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SENTRA CUP

MAGAZINE



Event 3

Grand Prix de Trois-Rivières, QC
August 13, 14, 15, 2021



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Summary



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Valérie Limoges and Kevin King are the winners of the Nissan Sentra Cup races at the Grand Prix of Trois-Rivières

Spectacular racing, VIP guests and Valérie Limoges makes history

The Nissan Sentra Cup competed for the first time at the Grand Prix de Trois-Rivières this weekend. The Canadian motorsport series featuring its all-new Nissan Sentra race cars provided a great show in front of a limited audience (due to COVID-19 health restrictions) but many guests, including actress and Nissan spokesperson in Québec Karine Vanasse and Nissan Canada President Steve Milette were present. On the track, Kevin King and Valérie Limoges were the winners of the two highly exciting races.

This weekend's races represented the fifth and sixth rounds of the 2021 Nissan Sentra Cup season. The spectators sitting in the grandstands and the thousands of fans who follow the action on the series' social networks were thrilled by the battles that raged on this tricky and challenging street course.

After a free practice session held Friday afternoon in scorching heat, the competitors hit the track on Saturday morning for the sole qualifying session held this time on a slightly damp track and in cooler temperatures. Twenty-eight drivers – including 15 who had never drove the Trois-Rivières street course – battled it out for grid positions. Among these competitors new to the GP3R, young Ontario driver Gavin Sanders didn't take long to learn the track, putting his SPI Racing Nissan Sentra on pole position for the two races of the event.



Kevin King, Valérie Limoges, Alexandre Fortin, Éric Chaput and Jesse Lazare completed the Top 6, setting the scene for a very competitive race in the afternoon. And it was a very spectacular race indeed. Moments after the green flag, Kevin King managed to get the upper hand on Gavin Sanders. The young Ontarian made a rare mistake a few laps later, when trying to regain the lead he went off the track. Kevin King remained in first place but was passed by rookie Alexandre Fortin who held on to the lead for a few laps. However, the vast experience of the Gabriel Nissan / J&P Apparel driver made the difference and King reclaimed the lead and never looked back, en route to victory.

Fortin finished second in front of Valérie Limoges and Éric Chaput, who emerged the winner in the Senior class. Next up were Jesse Lazare, Jesse Webb, Owen Clarke, Simon Charbonneau, Kai

Dalziel and Justin Di Benedetto. It was an equally intense battle in the Micra class, involving five highly determined racers. At the end, André Lapointe beat Sylvain Ouellet and Martin Barrette, who was making his first start this season. His father, popular comedian and humourist Michel Barrette also competed in the race, finishing eleventh in the Micra category.

For Race 2 on Sunday, the spectacular 100% electric Nissan LEAF Nismo RC was used as the official safety car of the series and led the warm-up lap for the 28 starters. Having qualified on the second row, Valérie Limoges was quick from the start and surprised pole sitter Gavin Sanders and Kevin King by slipping into first place at the first corner. Contact further down in the field led to a domino effect, which resulted in Sanders and King losing control of their cars.

Out in front, Valérie Limoges never made a wrong move despite the intense pressure of Jesse Lazare and Alexandre Fortin. At the end of the 40-minute race, she crossed the finish line in first place, making her the first female driver to win an all-category race twice at the Grand Prix de Trois-Rivières. She accomplished her victory in front of thousands of spectators, including actress Karine Vanasse who was attending the event.

Simon Charbonneau finished fourth, ahead of Jesse Webb, Kai Dalziel, Owen Clarke, Justin Di Benedetto and Kevin King. In the Micra class, local favourite André Lapointe finished first again, this time in front of Nicolas Barrette, Sylvain Ouellet and Martin Barrette. As for Michel Barrette, he finished fourteenth in this class.

Steve Milette, President of Nissan Canada, mentioned his satisfaction to see, "that the Nissan Sentra Cup was the show par excellence of the weekend with intense, spectacular and disputed races at all levels".





POSTCARD OF THE GP3R



*Back for your viewing pleasure!
The spectacular Nissan LEAF Nismo RC was used as the series Safety-Car at the GP3R. Nissan's 100% electric prototype is still very striking to the fans.*

First female driver to win the GP3R twice, Valérie Limoges poses here for photographers' surrounded by actress and Nissan spokesperson in Quebec Karine Vanasse and Nissan Canada president Steve Milette.



15 of the 28 drivers entered in the Nissan Sentra Cup were rookies on the GP3R track. Among them, Jesse Webb of British Columbia, who earned two Top 6.



Hot, very hot in Trois-Rivières! Not just the weather but also the Nissan Sentra Cup races which were among the most spectacular of the weekend.

We stay on racing lines in the Barrette family! Michel Barrette was back on track in the Micra class, but it was his sons Nicolas (2nd Sunday) and Martin (here in the picture, 3rd Saturday) who performed the best.



Two more pole positions for Gavin Sanders, who was a rookie at this track. Unfortunately, in the races a small error on Saturday and a contact on Sunday deprived him of any chance of winning the victory.



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KARINE VANASSE WITH NISSAN AT GP3R!

For almost a year now, Karine Vanasse, actress and producer, has been a spokesperson for the Nissan brand in Quebec. She is very proud of this partnership with Nissan, with which she shares several values. At the Grand Prix de Trois-Rivières, she discovered the world of motorsport and particularly that of the Nissan Sentra Cup. Behind the scenes and on the main stage, with all the actors who animate the show in the paddocks and on the track ... Karine Vanasse gave the president of Nissan Canada Steve Milette her impression of this weekend ...



Steve Milette: Karine, was this 2021 GP3R the very first motorsport event for you?

Karine Vanasse: Yes, it's the first time I've attended the Grand Prix de Trois-Rivières, I've seen other races before but the proximity that people have, the pleasure they get from seeing the cars, this is the first time.

S.Milette: So it's also the first time you've seen the Nissan Sentra Cup in action. What is your impression?

K.Vanasse: I think it's very special that all the drivers use the same car as the production Sentra. It's the drivers and their driving that really make the difference. What I've heard a lot from the drivers is their attachment, and that of everyone around, to the series and that's nice to hear. The spectators also enjoy coming back, year after year, to see these competitions, as much as the drivers.

S. Milette: You witnessed the victory of Valérie Limoges on Sunday, during the second race on the program. A historic success. What do you think about it?

K.Vanasse: I noticed how happy the public in the stands were with this victory, the people were really proud. I was also looking at the guys around her and there was so much pride to see her win this race. It's always impressive. Also, at the start of the race, I was happy to say: "DRIVERS start your engines! ", Whereas in English we usually say " GENTLEMEN start your engines ". Here we have used "DRIVERS" to include all genders... We can see that these traditionally male circles are also changing and that it is now very well received and expected that a driver like Valérie wins an event like the Grand Prix de Trois-Rivières.



S. Milette: You were able to discover the Nissan Sentra Cup on the track. Did you know the model well before seeing it in action at GP3R?

K.Vanasse: I knew of the model but I had never seen it in this context. I was very surprised to see the performance of the Nissan Sentra racing cars. Because in fact, there are very few changes compared to the road car. This is a car that Nissan Canada is proud to have used in the race, and I understand that since it is a sporty car and very beautiful to look at. I was taught that the only major technical changes are in the brakes and suspension, using stronger brakes in order to brake later and sportier suspension to make it more stable. Nothing has changed on the engine side, but there is a whole set of safety equipment, a cage, racing belts, etc. Knowing that the Nissan Sentra Cup is the most affordable racing series in the country, its popularity is a result of that.

S. Milette: You went to the starting grid to see the cars. Would you like to drive a racing Nissan Sentra one day, or be a passenger?

K.Vanasse: I'm sure I would like that! Overall, what I really appreciated in Trois-Rivières was seeing the pleasure of the spectators, no matter where they are on the site - in the stands or the hospitality suites. People also like the series because they can imagine themselves behind the wheel and think that they could drive the car themselves. Formula 1 is a dream, but it's more difficult to see yourself as a driver or owner. With the Nissan Sentra Cup, it's easier to play the game.



RESULTS AND STANDINGS

Grand Prix de Trois-Rivières - Event 3

QUALIFICATION RACE 1

1) Gavin Sanders	#10
2) Kevin King	#1
3) Valérie Limoges	#220
4) Alexandre Fortin	#32
5) Éric Chaput	#116
6) Jesse Lazare	#21
7) Simon Charbonneau	#88
8) Jesse Webb	#94
9) Justin Di Benedetto	#4
10) Owen Clarke	#405
11) Darren Graham	#17
12) Kai Dalziel	#44
13) André Lapointe	#47
14) Nicolas Barrette	#427
15) Sylvain Ouellet	#98
16) Mario Berthiaume	#728
17) Raphaël St-Pierre	#419
18) François-Angers Routhier	#90
19) Nicholas Hornbostel	#71
20) Martin Barrette	#875
21) Frédéric Bernier	#28
22) Frédéric Chaput	#63
23) Jean Audet	#5
24) Ricardo Révi	#13
25) Marie-Soleil Labelle	#999
26) Alan Sanders	#100
27) Michel Barrette	#57
28) Zack Lalonde	#51

RESULTS RACE 1

1) Kevin King	28 laps
2) Alexandre Fortin	-1.280
3) Valérie Limoges	-3.438
4) Éric Chaput	-7.415
5) Jesse Lazare	-10.937
6) Jesse Webb	-15.600
7) Owen Clarke	-19.743
8) Simon Charbonneau	-23.295
9) Kai Dalziel	-35.340
10) Justin Di Benedetto	-36.658
11) Darren Graham	-1:03.427
12) André Lapointe	-1:25.113
13) Sylvain Ouellet	-1:28.289
14) Martin Barrette	-1:32.444
15) Mario Berthiaume	-1 tour
16) Frédéric Bernier	-1 tour
17) Nicholas Hornbostel	-1 tour
18) Frédéric Chaput	-1 tour
19) Raphaël St-Pierre	-1 tour
20) Jean Audet	-1 tour
21) François-Angers Routhier	-1 tour
22) Michel Barrette	-1 tour
23) Zack Lalonde	-1 tour
24) Ricardo Révi	-4 laps
25) Nicolas Barrette	-14 laps
26) Alan Sanders	-17 laps
27) Gavin Sanders	-22 laps
28) Marie-Soleil Labelle	-24 laps

QUALIFICATION RACE 2

1) Gavin Sanders	
2) Kevin King	
3) Valérie Limoges	
4) Alexandre Fortin	
5) Éric Chaput	
6) Jesse Lazare	
7) Simon Charbonneau	
8) Jesse Webb	
9) Justin Di Benedetto	
10) Owen Clarke	
11) Darren Graham	
12) Kai Dalziel	
13) André Lapointe	
14) Nicolas Barrette	
15) Sylvain Ouellet	
16) Mario Berthiaume	
17) Raphaël St-Pierre	
18) Nicholas Hornbostel	
19) Martin Barrette	
20) François-Angers Routhier	
21) Frédéric Bernier	
22) Frédéric Chaput	
23) Jean Audet	
24) Ricardo Révi	
25) Alan Sanders	
26) Michel Barrette	
27) Zack Lalonde	
28) Marie-Soleil Labelle	

Sanders Motorsports/SPI Racing
Nissan Gabriel/L&P Apparel
Nissan Gabriel/Total Canada
Fix Auto/Ste-Foy Nissan/Beauport Nissan
Chaps Racing Team
Door Doctor/Motorsports In Action
Équipe TransGestion Transport
Shur Fit Racing
Di Benedetto Racing/SPI Racing
Team Red Green
Team Applewood
Kai Dalziel Motorsport
Lapspeed Performance
Équipe Musée Gilles-Villeneuve
Ouellet Motorsport
M.B. Performance
Émergence / Groupe MDI
Hornbostel Racing
Ouellet Motorsport
Autoclub Mtl
Hi-Fi Racing
Chaps Racing Team
Grand Times Hôtel
Révi Motorsports
Sanders Motorsports/SPI Racing
Ouellet Motorsport
J.D. Motorsports
Équipe Musée Gilles-Villeneuve

RESULTS RACE 2

1) Valérie Limoges	26 laps
2) Jesse Lazare	-0.524
3) Alexandre Fortin	-3.083
4) Simon Charbonneau	-6.484
5) Jesse Webb	-13.236
6) Kai Dalziel	-20.637
7) Owen Clarke	-27.376
8) Justin Di Benedetto	-34.363
9) Kevin King	-58.230
10) André Lapointe	-1 tour
11) Nicolas Barrette	-1 tour
12) Sylvain Ouellet	-1 tour
13) Martin Barrette	-1 tour
14) Nicholas Hornbostel	-1 tour
15) Jean Audet	-1 tour
16) Frédéric Bernier	-1 tour
17) Frédéric Chaput	-1 tour
18) Mario Berthiaume	-1 tour
19) Raphaël St-Pierre	-1 tour
20) François-Angers Routhier	-1 tour
21) Gavin Sanders	-1 tour
22) Zack Lalonde	-1 tour
23) Michel Barrette	-1 tour
24) Marie-Soleil Labelle	-1 tour
25) Ricardo Révi	-2 laps
26) Éric Chaput	-18 laps
27) Darren Graham	-26 laps
28) Alan Sanders	-26 laps

With her victory at the GP3R, Valérie Limoges climbs to fourth place in the championship standings.



André Lapointe - Nicolas Barrette - Sylvain Ouellet, the Top 3 in the Micra class on Sunday.

Overall podium and double victory in the rookie class for Alexandre Fortin.



OVERALL STANDINGS

Position	#	Driver	Class	Races	Points
1.	1	Kevin King		6	268
2.	21	Jesse Lazare		6	264
3.	32	Alexandre Fortin	R	6	220
4.	220	Valérie Limoges		6	218
5.	94	Jesse Webb	R	6	190
6.	10	Gavin Sanders		6	188
7.	88	Simon Charbonneau	R	6	178
8.	4	Justin Di Benedetto		6	169
9.	44	Kai Dalziel	R	6	142
10.	116	Éric Chaput	S	6 (1 M)	139
11.	405	Owen Clarke	R	6	127
12.	98	Sylvain Ouellet	M	6	117
13.	71	Nicholas Hornbostel	M+R	6	106
14.	28	Frédéric Bernier	M	6	94
14.	47	André Lapointe	M	5	94
16.	17	Darren Graham	R+S	6	93
17.	90	François Angers-Routhier	M+R	6	79
18.	63	Frédéric Chaput	M+R	6	75
19.	728	Mario Berthiaume	M	5	71
20.	427	Nicolas Barrette	M	6	70
21.	5	Jean Audet	M	4	56
22.	999	Marie-Soleil Labelle	M	6	49
23.	419	Raphaël St-Pierre	M	4	47
24.	875	Martin Barrette	M	2	35
25.	36	Francis Bellerive	M	2	32
26.	57	Michel Barrette	M	3	25
27.	91	Simon Vincent	M+R	2	24
28.	100	Alan Sanders	M+R	3	22
29.	51	Zack Lalonde	M+R	2	17
30.	61	Étienne Caron	M+R	2	15
31.	13	Ricardo Révi	M	2	13
32.	728	Mario Charrette	M	1	11

R = rookie driver; S = Senior class; M = Micra class



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NEXT EVENT

Complexe ICAR, August 28 - 29

Two races, as part of the NASCAR Weekend, will be held on this track located at the Montreal-Mirabel international airport.

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