



Video 7 – USA Preview

[Initial shots of US. Cut to Christine.]

Chris: Welcome to Sidepodcast TV, today we are previewing the US Grand Prix. Last year healed a lot of the damage caused by the 2005 six-car fiasco and a good race in 2007 can only encourage American fans. So let's take a look at one lap around the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

[Cut to Allianz animation]

Chris – Voiceover

When Formula 1 descends upon the States, they get to race on the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. The oval circuit is famous for holding the annual 500 mile race, which has been going for over 100 years. That and NASCAR make the track pretty special for American fans.

Our drivers only race on half of it, interestingly in the opposite direction to its normal use. They start down the long, wide straight that makes up the front of the speedway. Flanked by grandstands on both sides, the drivers reach over 330 km/h before braking hard for Turn 1. Introducing the car to the infield section of the track, Turns 1 and 2 are slow 2nd gear corners at about 90km/h.

Turn 3 is a fast 5th gear right hander that leads nicely into a long braking zone for the tricky Turn 4. Turn 5 is a slower 2nd gear right corner, with an entry speed of 217km/h down to 165 on exit. The drivers are suddenly into Turn 6, a long, sweeping curve that seems endless. Turn 7 is almost a carbon copy of 5, with similar speeds in the same gear and turning to the right, but this leads the drivers onto the back straight. A good exit out of 7 is important to maximise the straight, as the driver drifts diagonally into position for Turn 8. Turns 9 and 10 form an elongated chicane, more of an S bend, to slow the drivers down before heading up to Turn 11. Another sweeping right hander, Turn 11 sees drivers shifting to 3rd gear at 130km/h.

The exit from Turn 11 is absolutely critical because it leads the way for the remainder of the lap. A smooth Turn 12 transitions the track back onto the Speedway oval, and the drivers sail onto the 9 degree banking for Turn 13. Although the cause of the 2005 problems, we can now revel in the top gear 300 km/h plus corner that leads the driver back onto the straight and across the start/finish line.

Pole position in 2006 was Michael Schumacher in the Ferrari with 1 minute 10.832 seconds.

[Cut to Brembo Brakes footage]

Chris - Voiceover

Coming out of the long initial straight, first corner braking on the Indianapolis Motor Speedway needs to be hard and fast. Deceleration of 190km/h takes 2.0 seconds and loads the driver with 5G. The pedal load has to be at least 145kg to get through to Turn 2 safely.

[Cut to Championship Tables]



Chris – Voiceover

After his maiden win in Canada, Lewis Hamilton goes into the US Grand Prix leading the championship with 48 points. His team mate Alonso trails behind him on 40 points. The two Ferrari's have 33 and 27 points for Massa and Raikkonen respectively, whilst Heidfeld keeps up with 26.

This leaves McLaren dominating the constructors battle, holding their lead over Ferrari at 88 to 60 points. BMW have 38, Renault have 21, and Wurz's surprised 3rd place at Canada brings Williams up to 13 points.

[Cut to Christine.]

Chris: That's the US. Our next preview will be Magny Cours, our one and only preview because it's been knocked off the calendar for 2008. Stay tuned to Sidepodcast TV for the video and don't worry, I won't be speaking French. See you soon.

[End credits]

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