# FIA President advises Andretti to consider purchasing existing F1 team



FIA President Urges Andretti to Purchase Existing F1 Team

FIA President Mohammed Ben Sulayem has advised Andretti to buy an existing Formula 1 team instead of creating a new one. Andretti's attempt to join F1 by 2025 or 2026 was blocked by Liberty Media, although potential entry in 2028 is still on the table. Ben Sulayem, who supports the idea of adding more teams, emphasized that quality should take precedence over quantity in F1.

Ben Sulayem did not identify specific teams for sale, but Alpine and Haas are regarded as probable candidates. However, sources indicate that neither Renault, which owns Alpine, nor Gene Haas, owner of Haas F1 Team, are interested in selling their teams.

Andretti's efforts, led by Michael Andretti, ex-IndyCar and F1 driver, have been contentious within the F1 community. U.S. senators have requested an anti-trust inquiry against F1 following the rejection of Andretti's bid. General Motors supports Andretti's bid and plans to develop its own engine to facilitate the team's entry by 2028.

Alpine Contemplates Replacing Esteban Ocon Post-Monaco Incident

Alpine is considering replacing driver Esteban Ocon after his collision with teammate Pierre Gasly during the first lap of the Monaco Grand Prix, which forced Ocon to retire from the race. Ocon has been handed a five-place grid penalty for the upcoming Canadian Grand Prix on June 9, but his participation remains uncertain according to team principal Bruno Famin.

Possible replacements include Alpine’s reserve driver Jack Doohan, who was seen conversing with Famin during the Monaco race. Another candidate is 22-year-old Victor Martins, currently struggling in the F2 standings yet favored by Alpine. Mick Schumacher, who raced for Haas in 2021 and 2022 and is now a reserve driver for Mercedes, is also a potential contender due to his F1 experience.

The situation remains fluid as the team evaluates its options ahead of the Canadian Grand Prix.