left @- @ rear tyre made contact with a barrier but he avoided major damage to his car . Sutil was fined US \$ 10 @, @ 000 ( £ 6 @, @ 300 ) by the stewards because he attempted to drive back to the pit lane in his damaged car and did not stop at a safe position on the circuit .

Rain hit the circuit on Saturday afternoon , ending three hours before the session started , resulting in several damp patches on the circuit though the air temperature remained hot . Different sections of the circuit dried out at different rates making it difficult for drivers to tell precisely how wet or dry certain corners were . The teams ran intermediate tyres before switching to the super @- @ soft tyre as the session progressed . Some drivers ran deep into turn five . Vettel was the fastest driver of the session with a time of 1 : 48 @. @ 028 set in the last twenty minutes of the one @- @ hour period . The time was four @- @ tenths faster than championship rival Alonso . Hamilton was third fastest , two @- @ thousandths of a second in front of Massa . Rosberg was fifth , ahead of Webber and Nico Hülkenberg . Kubica , Sutil and Buemi completed the top ten ahead of qualifying . Hispania Racing driver Bruno Senna 's right @- @ rear tyre got onto a white line at the Singapore Sling chicane and spun . Senna later brushed a wall entering the Esplanade Bridge in the final minute and stopped his car , causing the yellow @- @ flags to be shown ; drivers were unable to improve on their lap times because of the limited time available .

The qualifying session held on Saturday afternoon was split into three parts . The first part ran for twenty minutes and eliminated the cars that finished the session eighteenth or lower from qualifying . The second part of qualifying lasted fifteen minutes and eliminated cars that finished in positions eleven to seventeen . The final part of qualifying determined the positions from first to tenth and decided pole position . Cars which competed in the final qualifying session were not allowed to change tyres before the race ; these started the race fitted with the tyres with which they set their quickest lap times . It was held in dry weather conditions . Alonso was fastest in the first and third sessions , and clinched his second consecutive pole position with a lap time of 1 : 45 @. @ 390 which he set on his first run of the third session . He was restricted to one timed lap in the second session because of an engine mapping problem , which meant Ferrari immediately re @- @ programmed Alonso 's engine upon discovering the issue . Alonso was joined on the front row of the grid by Vettel , who recorded a lap 0 @. @ 067 seconds off Alonso 's pace , and felt he could have taken pole position as he misjudged a gap while following Schumacher and brushed the wall exiting the Singapore Sling chicane . Hamilton qualified third and was happy with his starting position despite losing downforce on the track 's final sector while running in teammate Button 's tow . Button secured fourth and pushed hard in the final session which meant he had slight damage to his rear tyres on his first run , and could not get the optimum tyre temperature in the first section on his second run . Webber managed fifth and admitted that he was struggling to find a good rhythm when driving the circuit . Barrichello qualified in sixth . The two Mercedes drivers took seventh and ninth ; Rosberg ahead of Schumacher . Rosberg believed that he should have performed better in qualifying than in the practice session , as he felt the soft tyres lacked grip ; Schumacher was

satisfied with his qualifying performance . The Mercedes drivers were separated by Kubica , in the faster Renault , who was happy with his lap time despite his car sliding from a lack of grip . Kobayashi rounded out the top ten qualifiers .

Alguersuari , who qualified eleventh , was the fastest driver not advancing to the final session . His best time of 1 : 47 @. @ 666 was 1 @. @ 8 seconds slower than Vettel 's pace in the second session . Alguersuari 's time was followed by Hülkenberg , who was backed up by Sutil on his first run in the second session , and described his car 's balance like " night and day " . However , Hülkenberg was demoted five positions on the grid after the Williams team changed his gearbox after the race at Monza . As a consequence , Petrov inherited 12th position having pushed hard on a set of option tyres . He had lost control of his car after he went deep , under braking , heading for turn five ( a corner that was damp from the earlier rain shower ) , with his right @-@ rear wheel hitting the wall . Petrov 's crash meant he took no further part in qualifying . He was ahead of Buemi , in the slower of the two Toro Rossos , who lost a large amount of grip and got stuck in traffic . Heidfeld took 14th ahead of his fellow countryman Sutil in 15th . Liuzzi had a problem with his front brakes on the first run of the second session and managed 16th . Timo Glock , Heikki Kovalainen and Lucas di Grassi were the quickest drivers unable to advance beyond the first part of qualifying . The eleventh row of the grid was filled by Jarno Trulli and Klien . Senna took 23rd . Massa was unable to set a timed lap as his gearbox seized without warning forcing him to stop on the circuit ; Ferrari chose to replace his engine and gearbox as a precaution . Massa 's engine change was his ninth of the season which incurred a ten @-@ place grid penalty , but since he started from 24th position , the penalty was nullified .

== = Race == =

The race began at 20 : 00 SST ( UTC + 8 ) . The conditions on the grid were dry and cloudy before the race ; the air temperature ranged between 29 ? 32 ° C ( 84 ? 90 ° F ) and the track temperature was 31 ° C ( 88 ° F ) ; no rain was predicted during the race . Most drivers started on the super @-@ soft compound tyre . Alguersuari started from the pit lane as his team discovered a coolant leak in his car . As the five red lights went out to signal the start of the race , Alonso maintained his pole position advantage heading into the first corner and withstood Vettel 's attempt to pass him . Button got an early advantage over teammate Hamilton , but Hamilton fought him to retain third place . Barrichello fell from sixth to eighth place . Kubica passed Rosberg at the start but the German regained the sixth position in the same lap . Further down the field , the early momentum was broken when Heidfeld , attempting to overtake both Force India cars at turn seven , hit Sutil 's rear , damaging his front wing . Liuzzi subsequently went into Heidfeld 's rear @-@ end after the latter squeezed him towards the wall , causing front wing damage to his car . Heidfeld made a pit stop for a replacement front wing at the end of lap one , while Massa made his only pit stop of the race for the medium compound tyres .

Liuzzi pulled over to the inside of the circuit on the third lap , at turn ten , with left @-@ rear suspension damage resulting from contact with the wall . His retirement triggered the deployment of the safety car as marshals were required to push his car away from the track . Webber was the only top running driver to pit for the medium compound tyres during the safety car period on lap four . Red Bull had told Webber to enter the pit lane , assuring him that it was the right decision , though he questioned the move . Several drivers towards the rear also chose to pit . Racing resumed at the end of lap five when the safety car pulled into the pit lane . Webber immediately pushed hard and passed Glock for tenth position and a line of cars began to form behind Glock . Alonso began to pull away from Vettel as he set consecutive fastest laps . Webber passed Kobayashi at turn five to move into ninth on lap seven , and withstood an attempt to Kobayashi to reclaim ninth heading into turn seven . Hülkenberg and Petrov 's wheels made contact and both drivers went off the circuit on the same lap ; Hülkenberg managed to move ahead of Petrov with Massa taking advantage to pass the Renault driver . Webber caught Schumacher on lap 11 and passed the Mercedes driver on the same lap at turn five after Schumacher ran wide . Vettel was told by his team to cool his brakes on the same lap as Alonso continued to extend his lead . Sutil got ahead of Glock for eleventh place

three laps later and started to pull away from the queue behind Glock . Hülkenberg ran wide at turn seven on the same lap but did not lose any positions . Hülkenberg passed Glock in the first sector of the track for twelfth on lap 16 .

Vettel and Alonso traded fastest laps as they pushed hard in their efforts to build up a sufficient lead over Webber to maintain first and second positions after their pit stops . Massa , Petrov , Buemi and Alguersuari all passed Glock on lap 17 thus eliminating the queue of cars . By lap 20 , Alonso was leading Vettel by 3 @. @ 2 seconds ; he in turn was a further 11 seconds in front of Hamilton . Button was in fourth , 20 seconds behind Alonso , with Rosberg 3 @. @ 3 seconds behind the World Champion in fifth . Webber changed his engine settings to give him a higher top speed in an attempt to get past Barrichello and decrease the time gap to Hamilton on lap 22 . He avoided colliding with an Armco barrier at the entry of turn eighteen one lap later . Hamilton was told to increase his pace on the 24th lap to try to stay ahead of Webber after the pit stop phase . But his car had a large amount of oversteer , as his rear , super @- @ soft , compound tyres began to deteriorate , causing his lap times to drop off the leader 's pace . Trulli drove to the pit lane and was pushed by his mechanics into the Lotus garage to retire with an hydraulic issue on lap 28 . Hamilton made the first scheduled stop for tyres on lap 29 and re @- @ emerged in eighth position behind Webber . Alonso and Vettel made simultaneous pit stops on the following lap ; Alonso retained his lead despite Vettel 's pit crew completing their pit stop first ; Vettel avoided stalling and drove away in second gear . With newer tyres which provided more grip , Vettel recorded faster lap times than Alonso to close the time gap as the two came across slower cars .

Kobayashi attempted to pass around the outside of Schumacher on lap 31 but the two made contact with Schumacher subsequently hitting a barrier . Kobayashi damaged his Sauber , losing control of his rear @- @ end , and crashed at the exit of turn 18 after his front wing was knocked off entering the corner . Senna was slow to react and buried his Hispania nose @- @ first into the barrier alongside Kobayashi . These incidents called for the race 's second safety car period to allow removal of both cars from the circuit which were on the racing line . Klien was pushed into his garage to retire with an hydraulic problem on lap 34 . The safety car pulled into the pit lane at the end of lap 35 and the race resumed with Alonso leading . Hamilton got a run on Webber who was caught behind di Grassi and lined up an overtaking manoeuvre on the Red Bull driver , and overtook him on the Raffles Boulevard straight . Webber 's front @- @ right tyre hit Hamilton 's left @- @ rear tyre at turn seven . He escaped without significant damage , while Hamilton had a punctured tyre and pulled off the circuit to retire for the second consecutive race . However , Webber did feel vibrations on the front @- @ end of his Red Bull . His tyre , which made contact with Hamilton 's , had been pushed 5 millimetres off its normal mounting on the rim , and Button drew closer to Webber who managed to maintain a good pace . On lap 37 , Schumacher went into Heidfeld 's rear @- @ end and limped back to the pit lane to replace his damaged front wing creating sparks as it was dragged along the surface of the track , while Heidfeld retired after hitting a barrier . Button was urged by his McLaren mechanics on lap 42 to push Webber whose tyres were older , while Vettel gradually closed the gap with Alonso . Hülkenberg , in ninth , made a mistake on lap 44 which allowed Massa to momentarily take advantage , but he fought back and retained ninth position . Kubica sustained a right @- @ rear puncture on lap 46 and made a pit stop on the same lap , rejoining in 13th .

Upfront , Vettel had reduced the gap between himself and Alonso to one second by lap 50 as the pair continued to trade the fastest lap time . Glock started to slow on the circuit and drove to the pit lane to retire . It was later confirmed that his retirement was the result of an issue with his car 's hydraulic system . With the advantage of having newer tyres which gave him more grip , Kubica was able to make short work of Alguersuari , Buemi , his teammate Petrov , Massa , Hülkenberg , and Sutil ( who was holding up a queue of five cars ) in the space of nine laps . Vettel continued to pressure race @- @ leader Alonso in the closing laps as the pair began to encounter slower cars . Kovalainen and Buemi made contact in the final sector of the lap , with the Lotus driver spinning around in front of the Toro Rosso , who was quick to avoid a head @- @ on collision . Kovalainen 's car suffered a cracked fuel tank pressure release valve and he limped back to the pit lane , the rear of his Lotus catching fire during the final few turns . Kovalainen aborted the pit entry , but did not

make it much further as his car was consumed by the fire . Kovalainen stopped on the main straight and got out of his car to extinguish the fire himself after members of the Williams team handed him a fire extinguisher . As Kovalainen was off the racing line , yellow flags were waved in the final corners instead of a safety car deployment .

Vettel drew to within two @-@ tenths of a second behind Alonso as the final lap started , and came across Sutil , Hülkenberg , Petrov and Massa ; both drivers managed to get past Petrov , and Alonso maintained the first position heading into the final sector of the track . The yellow flag for Kovalainen 's car meant that Vettel 's final chance of an overtake , into the final corner , was denied , and Alonso took the checkered flag on lap 61 to win the race , 0 @.@ 293 seconds ahead of Vettel . Alonso secured the first , and , as of 2015 , the only Grand Chelem ( leading the entire race from pole position with fastest lap ) of his career as well as the first since Schumacher achieved the feat at the 2004 Hungarian Grand Prix . Webber was third , 1 @.@ 2 seconds ahead of Button in fourth . Rosberg , Barrichello and Kubica took the next three positions . Sutil held off Hülkenberg in the final sector of the track for eighth and ninth on the line with Massa in tenth . Petrov , Alguersuari , Schumacher and Buemi finished one lap behind Alonso , with di Grassi and Kovalainen ( despite his retirement ) the last of the classified finishers .

= = = Post @-@ race = = =

The top three drivers appeared on the podium to collect their trophies and , in a later press conference , Alonso said that his victory " meant a lot " for him to remain in contention for the Drivers ' Championship and thanked his team for their efforts during the weekend . Alonso added that Ferrari would give " 100 per cent " in the season 's four remaining races and said the battle remained " very tight " despite scoring the most points out of all the drivers in the previous five races . Vettel said that he was hoping that Alonso would make a mistake but acknowledged that it was difficult to overtake on the circuit . He also said that attempting to overtake Alonso in the final stages of the race was " the only chance " that he had of winning the race and hoped that the remaining tracks would suit his Red Bull car . Webber stated that he was " very happy " with his third @-@ place finish and said the entire race weekend was the toughest of the year on him . He also said that he did not feel comfortable throughout the weekend and that he was staying composed through certain sections of the race .

Alonso 's win has been regarded as one of the best of his Formula One career . Former Formula One driver Martin Brundle described it as : " one of those races in which two drivers elevate themselves on to a separate plane from their rivals . " It reminded him of the 2000 Japanese Grand Prix where Schumacher won that year 's world championship from his main rival Mika Häkkinen . Will Saunders of crash.net said in 2014 that Alonso : " had little right to wrestle a performance of such magnitude out of either himself or the Ferrari , yet he found another level that day . " After the eventual conclusion of the championship in Vettel 's favour by four points , Saunders said : " Alonso 's performance in Singapore showed he would have been an equally deserving championship victor . " ESPN listed it as one of Alonso 's top ten races while driving for Ferrari .

The stewards immediately investigated the accident between Webber and Hamilton on lap 37 and took no further action . Hamilton later reviewed the incident on video and was adamant that he was not at fault saying that he was " unlucky " for the second consecutive Grand Prix . Webber stated the contact nearly forced him to retire and compared the accident to Hamilton 's collision with Massa at the Italian Grand Prix . Brundle felt Hamilton should have given Webber more space and agreed with the stewards ' decision . Bridgestone director of motorsport tyre development Hirohide Hamashima stated Webber was " very lucky " to make the finish and that if left hand high @-@ speed corners were installed on the track , the tyre would have moved more frequently and lost its pressure . Horner had also admitted that Webber had been lucky with his tyre lasting for a long distance .

Schumacher and Heidfeld 's accident on lap 37 was investigated by the stewards who took no further action after deciding it was a " racing incident " . Heidfeld felt Schumacher had braked too late and hoped that he would have had a better finishing position . Schumacher himself said that he

was not happy with his first race in Singapore but enjoyed the second half of the race . BBC pundit , and former team principal , Eddie Jordan was highly critical of Schumacher arguing that the German driver should have been sacked by Mercedes to prevent him from being " slaughtered " in the event he was unable to win another race . Mercedes team principal Ross Brawn came to Schumacher 's defense and said his team was " happy " with his contribution . Motorsport pundits criticised Kovalainen 's decision to stop his car on the pit straight after it had caught fire and argued that he was " irresponsible " . Kovalainen defended his action arguing that it had not been safe to drive his Lotus into the pitlane . Nevertheless , Kovalainen 's fire was voted the Moment of the Year by readers of Autosport magazine in December 2010 at the Autosport Awards held in London .

Sutil was given a 20 @-@ second time penalty by the stewards as he was deemed to gain an advantage by taking the outside line at turn seven on the first lap . This demoted him from eighth to tenth , and promoted Hülkenberg from ninth to eighth and Massa from tenth to ninth . Following a protest from Force India , Hülkenberg was issued a 20 @-@ second time penalty after the stewards deemed him to have gained an advantage by corner cutting . This ruling meant Hülkenberg was demoted to tenth while Massa moved up to eighth and Sutil inherited ninth . Force India withdrew an appeal of Sutil 's penalty following the decision , and Williams technical director Sam Michael said that his team had accepted the stewards ' judgement . The stewards elected not to penalise Senna after examining a video of his collision with the stationary Kobayashi . Kobayashi admitted that he was at fault for his retirement and Senna believed the marshals were late reacting to Kobayashi 's accident and felt his own accident was unavoidable .

As a consequence of the race , Webber 's third @-@ place finish allowed him to increase his lead in the World Drivers ' Championship . Alonso 's victory allowed him to move up into second place , eleven points behind Webber . Hamilton 's retirement meant that he slipped to third place , nine points behind Alonso . Vettel 's second @-@ place finish resulted in him moving into fourth place ahead of Button . In the World Constructors ' Championship , Red Bull 's strong finish allowed them to draw further ahead of McLaren who were now twenty @-@ four points behind . Ferrari remained in third on 319 points , forty points behind McLaren . Mercedes increased their points advantage over Renault to thirty @-@ five with four races remaining in the season .

= = Classification = =

= = = Qualifying = = =

#### Notes

^ ? Nico Hülkenberg was given a five @-@ place grid penalty for changing his gearbox after the Italian Grand Prix .

^ ? Felipe Massa failed to set a lap time after stopping on the circuit in the first part of the qualifying session .

^ ? Ferrari replaced Massa 's gearbox and engine ? his ninth for the season ? after his stoppage in qualifying ; Massa could not be penalised because he had already qualified last after failing to set a time .

= = = Race = = =

#### Notes

^ ? Adrian Sutil was penalised 20 seconds post @-@ race for illegally gaining an advantage at turn seven on the first lap .

^ ? Following a protest by Force India , Hülkenberg was penalised 20 seconds post @-@ race for illegally gaining an advantage .

^ ? Jaime Alguersuari started from the pit lane following a coolant leak before the race .

= = Championship standings after the race = =

Bold text indicates who still has a theoretical chance of becoming World Champion .  
Note : Only the top five positions are included for both sets of standings .