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MICRA CUP MAGAZINE



ROUND 7

CANADIAN TIRE MOTORSPORT PARK
SEPTEMBER 2, 3, 4

**THE PENULTIMATE
ROUND OF
THE SEASON!**





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THE FIGHT FOR THE 2016 CHAMPIONSHIP GETS INTENSE AFTER **COUPAL AND RZADZINSKI** WIN IN ONTARIO

- Xavier Coupal and Stefan Rzadzinski win the thirteenth and fourteenth races during NASCAR weekend at the Canadian Tire Motorsport Park -

During Labour Day weekend at the Canadian Tire Motorsport Park in Ontario, the Nissan Micra Cup drivers competed in the second-to-last race weekend of the 2016 season. Two races took place under scorching sun and heat, and in front of thousands of spectators who came together for the most important event of the year on this circuit, where the NASCAR Camping World Truck series was the star.

The Nissan Micra Cup saw two spectacular races, with many twists taking place over the course of the weekend. In the end, Xavier Coupal won the first race on Saturday, while Stefan Rzadzinski won the second race on Sunday.

Olivier Bédard, who had qualified in pole position, was leading the pack during Saturday's race until Xavier Coupal surpassed him and claimed first place. Positions continued to change in every lap throughout the race, with Kevin King and Valérie Limoges losing their spots. A battle between Coupal, Bédard and Hammann, the Nismo GT Academy driver, started to develop during

the last few laps but stopped abruptly when a yellow flag was waved due to an accident involving Yves Aubé.

The multiple shift in positions included many drivers behind the first three on the podium. Rookie Stefan Gauthier, driver of a perfect race, came in fourth place overall, followed by Ontarian Brian Makse. Both of these drivers secured their best results so far in the series.

The top six was completed by Pierre Clavet, who also fought very hard to get to the front of a very tight pack from the first to the last lap. Normand Boyer, Marc-Antoine Demers, Metod Topolnik and Aaron Povoledo, ex-member of Player's Racing and debuting in the series this weekend, all finished in the top 10. Chris Sahakian and Valérie Chiasson, who started last after missing the qualifying session, managed to climb 16 positions and finish in 11th and 12th.

On Sunday, Bédard and Coupal once again started side-by-side at the front of the pack. Coupal, started from pole position, had a perfect start, Bédard lost three positions and Nic Hammann fought for the first place against Coupal. Unfortunately, both drivers got caught in an incident one lap later and Bédard took back first place in front of Povoledo, Rzadzinski and Limoges. Halfway through the race, Stefan Rzadzinski took the second place spot and proceeded to fight for Bédard's position. The Alberta driver managed to surpass Bédard two laps before the end, moments before Metod Topolnik's accident which caused a yellow flag that lasted, like the night before, until the end of the race.

This was the second victory of the season for Rzadzinski, in front of Bédard and Limoges who won a spectacular fight with Povoledo for third place. The top 10 was completed by Kevin King, Marc-Antoine Demers, Normand Boyer, Chris Sahakian, Pierre Clavet and Martin Gray. For the rookies, Stéfán Gauthier finished first during a race that saw more than 30 position changes!

For more information on the Nissan Micra Cup, please go to the website 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 WORLD OF THE MICRA CUP



NISSAN CANADA PRESIDENT AT THE TRACK

Joni Paiva, president, Nissan Canada, was track side at the Canadian Tire Motorsport Park on Sunday to cheer on the Nissan Micra Cup drivers. He mentioned how impressed he was by the drivers' professionalism, the quality and intensity of the show on the track and also by their family spirit. He couldn't help but notice how the drivers are helping each other and the great atmosphere in the Nissan Micra Cup paddocks. He should be back for the 2016 season finale in Mont-Tremblant.



FROM THE LAMBORGHINI SERIES TO THE NISSAN MICRA CUP!

Aaron Povoledo, an Ontario driver with a strong racing background, made his debut at CTMP in the Nissan Micra Cup this weekend. Former driver for Player's Racing, he was the Canadian vice-champion in F1600 in 1998, before moving on to touring car and GT. This season, he spends most of his time coaching drivers in the GT series in Canada and the US, while competing (since 2014) in the Lamborghini Blancpain Super Trofeo races in the United States. We can say that for Aaron, switching from a powerful Italian GT to a small and agile car such as the Total Canada (#220) Micra S was a big challenge! Povoledo succeeded by finishing in tenth and fourth position.



OPPOSITES ATTRACT: NISSAN'S SMALLEST AND LARGEST VEHICLES FUSED TOGETHER

Spectators at Canadian Tire Motorsport Park this past weekend were the first to see in-person – a spectacular one-of-a-kind vehicle project from Nissan. The TITAN Hauler XD project truck merges the vehicles at the opposite ends of the spectrum of Nissan vehicles available in the Canadian market by bringing together two vehicles in a visually spectacular way, the TITAN XD full-size pickup truck and the Micra subcompact. The team behind this remarkable visual display of automotive modification is none other than Motorsports in Action (MIA), the same group which exclusively handles the conversion of Micra S vehicles to full-fledged race cars and the famous Nissan Rogue Warrior. MIA designed and built a customized aluminum rig that was affixed to the bed of the TITAN XD while the chassis and suspension received reinforcement. The platform holds the Nissan Micra Cup race car in place while it moves forward and backwards for precise loading and unloading.

A PROMISING DEBUTS FOR LINDSAY RICE

A fourth female driver in the series, young Ontarian Lindsay Rice made her debut in the Nissan Micra Cup this weekend. Taking the wheel of United Auto's third Micra, Lindsay had everything to learn as she is competing in her first ever racing season. She has previously participated in GT races in Ontario in a Porsche. Lindsay's experience in the Nissan Micra Cup was memorable. « I didn't think I would compete beyond this event at CTMP, but I loved my experience so much that I'll try to be back in the series as soon as the next event, for the finale in Mont-Tremblant » said Lindsay. She finished 18th in the first race, and 17th in the second race.

NEXT RACE: THE SEASON FINALE IN MONT-TREMBLANT!

The next Nissan Micra Cup race weekend will take place on September 23, 24 and 25 at Circuit Mont-Tremblant for the Fall Classic. An event that always attracts thousands of spectators, this race weekend will also mark season finale with the 15th and 16th races of the 2016 season. Surely, an event not to miss under any circumstances!



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2...3 QUESTIONS TO... **CHUCK KAIZER**

At the end of August, Nissan Canada announced a collaboration between the Nissan Micra Cup and Project E.R.A.S.E. (Eliminating Racing Activity On Streets Everywhere), to raise awareness about the dangers of street racing and encourage safe, responsible driving on public roads and race tracks. Project E.R.A.S.E. is a collaborative effort by seven police services, the Ministry of Transportation and the Ministry of the Environment in Ontario. Representing Project E.R.A.S.E. is Staff Sergeant Chuck Kaizer, who has traded in his police uniform for a racing suit this weekend to compete, off-duty, in two Nissan Micra Cup races behind the wheel of Nissan Canada's number 23 Micra S.

What is the objective of the E.R.A.S.E. program?

The idea of this program is to stop illegal street racing, because a lot of young people are modifying their cars and spending quite a bit of money on it. We are trying to show them that there is a better and safer way, that they can spend some money and come to a track, whether it's for a track day or a series. We want to take the activity off the streets, which would help to keep both them and the public safe. It is also an outlet for their need for speed. The challenge of racing in a series, and I can speak to you now first hand, is that in addition to the fun, it also requires an extreme amount of work and focus. That being said, if we can get people to try racing on the track, I think there would be a lot of people who wouldn't want to do it on the streets again.

Other than the media attention, what do you think motorsport and the Nissan Micra Cup can bring to the E.R.A.S.E. program?

Obviously the media attention is one of the major objectives, the more we get the message out to the people on the streets the better it is. The other objective is to show that there are options, and affordable options because racing is generally known to be a very expensive sport, and



these guys are spending money on their cars to do illegal things on the streets and they can spend the same money on a series or track days. We hope this partnership stays, we want to grow and progress what we are doing. The ultimate goal would be to get someone to climb up the ladder of the series and pass from street racer to F1 driver, why not! There is probably a lot of talent out there, they are just wasting it on illegal activities.

What did you think of your first racing experience in the Nissan Micra Cup?

My racing experience this weekend has been incredible. Nissan has been absolutely phenomenal in regards to supporting the E.R.A.S.E. team. I feel like a real race car driver! The car has been amazing, I can't believe how well it sticks to the road for a small car. It has allowed me to increase my racing skill and every time I've been out I'm getting a little better, which is what it is all about, but I'm nowhere near the front of the pack!



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CANADIAN TIRE MOTORSPORT PARK RACE 13 AND 14 RESULTS

QUALIFICATION RACE 1

1) Olivier Bédard	No.1
2) Kevin King	No.40
3) Marc-Antoine Demers	No.422
4) Xavier Coupal	No.572
5) Valérie Limoges	No.4
6) Nic Hammann	No.2
7) Metod Topolnik	No.78
8) Normand Boyer	No.11
9) Stéfán Gauthier	No.96
10) Pierre Clavet	No.86
11) Stéfán Rzdazinski	No.69
12) Aaron Povoledo	No.220
13) Chris Sahakian	No.9
14) Brian Makse	No.13
15) Martin Gray	No.8
16) Mario Berthiaume	No.7
17) Alex Habrich	No.75
18) Yves Aubé	No.17
19) Peter Dyck	No.73
20) Edward Wong	No.80
21) Lindsay Rice	No.27
22) Preet Banerjee	No.24
23) Craig Willoughby	No.00
24) Ashley Sahakian	No.77
25) Chuck Kaizer	No.23
DNS) Valérie Chiasson	No.26

QUALIFICATION RACE 2

1) Xavier Coupal	No.572
2) Olivier Bédard	No.1
3) Nic Hammann	No.2
4) Kevin King	No.40
5) Valérie Limoges	No.4
6) Aaron Povoledo	No.220
7) Stéfán Rzdazinski	No.69
8) Normand Boyer	No.11
9) Stéfán Gauthier	No.96
10) Marc-Antoine Demers	No.422
11) Metod Topolnik	No.78
12) Chris Sahakian	No.9
13) Valérie Chiasson	No.26
14) Pierre Clavet	No.86
15) Brian Makse	No.13
16) Martin Gray	No.8
17) Mario Berthiaume	No.7
18) Yves Aubé	No.17
19) Peter Dyck	No.73
20) Lindsay Rice	No.27
21) Edward Wong	No.80
22) Alex Habrich	No.75
23) Preet Banerjee	No.24
24) Ashley Sahakian	No.77
25) Craig Willoughby	No.00
26) Chuck Kaizer	No.23

RACE 1

1) Xavier Coupal	14 laps
2) Olivier Bédard	-0.257
3) Nic Hammann	-1.800
4) Stéfán Gauthier	-2.328
5) Brian Makse	-3.006
6) Pierre Clavet	-3.762
7) Normand Boyer	-4.691
8) Marc-Antoine Demers	-5.804
9) Metod Topolnik	-6.540
10) Aaron Povoledo	-7.696
11) Chris Sahakian	-8.172
12) Valérie Chiasson	-8.505
13) Martin Gray	-10.485
14) Mario Berthiaume	-11.296
15) Kevin King	-12.171
16) Edward Wong	-12.996
17) Peter Dyck	-13.699
18) Lindsay Rice	-14.460
19) Alex Habrich	-15.603
20) Ashley Sahakian	-17.378
21) Craig Willoughby	Penalty
22) Preet Banerjee	-18.223
23) Chuck Kaizer	-19.034
24) Yves Aubé	-3 laps
25) Stéfán Rzdazinski	-12 laps
26) Valérie Limoges	Exclusion

RACE 2

1) Stéfán Rzdazinski	15 laps
2) Olivier Bédard	-0.732
3) Valérie Limoges	-1.186
4) Aaron Povoledo	-1.507
5) Kevin King	-2.445
6) Marc-Antoine Demers	-3.205
7) Normand Boyer	-3.993
8) Stéfán Gauthier	-3.994
9) Chris Sahakian	-5.147
10) Pierre Clavet	-5.850
11) Martin Gray	-7.830
12) Brian Makse	-8.580
13) Edward Wong	-9.031
14) Mario Berthiaume	-9.716
15) Nic Hammann	-10.866
16) Yves Aubé	-11.973
17) Lindsay Rice	-12.336
18) Alex Habrich	-15.259
19) Peter Dyck	-15.899
20) Preet Banerjee	-21.442
21) Ashley Sahakian	-22.118
22) Craig Willoughby	-22.926
23) Chuck Kaizer	-23.808
24) Metod Topolnik	-3 laps
25) Valérie Chiasson	-5 laps
26) Xavier Coupal	-14 laps

DRIVERS STANDINGS

1) Olivier Bédard	434 points	14) Brian Makse	88 points	27) Carl Nadeau	33 points
2) Xavier Coupal	430 points	15) Yves Aubé	85 points	28) Martin Gray	27 points
3) Stéfán Rzdazinski	370 points	16) Frédéric Bernier	83 points	29) Karl Wittmer	26 points
4) Kevin King	358 points	17) Jean-Michel Isabelle	78 points	30) Bertrand Godin	23 points
5) Nic Hammann	284 points	18) Valérie Chiasson	77 points	30) Craig Willoughby	23 points
6) Valérie Limoges	274 points	19) Pierre Clavet	76 points	32) Patrick Dussault	21 points
7) Marc-Antoine Demers	262 points	20) Peter Dyck (recrue)	59 points	33) Edward Wong	20 points
8) Normand Boyer	196 points	21) Alex Habrich	54 points	34) Enrico Sasso	13 points
9) Chris Sahakian	143 points	22) Nicolas Touchette	41 points	35) Lindsay Rice	7 points
10) Jacques Bélanger	134 points	23) Aaron Povoledo	40 points	36) Richard Spénard	5 points
11) Metod Topolnik	119 points	24) Ashley Sahakian (recrue)	39 points	37) Carl Wener	3 points
12) Stéfán Gauthier (recrue)	111 points	25) Jeff Boudreault	36 points	37) Paul Dargis	3 points
13) Mario Berthiaume	103 points	26) Kirk Robinson	35 points		

