

Hamilton seeks to pressure Antonelli in Hungary

BY JAMES ELLINGWORTH
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lewis Hamilton has a chance to pile pressure on Kimi Antonelli and Mercedes as the Formula 1 title race heads to Hungary, and there were promising signs Friday as Ferrari seemed to have the pace in practice.

Hamilton has won the Hungarian Grand Prix eight times, making it his most successful event besides his home British Grand Prix. It's a track where cornering ability, not raw power, tends to make the difference, which could suit his Ferrari.

"I think we've got a car that can compete. Mercedes is still the car to beat, and they won't be easy to beat this weekend, but I do think we've made subtle progress," Hamilton said this week. "Hopefully we can be fighting with them this weekend."

FERRARI LEADS THE WAY IN PRACTICE

It certainly seemed that way as Ferrari topped Friday's two practice sessions.

Hamilton set the fastest time of the day as he beat Leclerc by 0.148 of a second in the second session, with Lando Norris a distant third for McLaren, .499 away.



DARKO VOJINOVIC/Associated Press

Britain's Lewis Hamilton steers his Ferrari during the first practice session ahead of Sunday's Formula One Hungarian Grand Prix auto race, at the Hungaroring racetrack in Mogyorod, near Budapest, in Hungary on Friday.

George Russell was the best Mercedes in fifth and Antonelli only 13th in a session interrupted by a red flag when Franco Colapinto spun into a barrier.

In the first session, Leclerc went fastest by nearly half a second from Max Verstappen of Red Bull, with Hamilton a close third. Russell was fifth fastest in that session, too, while Antonelli sat out as the team worked toward its quota of practice sessions for non-regular drivers. Reserve Fred Vesti was seventh.

Struggling Aston Martin made some progress with an upgraded car as Fernando Alonso placed 13th in the first session but a suspen-

sion failure sent teammate Lance Stroll spinning wildly. The damage ruled Stroll out of the second session.

It's the last race before F1's annual midseason break, and the next race won't be until the Dutch Grand Prix on Aug. 23.

ONE MERCEDES DRIVER LEADS, THE OTHER UNDER PRESSURE

"Still a lot of work to do, still a mountain to climb in the second half of the season, but I'm more focused than ever and really believe that we can fight," Hamilton said.

After the last race ended with celebrations for one Mercedes star and rancor from the other, this week in



DARKO BANDIC/Associated Press

Ferrari driver Lewis Hamilton of Britain walks past supporters after the first free practice ahead of Sunday's Formula One Hungarian Grand Prix auto race, at the Hungaroring racetrack in Mogyorod, near Budapest, in Hungary on Friday.

Hungary is a test of whether F1's top team can stay united.

Antonelli almost doubled his lead to 45 points over Hamilton, and 50 over teammate George Russell, with a win in Belgium last week after Hamilton sent Russell spinning off the track on the opening lap.

Russell vented his frustration in an expletive-filled radio message asking Mercedes why he'd suddenly lost speed and dropped behind Hamilton, forcing him into a risky overtake.

Mercedes deputy technical director Simone Resta said Friday it was down to "a bug in our software" and the

team found the problem. "We think we've finally understood it and nailed it coming into Budapest," he said.

HUNGARY WILL HAVE FEWER SOFTWARE QUIRKS

After one race where mysterious software issues played an outside role, expect Hungary to be a more traditional race, though maybe not an exciting one.

It's a slow, winding layout with plenty of places where the cars can recover electrical energy under braking.

Belgium was the opposite, with long straights which left cars running out of charge

and amplified the slightest differences in how and when electrical energy kicks in.

Drivers don't directly control how much electrical power they use and Belgium highlighted just how much they're at the mercy of the algorithms controlling how the energy is deployed at various points around the circuit.

Asked if he sometimes felt like a passenger, McLaren's Oscar Piastri said: "Sometimes, yes. Again, at a track like Spa or a track like Silverstone, it's going to be worse."

He added: "Here, I really don't expect there to be many problems at all with that kind of thing, because the straights are so much shorter, so even if there are differences they should be a lot less. But the principle of driving a race car that loses effectively half of its power before the end of the straight is hard to get your head around sometimes."

Budapest has traditionally hosted processional races with few obvious places to overtake. Sunday's race will be a test of whether the 2026-specification cars and their battery-boosted overtaking can bring an oftendull race to life.

Klopp starts Germany coach job with talk of resigning

BY JAMES ELLINGWORTH
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jürgen Klopp made a punchy start to his new job as Germany coach Friday, laying out red lines he'd consider resigning over, even before his turnaround effort with a squad which failed yet again at the World Cup.

In a combative first news conference, the ex-Liverpool manager warned the German media he'll quit if he believes they're intruding on his family's privacy.

He also hinted Germany could be his last job in coaching and admitted he hasn't been an avid follower of international games.

KLOPP'S TARGETS ARE EURO 2028 AND THE 2030 WORLD CUP

Klopp was the German federation's top target and now he's signed a contract through to the 2030 World Cup. At his presentation Friday, he said it was "a big honor" to take the job and signaled it could be his final role as coach.

Klopp said Friday he would be prepared to leave without any severance pay if it doesn't work out, or if criticism becomes overwhelming, and threatened to resign if the media doesn't "leave my family in peace."

"Jürgen Klopp has no career after the national team," he said. "Ideally, this will be the highlight of my career, my life, my working life. I will put everything into it that I possibly can."



MICHAEL PROBST/Associated Press

Newly appointed head coach of the German national soccer team Juergen Klopp attends a news conference at the headquarters of the German Football Association DFB in Frankfurt in German on Friday.

He replaces Julian Nagelsmann, who resigned amid heavy criticism after Germany's loss to Paraguay meant it failed to reach the last 16 of a men's World Cup for the third time in a row.

Klopp indicated he believed Nagelsmann and England's coach Thomas Tuchel had been treated unfairly in the media. "I'm doing the job even though I've heard how you treated Julian, although I've heard how England treats Tuchel," he said, without specifying what exactly he thought was the problem.

KLOPP WANTS TO MAKE GERMAN SOCCER COOL AGAIN

It is Klopp's first coaching

job since he left Liverpool in 2024 citing fatigue. He said he was "recharged" in comments while in talks over the Germany job.

Klopp signaled he plans to make some surprising squad selections and said his mission isn't just to win games, but to bring back a buzz around the team.

Klopp himself admitted that "it's been a while" since he watched national team games outside of major tournaments.

"I want to create something with the national team that means that people go home after the game and think 'That was really cool.' That's what I'd like to see happen," he said.

KLOPP'S ARRIVAL FOLLOWS TALKS DURING THE WORLD CUP

The man known for thrilling "heavy metal football" at Liverpool, Klopp was Germany's preferred candidate as soon as Nagelsmann quit.

Over weeks of talks, the 59-year-old German — 20 years older than Nagelsmann — stayed in the United States as a World Cup pundit for a German-language broadcaster.

The federation also held talks with the Red Bull group, where Klopp spent the last year and a half as "head of global soccer" advising its worldwide group of soccer clubs.

German federation president Bernd Neuendorf said there wouldn't be a typical release fee paid to Red Bull for Klopp. Instead, the federation pays one million euros (\$1.14 million) to a Red Bull-linked charity and has agreed to hold three national team games in the eastern city of Leipzig, where Red Bull backs the city's Bundesliga club team.

Klopp faces a tough introduction to his first national team job with four Nations League games in 11 days against the Netherlands, Greece and Serbia in late September and early October. The first major

milestone will be the 2028 European Championship.

MERTESACKER JOINS KLOPP IN GERMANY SETUP

Germany hasn't won a knockout game at a World Cup since beating Argentina in the 2014 final. Now a player from that team will be working alongside Klopp.

Former defender Per Mertesacker joins Klopp as the federation's new managing director for sport, with a role overseeing the German men's national teams and an emphasis on bringing players through youth national teams to star for the

senior team. He will start the role in January and joins after eight years running Arsenal's academy.

Klopp is reunited with two of his assistants from his Liverpool days, Peter Krawietz and Pep Lijnders, weeks after Lijnders left a role as Pep Guardiola's assistant at Man City. Ex-Germany player Sven Bender also takes an assistant role.

In an unusual arrangement, Klopp's longtime agent Marc Koscicke joins the coaching team in a role focusing on strategy and administration, but won't be a federation employee.

LEGAL NOTICE

Pangaea Gaming LLC, with a mailing address of **301 W. Lincoln Trail Boulevard Radcliff, KY 40160** hereby declares intention(s) to apply for a **NQ4 Retail Malt Beverage Drink license(s)** no later than **August 5, 2026.** The licensed premises will be located at **301 W. Lincoln Trail Blvd. Radcliff, KY 40160** doing business as Pangaea Gaming.

The (owner's); Principal Officers and Directors; Limited Partners; or Members) are as follows:
Owner, Joshua Beal of 337 N. Lorraine St Radcliff, KY 40160
Owner, Jacob Beal of 1398 Bramblett Blvd Radcliff, KY 40160

Any person, association, corporation, or body politic may protest the granting of the license(s) by writing the Dept. of Alcoholic Beverage Control Mayo-Underwood Building 500 Mero St., 2NE33 Frankfort, Ky. 40601, within 30 days of the date of this legal publication.

LEGAL NOTICE

SUMMARY OF A ZONING ORDINANCE RE-ZONING PROPERTY LOCATED AT 120 HEARTHSTONE LANE, ELIZABETHTOWN, KENTUCKY HEARTHSTONE, SECTION 1, LOT 119 PVA MAP #182-40-04-119 FROM R-6 ZONE TO P.U.D. ZONE 7,315 SQ. FT.

The City of Radcliff Planning Commission conducted a public hearing on a zone map amendment request on June 4, 2026 made by applicant/owner Fischer Homes Louisville, LLC for 7,315 square feet of property located at 120 Hearthstone Lane, Elizabethtown, Kentucky (PVA MAP #182-40-04-119), also known as Lot 119, Hearthstone, Section 1 (see Deed Book 1600, Page 1199, officer of the Hardin County Clerk). The request was for an amendment from Residential-6 (High Density Multi-Family) zone to Planned Unit Development zone. The Planning Commission recommended the zone map amendment request be granted, as the request was supported by the evidence of record, the City's Comprehensive Zoning Plan, and applicable law, and the City Council is now enacting an ordinance to change the property's zoning. Please find the full ordinance on the website www.radcliff.org or by contacting the City Clerk at ashley.russo@radcliffky.gov by email.

Read at a meeting of the Radcliff City Council on the 16th day of June, 2026; a second reading was held on the 21st day of July, 2026, and said ordinance was passed and approved on the 21st day of July, 2026.

/s/JAMES S. DUVALL, JR.
MAYOR, CITY OF RADCLIFF

ATTESTED:
/s/ASHLEY RUSSO
CITY CLERK/TREASURER

CERTIFICATION
I, Michael A. Pike, hereby certify pursuant to KRS 83A.060 that I am an attorney licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Kentucky with the law firm of Pike Law, P.S.C., 1000 Johnstown Road, Suite 100, Elizabethtown, Kentucky; that I prepared the foregoing Summary of Ordinance of the City of Radcliff, Kentucky; and that the foregoing is a true and accurate summary of the contents of said Ordinance. Said Ordinance can be examined in its entirety at Radcliff City Hall, Radcliff, Kentucky.

/MICHAEL A. PIKE/

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