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# MICRA CUP MAGAZINE



**ROUND 5**

**AUTODROME ST-EUSTACHE  
AUGUST 15<sup>TH</sup>**

**AN ACTION  
PACKED DAY!**





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## **OLIVIER BÉDARD CAPTURES TWO MORE NISSAN MICRA CUP VICTORIES**

- The Quebec driver now leads the championship after the two races at St-Eustache -

**This past Saturday at the Autodrome St-Eustache track, the Nissan Cup Grand Prix consisted of two spectacular Nissan Micra Cup races. Both rounds were won by Quebec driver Olivier Bédard, who now has sole ownership of the number one spot in the championship standings.**

Free practice and qualifying were condensed into one day, and the two races did not allow the drivers nor their teams any rest on Saturday, but delighted the spectators that packed the stands to watch this event at Autodrome St-Eustache.

Starting with the free practice, the drivers pushed their Nissan Micras to the limit in the intense summer heat, once again proving the first-rate reliability of the 25 entered Micras. The mechanically stock Nissan Micra race cars concluded the season's ninth and tenth rounds on St-Eustache's 1.9 kilometre track without any issue.

Having made his series debut two weeks ago at the Grand Prix de Trois-Rivières, Antoine Bessette earned himself the pole position during a qualifying session that had the top drivers swapping fastest times on multiple occasions. Olivier Bédard finished second, ahead of Valérie Limoges, Jacques Bélanger, Stefan Rzdzinski and Marc-Antoine Demers.

The start of the first race saw Antoine Bessette execute a perfect launch, but as of the second lap, Olivier Bédard had made his way to the front of the pack, on the path to victory. Bessette finished second, ahead of Valérie Limoges, Kevin King, Jacques Bélanger, Jean-Michel Isabelle, Marc-Antoine Demers and Nissan GT Academy driver, Thanaroj Thanasitnitikate. Thanaroj's teammate, Abhinay Bikkani, wasn't as lucky and had to retire following a collision, which then eliminated him from the hunt for the title. It was one of the few unfortunate incidents in the race and despite the intensity on the track, a very friendly spirit dominated the Autodrome St-Eustache paddocks.

Valérie Chiasson completed the Top 9, ahead of first novice driver, Olivier Pelletier, who barely finished ahead of fellow rookie, Metod Topolnik, and Stefan Rzdzinski, reclassified twelfth following a penalty for avoidable contact.

The second race presented a very similar scenario to the first, at least during the first few laps. Once Bessette retired, Bédard was expected to claim a second victory without any problems, however, this was not taking into consideration Valérie Limoges' fantastic race. Among the front of the pack throughout the entire race, Valérie caught up to Bédard and challenged for the win right up until the final meters. Finishing in spectacular fashion, the two drivers were only separated by four tenths of a second when they crossed the finish line. With this result, Valérie Limoges earned the best result ever recorded by a female driver in the Nissan Micra Cup.

Jacques Bélanger completed the podium - another great result for the veteran driver - ahead of Olivier Pelletier, who was fourth and top novice driver, followed by Marc-Antoine Demers, Valérie Chiasson, Abhinay Bikkani, Claude Veillette Jr, Carl Wener and Nicolas Touchette.

For more information on the Nissan Micra Cup, please go to the website [www.nissan.ca/micracup](http://www.nissan.ca/micracup). Don't miss series news and updates on the [Coupe Nissan Micra Cup Facebook page](#) and live tweets/results during practice, qualifying, and races on [Twitter: @micracup](#)



# IN THE MICRA CUP WORLD



## FAMILY ATMOSPHERE AT ST-EUSTACHE!

The Nissan Cup Grand Prix held at St-Eustache attracted a substantial number of spectators. The spectator turnout for Canada's latest spec series is notable considering Autodrome St-Eustache usually attracts fans of NASCAR and drift events. In the Nissan Micra Cup paddocks, spectators of all ages could admire up-close, the cars, the mechanics and teams at work. For Micra Cup competitors, including Olivier Pelletier (pictured), it was a perfect occasion to share these unique paddock moments with family and friends.



## BÉDARD VS. «MR T.» FOR THE TITLE!

By winning his fourth consecutive race, Quebecer Olivier Bédard is one crucial step closer to securing the Nissan Micra Cup 2015 champion's title. Now, only Thanaraj Thanasitnitikate can snatch the top designation, as the other drivers are too far behind in the running. Thus, everything will be played out at the Micra Cup finale at Circuit Mont-Tremblant next month - Bédard against «Mr. T» in the duel for the number one spot! For the rookie championship, we can also predict a fierce battle between two drivers, Olivier Pelletier, who took the lead in the points in St-Eustache, and Metod Topolnik.



## TEAMS' CHAMPIONSHIP - NECK-AND-NECK!

With only one race left in the 2015 season (Circuit Mont-Tremblant, at the end of September), the gap remains very small in the teams' championship, which includes teams that have decided to sign-up two or three drivers per car. Perry Performance (No. 86) now has 170 points and leads the championship in front of BDMS Racing (No. 29) with 169 points. Following are Nissan Trois-Rivières (No. 88, 118 points), Albi Nissan Blainville (No.572, 113 points), Total Canada (No.220, 97 points), Albi Nissan Île-Perrot (No.61, 62 points) and United Auto Racing (No.77, 19 points).



## GLOBAL "V" PLATFORM

The all-new Micra now lies on the "V" platform by Nissan, and it was put to the test on millions of vehicles in the world. By placing the wheels further from the frame, the slightly longer transmission allows it to optimize road handling and have better control of the car. Thus, space for the passengers is bigger, giving to the Micra a surprising generous interior and a lot of legroom, for all passengers. Big openings allow occupants to come in and out of the car easily, while the long roof line is spacious enough for the passengers in the back, and allows the driver to wear a racing helmet. Because of its spacious interior, its road handling and its outstanding control characteristics, the exceptional V platform from Nissan made has proven itself in the motorsports community with the Micra.



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## 2...3 QUESTIONS FOR... **CARL WENER**

Carl Wener is a business owner with a deep-rooted passion for motorsport, and has partaken in countless races in the last 25 years, resulting in him becoming a three-time Autocross champion, and one-time Québec champion in GT1. The Montrealer even participated in the SCCA World Challenge Touring series in the United States. Carl is co-owner of Perry Performance, who sponsors two cars (No. 11 and 86) in the Nissan Micra Cup series, Carl shares the wheel of car No. 86 with Pierre Clavet and Jean-Michel Isabelle. But for the double race program of St-Eustache, Carl wanted to be on track for at least one of the races, because it so happens that he is also chief instructor of the Autodrome St-Eustache Lapping Club.

### **Is racing on a circuit where you are also an instructor an additional motivation?**

Yes it is, 100 per cent! St-Eustache is second home to me. Initially I was supposed to race in the United States this past weekend in the Chumpcar series, but the other day I received a phone call from Alain Labrosse (the track owner) saying that he didn't understand why I didn't take advantage of my knowledge of the track to run in the Nissan Micra series. The other element that made me take the decision of cancelling my race in Chumpcar is that I really enjoy driving the Nissan Micra No. 86.

### **You have raced in a large variety of series in the past. Why choose the Nissan Micra Cup?**

For me it was an intriguing series from all aspects. I also wanted to reunite with my racing buddies, Jean-Michel Isabelle and Pierre Clavet.

I was their instructor for both of their racing debuts, but with time, our paths separated. They raced in SPC and I was in Chumpcar. The Nissan Micra Cup presented the best opportunity for us to be together again. This series perfectly combines the words: fun, racing family and competition! And all this behind the wheel of identical cars where drivers ultimately make the difference. There is also Martin Husar in car No. 11. Martin is one of the other drivers who I helped during his debut, and he wanted me to supervise his first season. All this also brings a great deal of visibility for my company, Perry Performance.

### **Your goal for the end of the season?**

Those who know me know that above all, I want to have fun when I'm driving, but at this stage, there is also a sport goal well defined:



win the teams' championship! St-Eustache is my last event behind the wheel this year, I leave it in Pierre and Jean-Michel's capable hands where they will be participating in the finale at Mont-Tremblant.



## **STAY CONNECTED WITH THE NISSAN MICRA CUP!**



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Follow the race as it unfold on Twitter:  
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Visit our website:  
[www.nissan.ca/micra-cup/en/](http://www.nissan.ca/micra-cup/en/)



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### ***NEXT EVENT: THE FINALE IN TREMBLANT!***

The sixth and last event of 2015 of the Nissan Micra Cup will be held on the 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of September at Circuit Mont-Tremblant, for the Fall Classic. This event at the famed Laurentians circuit always attracts a large group of spectators because of the picturesque autumn foliage on the mountain. For the Nissan Micra Cup drivers, it will be the event to crown the 2015 champions! Free practice on Friday, qualifications and first race on Saturday and second race on the Sunday. A must-see event!



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# AUTODROME ST-EUSTACHE RACE 9 AND 10 RESULTS

## PRACTICE SESSION

1) Stefan Rzadzinski	No.69
2) Valérie Limoges	No.4
3) Jacques Bélanger	No.29
4) Antoine Bessette	No.572
5) Thanaraj Thanasitnikate	No.2
6) Kevin King	No.40
7) Marc-Antoine Demers	No.422
8) Valérie Chiasson	No.26
9) Claude Veillette Jr	No.88
10) Metod Topolnik	No.78
11) Nicolas Touchette	No.55
12) Carl Wener	No.86
13) Chris Sahakian	No.9
14) Peter Cohen	No.77
15) Yves Aubé	No.11
16) Jeff Boudreault	No.220
17) Mario Berthiaume	No.7
18) James Bergeron	No.24
19) Frédéric Bernier	No.28
20) Taegen Poles	No.23
DNS) Abhinay Bikkani	No.3
DNS) Olivier Pelletier	No.5
DNS) Martin Husar	No.11
DNS) Alex Habrich	No.75
DNS) Olivier Bédard	No.96

## QUALIFICATION

1) Antoine Bessette	No.572
2) Olivier Bédard	No.96
3) Valérie Limoges	No.4
4) Jacques Bélanger	No.29
5) Stefan Rzadzinski	No.69
6) Marc-Antoine Demers	No.422
7) Kevin King	No.40
8) Olivier Pelletier	No.5
9) Jean-Michel Isabelle	No.86
10) Abhinay Bikkani	No.3
11) Thanaraj Thanasitnikate	No.2
12) Valérie Chiasson	No.26
13) Metod Topolnik	No.78
14) Claude Veillette Jr	No.88
15) Martin Husar	No.11
16) Nicolas Touchette	No.55
17) James Bergeron	No.24
18) Peter Cohen	No.77
19) Jeff Boudreault	No.220
20) Chris Sahakian	No.9
21) Mario Berthiaume	No.7
22) Yves Aubé	No.17
23) Frédéric Bernier	No.28
24) Alex Habrich	No.75
25) Taegen Poles	No.23

## RACE 1

1) Olivier Bédard	27 laps
2) Antoine Bessette	-1.665
3) Valérie Limoges	-7.965
4) Kevin King	-8.639
5) Jacques Bélanger	-9.057
6) Jean-Michel Isabelle	-9.707
7) Marc-Antoine Demers	-10.330
8) Thanaraj Thanasitnikate	-13.613
9) Valérie Chiasson	-14.845
10) Olivier Pelletier	-20.873
11) Metod Topolnik	-21.497
12) Stefan Rzadzinski	Penalty
13) Chris Sahakian	-42.004
14) Peter Cohen	-42.153
15) Claude Veillette Jr	-42.370
16) Nicolas Touchette	-42.996
17) Martin Husar	-44.153
18) Jeff Boudreault	-53.833
19) James Bergeron	-56.863
20) Yves Aubé	-57.464
21) Frédéric Bernier	-58.850
22) Mario Berthiaume	-59.195
23) Alex Habrich	-4 laps
24) Abhinay Bikkani	-9 laps
25) Taegen Poles	-12 laps

## RACE 2

1) Olivier Bédard	26 laps
2) Valérie Limoges	-0.416
3) Jacques Bélanger	-9.416
4) Olivier Pelletier	-9.826
5) Marc-Antoine Demers	-11.528
6) Valérie Chiasson	-15.953
7) Abhinay Bikkani	-18.599
8) Claude Veillette Jr	-33.215
9) Carl Wener	-35.694
10) Nicolas Touchette	-36.725
11) Thanaraj Thanasitnikate	Penalty
12) Martin Husar	-44.347
13) Chris Sahakian	-44.944
14) Metod Topolnik	Penalty
15) Mario Berthiaume	-45.412
16) Jeff Boudreault	-46.397
17) Yves Aubé	-50.971
18) James Bergeron	-57.803
19) Peter Cohen	Penalty
20) Frédéric Bernier	-1 lap
21) Kevin King	Penalty
22) Alex Habrich	-1 lap
23) Antoine Bessette	-11 laps
EXC) Stefan Rzadzinski	-----
DNS) Taegen Poles	-----

## DRIVERS STANDINGS

1) Olivier Bédard	364 points	19) Richard Spénard	48 points
2) Thanaraj Thanasitnikate	310 points	20) Yves Aubé	46 points
3) Stefan Rzadzinski	249 points	21) Paul Dargis	44 points
4) Abhinay Bikkani	202 points	22) Martin Husar	35 points
5) Valérie Limoges	193 points	23) Mario Berthiaume	34 points
6) Valérie Chiasson	193 points	24) Pierre Clavet	30 points
7) Marc-Antoine Demers	128 points	25) Carl Wener	26 points
8) Jacques Bélanger	125 points	26) Alex Habrich	24 points
9) Olivier Pelletier	117 points	27) Jeff Boudreault	23 points
10) Jean-Michel Isabelle	114 points	28) Claude Veillette Jr	22 points
11) Antoine Bessette	102 points	29) Louis-Philippe Montour	21 points
12) Kevin King	101 points	30) Wayne Marchand	17 points
13) Metod Topolnik	100 points	31) Benoît Gagnon	16 points
14) Marc-André Bergeron	79 points	32) Martin Gray	15 points
15) Frédéric Bernier	64 points	33) Elvis Stojko	14 points
16) Carl Nadeau	58 points	34) Claude Leclerc	11 points
17) Nicolas Touchette	51 points	35) Peter Cohen	10 points
18) Chris Sahakian	50 points	36) Ashley Sahakian	9 points

