

# IndyCar Notes

By Alicia

## The Cars

They are spec cars

- same chassis
- Not true spec series
- (slight modifications of the car are allowed)
- Tuning of the car setup/engine can be changed

The engines are:

- 2.2 liter
- Twin turbocharged V6s
- 550-700 horsepower
- Tops speed of around 350kph

Brakes:

- brakes of steel (literally)
- Not the most efficient, but work from speeds of 200+ mph
- On 2.5 mile speedways cars use carbon fibre brakes

Dif in comparison to F1

- aeroscreen
- similar to the halo but with a windscreen
- Parts can be mass produced bc. the cars are made to specifications
- This keeps the costs relatively low, yet the cars are still multi-million dollars

## Racing

### Qualifying

- Racing length is a weekend
- Qualifying is used to determine the starting positions
- The various different qualifying process depends on the track
  
- The cars are split into two different groups
- There are 3 segments
- The fastest six drivers from each group progress to segment 2
- Another elimination round takes place
- 6 drivers are in segment 3
- The drivers try to get the fastest lap
- The times of the three segments are used to put the cars into their grid order for the race

Oval races:

- cars have two warm-up laps

- They go for two 'hot laps'
- These laps are when they try to go as fast as they can
- The total of these two times is what decides the final pole position
- The 'Indy 500' has four hot laps

### **Race day**

On the day:

- Up to 33 cars on the starting grid (normally 26-28)
- They take parade laps behind a safety car
- They must maintain their order
- The race starts are a rolling start

During the race:

- drivers make many pit stops
- Pits stops are 6-10 secs
- Only six mechanics are allowed over the pit wall at one time
- The races go for two or three hours

## **Rules and Regulations**

### **Safety**

- safety regulations continue into the flag and penalty system
- Yellow flag: indicates if an incident has happen to drive with caution
- No overtaking is allowed
- Green flag means the race starts up again
- Red flag means the race is over
- Blue flag means a faster car is trying to pass a lapped car
- A black flag is shown to a driver that ignores the flag, causing them to have to go to the pits to consult with the officials

### **Points system**

- The championship is decided based on the points system
- Every driver in every race receives points
- The winner gets 50
- The last 9 drivers each gets 5 points

Bonus points:

- Are given to those who take pole position during qualifying
- Are given to the leader of one lap of the race
- Are given to those that lead the most laps of the race
- The winner is the driver with the most points at the end of the season