

# **F1GP-RES**

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**COLLABORATORS**

	<i>TITLE :</i> F1GP-RES		
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>SIGNATURE</i>
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**REVISION HISTORY**

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# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>F1GP-RES</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	F1GP-Record Entry System - Doc File . . . . .	1
1.2	Distribution, Copyright & Disclaimer . . . . .	1
1.3	Introduction to F1GP-RES . . . . .	2
1.4	Installation . . . . .	3
1.5	Requirements . . . . .	3
1.6	Use - What's the use? . . . . .	4
1.7	Thanks to... . . . .	7
1.8	Program History . . . . .	7
1.9	Hall of Fame matters . . . . .	7

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# Chapter 1

## F1GP-RES

### 1.1 F1GP-Record Entry System - Doc File

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-----
J#####L g, d###_ ####m_
7#####'_J#F 0#@### J###M#&
7#L ###F J#F J#KJ#1 0#
7#####m J#F 0# wwW,J#&aa##
7##### J#F 0# J#####J#####"
7#L J#F 9#L ##J#K""
7#L J#F ##__d##J#1
7#L J#F "#####J#1
" " " "
=====
F 1 G P R . E . S . v2.0
Record Entry System

```

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Distribution,~Copyright~&~Disclaimer

Introduction

Installation

Requirements

How to use - What's the use?

Hall of Fame info

Thanks

History

### 1.2 Distribution, Copyright & Disclaimer

## DISTRIBUTION

F1GP-RES is freeware. The Typesetter may be freely copied and distributed as long as you keep the archive in tact, nor alter any part of its contents

## COPYRIGHT

This program and the accompanying documentation are copyright 1996 by Edo Nijmeijer. You may not copy, alter, use or abuse any of the previously mentioned parts in any way other then can be abstracted from this documentation.

Parts of the interface and some of the characters were taken from the original F1GP game by Microprose, and the copyright remains with them, of course.

## DISCLAIMER

I cannot be and don't want to be held responsible for any of the physical or psychological damage that you could inflict on your appliances, yourself or others by using F1GP-RES. You use this software at your own risk and expenses. It was adequately tested and found to be safe, but according to Murphy's Law....

## 1.3 Introduction to F1GP-RES

### INTRODUCTION

F1GP-RES was written for several reasons. To name three:

- it will allow for (easier) full automation of the HoF. Since the HoF currently does not have fancy WWW forms to submit records, this is the next best step.
- it will prevent HoF members from making mistakes in the format, thus making manual cut & paste possible without even having to look at the records.
- it could be handy when archiving your own or other one's records.
- it integrates both HoF and F1GP formats.

So it all comes down to ease of manipulation. That's also why I made the interface the way it is now: almost a direct copy of the original one. And on top of that, F1GP-RES is capable of parsing a normal HoF file for anybody's records, making the first round of data entry very simple. Extra support for F1GP car setup and record files has been added for v2.0.

Please notice that F1GP-RES is the only way to submit records, as from 25 January 1996. Send in exported datafiles (i.e. text) only!

I agree when you say that this program overlaps with utilities like F1GP-Lapset and parts of the F1GP-Editor, but they just lack a few things that should appear in a HoF. Hopefully, in the future, all these tools will be somewhat more integrated or compatible...

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Enough introduction for now. Move on to installing and using FIGP-RES!

## 1.4 Installation

### INSTALLATION

The archive you just unpacked should contain the following files:

- o FIGP-RES
- o FIGP-RES.info
- o FIGP-RES.guide
- o FIGP-RES.guide.info

If you haven't unpacked it yet, you couldn't be reading this doc, so I'm not going to explain how to de-archive it... 8)

The installation of FIGP-RES is very straight forward. Just copy these files to any location you wish. The only thing that FIGP-RES will look for is the default data file in S:FIGP-RES.dat. Once you save your own records this file will be created and read on each startup.

## 1.5 Requirements

### REQUIREMENTS

FIGP should work on any Amiga, running under any Kickstart version or Workbench and with any amount of free memory that exceeds about 300k. It can be run from both floppy and harddisk, from the Shell or the Workbench.

Sadly enough the interface and parsing routines took a lot of memory. AMOS also isn't very memory efficient by nature. To circumvent the lame multi-tasking AMOS uses, FIGP-RES manually sets its priority to -100. solving the general slowdown common to AMOS programs.

HOWEVER: this will only work when FIGP-RES is run from the CLI/SHELL, such that the process name actually is FIGP-RES. Using Opus to run FIGP-RES, for example, is possible, but the multitasking will be abnormal again...

Running FIGP-RES while playing FIGP along with some editors, patches or other utilities is only an option for those who have over 2Mb of memory installed in their Amiga's...

Speed can also be a problem at times, especially when parsing large HoF file. None of that all is unbearable though. and V2.0 has had a serious makeover, resulting in a tenfold speed increase for parsing routines!

A last minor problem is the fact that FIGP-RES only runs on a standard PAL screen, that cannot be promoted to anything else. So you'll need a monitor that can handle it. Not very much of a problem when you consider that FIGP itself suffers from the same problem...

## 1.6 Use - What's the use?

Using FIGP-RES

FIGP-RES presents you with a Graphical User Interface that should look at least a bit familiar to most of you. Below I will discuss the visible parts of the screen step by step, from left to right and up and down...

CIRCUIT buttons

These buttons have a number of functions:

- o During normal operation they will show of which track you are currently viewing the data. This is indicated by a red box around the edges.
- o While importing and parsing a HoF-file. the red box will indicate what track it is currently scanning.
- o Just before exporting these buttons can be selected, indicating what circuits you want to export to a textfile. Notice that the right mouse button allows you to invert your selection. Handy for exporting all or almost all tracks!

EXPORT/PRINT

This will perform the big idea behind FIGP-RES: exporting in a standard format with a single click of a button.

After clicking this button (notice that on slow Amigas the file requester will pop up quite slow!), you will be presented with a filerequester. It will default to exporting to RAM:XX\_RECS.TXT, where XX will be filled by the player ID found at USA. You can alter both path and name to your own likings. The Right mouse button is a shortcut to the device and assign lists.

Choosing PRT: or PAR: as your device, will probably send the file directly to the printer. It is best though to just export to disk or RAM: and then print it afterwards.

Notice that this requester will store the directory, and will only reflect changes after clicking 'Get Dir' or after resetting the 'Store' button...

That's just the way AMOS requesters work by default...

Okay, after the file selection you are asked to select the circuits of which you want to export the data. The RMB inverts your selection, so use that one if you plan to do more than 8 circuits! It will be faster :-)

When done with selecting, click the EXPORT button again. The screen will flash once when finished. 16 circuits could take about 4 seconds on a standard Amiga...

LOAD

Clicking this will present another file selector.

You can choose to load a:

- o FIGP-RES data file,

- o Normal HoF file, (AmigaGuide format with 'new' scoring system only. Older files not supported!)
- o FlGP car setup file, or
- o FlGP saved records file.

Selecting a faulty file, or a file that is too big to fit in memory will bring you back to the requester, without warning. Using a name that doesn't exist will even exit the entire program, without warning. Beware! The requester was invented to `_find_`, and not `_type_` the path of a file!

Please check out the consequences below of loading a particular type of file. There are important differences.

Selecting a correct RES data file results in a flash, almost immediately after selection. Data will be loaded then (Data files don't get bigger than about 700 bytes, so they don't take too long). Reading data files will only overwrite the positions that are found in the file. HoF files will overwrite everything with either defaults or the data found in the HoF.

Selecting a HoF file will start a scan for data for the player ID that was shown on the track before clicking LOAD. So enter the desired ID before LOADING a HoF file. There will be a pop up window on screen, indicating the process is busy. When processing tracks, the circuit indicator will jump along and the data found will be filled in immediately. Data does not have to be complete in order to be processed. A full HoF scan on a standard Amiga can take about half a minute, but you only have to do so once, I guess. Besides: I think it is fun to look at ;) On completion, the screen will flash once.

FlGP car setups pertain only to the currently displayed circuit. You'll have to adapt the time, ID and date by yourself.

Lap Record files contain data for all 16 tracks, and thus overwrite old data. Since they don't contain setup info, these parts will remain in tact. FlGP-RES is also able to read the date from within the file, but I suspect the routine to be erroneous every now and then, especially after the year 2000. The error could be a day or two, so check to see if everything went okay.

When loading a FlGP lap record file, the ID displayed just before loading will be copied to all the other circuits. Remember that if you start with a blank circuit (showing '--' for ID), data `_will_` be read, but not displayed anywhere until you alter the ID!

#### SAVE AS

Does just what it says. But do check the filename that is filled in by default. I found that it is possible to overwrite the HoF file you just imported, although in most cases this is effectively dealt with. Only FlGP-RES data files can be saved in this way. Exporting is the other way to 'secure' your records, although reading exported files is not possible (because in some cases the files don't show all info that a RES-file would keep).

#### SAVE

If you loaded a data file, this button will write it back without asking.

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Starting from scratch, without a file, the SAVE AS requester will pop up.

#### EXIT

The buttons get easier from left to right :-)  
Use the Right Mouse button to confirm, or left mouse button to cancel  
(move off the button, or it will just be invoked again...)

Pressing 'Esc' has the same effect as clicking the EXIT button. Confirmation can also be done by pressing Esc. So pressing Esc twice will effectively exit the program.

#### WINDOW TO BACK / MULTITASK icon

AMOS doesn't support the standard Right-Amiga-M style of switching between screens, so this one takes over. A short message, indicating that you should use Right-Amiga-A to flip back, will flash shortly.

If your smart enough, you could remember to always use Right-Amiga-A, and prevent the flashing delay. You can use RAmiga-M in v2.0, but the only way from WB to FIGP-RES will still be RAmiga-A.

If you forget the RAmiga-A combination, then I guess you will be stuck on the workbench forever, wondering where all that memory went...

#### LAP RECORD

Use the arrows to set each digit. They're not connected, so don't expect that 1:09.999 turns into 1:10.000 when you press the last up button. I assure you this method is more efficient.

If no data is available, '-'s will fill the space. That is also true for the other fields.

#### ID

ID's can be different for all tracks, although that isn't very useful. This one defaults to 'XX' for no data, which is shown as '--'. If you set one to X while the other is too, a '-' will be shown, which looks a bit weird.

#### OPTIONS

Here you can find all the options that are allowed within the HoF. They will be exported in a fixed order, which is not the same as shown here. If you select over 6 options, only the last (HoF order) 6 will be printed/exported, but the datafile will still contain them all. The current layout was chosen to have secure access to often used options. Selected option have an open red circle inside them.

#### DATE

Not too hard, isn't it? :-)

#### BRAKE BALANCE, WING SETTINGS AND GEAR RATIOS

These sliders works just like the real thing, except that you can't click

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inside the bar to make it jump to that location. Also, it is possible to set ridiculous gear ratios, but F1GP itself will see to it that you didn't actually qualify with those...8)

Other things you need to know

Not much I think. Just remember to save your datafile. It's most easy to put it in S:F1GP-RES.dat, since that will be loaded at startup without your intervention.

And don't forget about the Right-Amiga-A combination!

## 1.7 Thanks to...

THANKS

Thanks must go to Grant Reeve for doing the first and last true test by an 'outsider' ever.

Thanks to David Munden for wanting to test :-)

And of course thanks to all HoF members who already sent in their records without the least flaw!

V2.0 of F1GP-RES was based on the comments of several HoF members.

This program will be under development for some time, and all comments can be useful.

## 1.8 Program History

PROGRAM HISTORY

Version	Release	Remarks
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v1.0	jan 96	First release
v2.0	mar 96	Enhanced GUI feedback F1GP lap record and car setup support added! Last minute update to read the dates from F1GP records 10x speed increase for HoF .guide-file scanning Small bug in exporting routine fixed (caused program to exit when exporting a track with >6 options selected) On screen indication of last loaded file type or action

## 1.9 Hall of Fame matters

If you downloaded F1GP-RES, but don't know what all this HoF stuff is about, then you'll be glad to know that the Hall of Fame and any related information can be retrieved from the sources below:

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The Hall of Fame can be found every 2 weeks

- o in comp.sys.amiga.games (announcement only...)
- o in rec.autos.simulators,
- o on the HoF WWW page (<http://defstar.gre.ac.uk/~oliver/hof/>)
- o on Aminet, in the docs/hyper directory
- o and is also sent to all members by E-Mail

General Amiga F1GP related issues and other interesting things can be found at  
<http://defstar.gre.ac.uk/~oliver/AmigaF1.html>

For those who prefer to use FTP to get hold of the Hall of Fame and F1GP  
related programs/text: visit the Amiga F1GP ftp-site  
<ftp://defstar.gre.ac.uk/pub/flgp/>

Any comments, questions, remarks on mistakes or just plain nonsense  
(and that includes future members) should be sent to this E-mail address:  
[130588@pc-lab.fbk.eur.nl](mailto:130588@pc-lab.fbk.eur.nl)  
(Edo Nijmeijer, HoF admin)

This is also the address for all your new records (Use F1GP-RES!)

If you're interested to become a member of the HoF, you're invited to  
make some inquiries on how to do the right thang: E-mail me!