



MICRA CUP

MAGAZINE



nismo

RACES 9 AND 10

SEPTEMBER 1, 2, 3
CANADIAN TIRE MOTORSPORT PARK



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**A LOT OF ACTION FOR
THE LABOUR DAY WEEKEND!**

**ROUND
5**



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KEVIN KING AND STEFAN RZADZINSKI CLAIM VICTORY IN ONTARIO AS THE 2017 CHAMPIONSHIP REMAINS A CLOSE BATTLE

– Two races were held at the Canadian Tire Motorsport Park this past long weekend, and both had the fans on their feet –

The Nissan Micra Cup held its second last outing of the season this past weekend during the most important motorsport event at the Canadian Tire Motorsport Park (CTMP), northeast of Toronto, Ontario. Two races were on the program, both of which kept the fans on their feet with numerous cars overtaking one another and a constant change in race leader. In the end, Kevin King won on Saturday and Stefan Rzadzinski on Sunday, while Olivier Bédard maintained his overall lead in the championship.

The American NASCAR Camping World Truck series was also a highlight this past weekend as it brought together tens of thousands of spectators to the site. As part of the festive atmosphere, fans were able to witness the 23 Nissan Micra Cup drivers in action during two magnificent races.

On Saturday, under constant sun and a cool breeze, track records were broken. Qualifying in pole position, the 2016 champion Xavier Coupal started the mid-afternoon race with 2016 novice champion Stéfán Gauthier by his side. At the end of a thrilling 30-minute race that saw a collision in the first lap eliminate Coupal, followed by multiple changes on the leaderboard, Kevin King, Gauthier's Sorel-Tracy Nissan teammate, crossed the finish line just three-tenths of a second ahead of Olivier Bédard. Holder of the record for the fastest lap in the history of Nissan Micra Cup at the CTMP, Bédard was able to increase his lead at the top of the series standings. The podium was completed by Stéfán Gauthier, Albertan Stefan Rzadzinski and Quebecker Marc-Antoine Cardin, who earned a top five finish for his very first time.

Montrealer Jesse Lazare, who is more familiar with powerful endurance while racing a McLaren GT as opposed to the practically stock Nissan Micra S race cars, made his grand debut in the Nissan Micra Cup this past weekend. Lazare competed on behalf of the MIA (Motorsports In Action) team, with whom he races endurance. He entered in order to experience the fun associated with driving in the Nissan Micra Cup, but admitted to being surprised by the competitiveness of the series. Qualifying in seventh, he fought an outstanding race and challenged the other drivers for a spot at the front of the pack. He finished in sixth place overall, ahead of the top-ranking senior class competitor, Normand Boyer, Australian Keishi Ayukai, Frédéric Bernier and Englishman Jake Exton, who was fastest among the novices.

Sunday was just as thrilling, with the top 10 neck and neck from the start right through until the last lap. Qualifying in pole position, Kevin King led the first

few laps before Olivier Bédard and Stefan Rzadzinski took the lead ahead of him. Rzadzinski eventually won, in front of Bédard and King. Starting on the first line beside King, Jesse Lazare finished his very first Nissan Micra Cup race weekend in fourth place. Senior class leader Normand Boyer initially finished in fifth place, but due to a penalty, was pushed back to seventh place. As a result, Valérie Limoges came in fifth place, ahead of Stéfán Gauthier, Normand Boyer, Frédéric Bernier, Jake Exton (once again top novice finisher) and Marc-Antoine Cardin.

After his incident the night before, Xavier Coupal was forced to forfeit the race and was eliminated from the battle for the title. With two strong podium finishes, Kevin King is still fighting for the championship title against Olivier Bédard, who leads the championship. The last race weekend of the season is set to be action-packed, with a battle for the overall title as well as for the novice class honours between Jake Exton, Vincent Doyle and Nicolas Barrette. In the senior class, Normand Boyer already holds enough of a lead to claim the title.

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](#), on [Instagram: nissanmicracup](#)



THE WORLD OF THE NISSAN MICRA CUP



FROM THE MCLAREN GT4 TO... THE NISSAN MICRA!

Since its beginning in 2015, the Nissan Micra Cup has always attracted drivers from everywhere, even champions from prestigious series like Endurance or NASCAR. This weekend at the Canadian Tire Motorsport Park, it was young Montrealer Jesse Lazare who was behind the wheel of the MIA car, the same team who builds all of the Nissan Micra race cars used in the series. For Jesse, it was a new and fun challenge. He has an impressive résumé in racing GT cars – he was the USA Porsche Cup GT3 Champion last year, and he also won the 24 Hours of Daytona (GTD class) last January. This happened before he joined MIA to compete in one of the two McLaren 570S GT4s that the team enters in the IMSA Continental Challenge endurance series – to date, Jesse has landed on the IMSA podium three times. “Any race car is fun to drive, of course. I would thank MIA team to give me the opportunity to race in IMSA and now in Nissan Micra Cup” declares Jesse, who adds: “When we came up with the idea, I was definitely excited to go especially because Mosport is my favorite track. But the level is higher than I expected. The cars are all equals so it’s difficult to come in the series and be on top in one weekend. Also, I’ve competed with some of the drivers who are regulars in the series, such as Olivier Bédard and Marc-Antoine Cardin in karting in 2005, so it was very funny for me”. Behind the wheel of the Nissan Micra (#21) at the Canadian Tire Motorsport Park, Jesse finished 6th and 4th.



AUSTIN RILEY SHINES IN KARTING AS WELL!

A rookie in the Nissan Micra Cup this season, 18-year-old Toronto native Austin Riley was at the Canadian Tire Motorsport Park twice recently. One week prior to his two races in the Nissan Micra Cup, the young autistic reconnected with his first love; karting. He took part in the Canadian Championship that took place at Mosport Kartways last weekend, and he finished seventh in the Open Shifter class, one of the quickest karts there is. In the Nissan Micra Cup, he is having a very promising first season. During the final races three weeks from now at Circuit Mont-Tremblant he could very much end his first season on the rookie’s final podium.



NEXT RACE: THE BIG FINALE IN MONT-TREMBLANT

The next race of the 2017 season will certainly be one of the most captivating as the champions of the season will be crowned. The 11th and 12th races, the last two events of this amazing season, will take place during the Fall Classic at Circuit Mont-Tremblant in Québec. Nissan Micra owners are invited to attend the race on the weekend of September 22-24, and can register for the event online at <http://www.micracup.com/eventregistration/>. By registering, they will have access to two tickets and a free parking pass.



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2... 3 QUESTIONS FOR... **PETER DYCK**

Ontario driver Peter Dyck had never competed in motorsport before making his debut in the Nissan Micra Cup last year. Runner-up in the rookie championship in 2016, he is one of the competitors in the senior class this season but is aiming for a spot in the top 10 in the overall championship. Peter is the perfect example of a driver who races in the Nissan Micra Cup to have fun, the series that has allowed him to take the next step and become a motorsport driver!

You were a racing rookie last year... How did you hear about the Nissan Micra Cup?

I discovered the Nissan Micra Cup at the Toronto Auto Show in 2016. When I walked through the Nissan booth, Olivier Bédard (2015 series champion) was standing beside his car and I started talking to him and I got interested. Within a few weeks I ordered a car.

The series created a senior class this year. Does this provide you with additional motivation?

Yes, definitely. I think the senior class, which really should be called the masters class, is great because it gives us the chance to stand on a podium and fight between each other more.

What are your objectives for the rest of the season, and after 2017?

For the rest of the season I would like to improve during every race and see how I can do against other senior class drivers. I'm judging myself and trying to step it up from what I did before. I plan on returning to the Nissan Micra Cup next year.



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POSTCARD





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JOURNALISM STUDENTS ARE DISCOVERING THE NISSAN MICRA CUP WITH DRIVING.CA/POSTMEDIA!

Nissan Canada has partnered with Driving.ca and Postmedia, which hosted the series' activities this weekend in Mosport. Roxane Barry, Nissan Canada's Corporate Communications Specialist, explains the program: "The goal is to involve Ontario journalism students in a unique project with the Nissan Micra Cup and the Postmedia press group, number one in Canada. These students have the challenge of writing an article about the Nissan Micra Cup and the best one will be selected by a jury of specialists. They are students aged between 19 and 25 who come from two schools that have invested in this partnership: Carleton University in Ottawa and Humber College in Toronto.

Two students from Carleton and three from Humber were invited to the race weekend for this project called Postmedia Driving Auto Journalism Challenge brought by the Nissan Micra Cup. Last Monday we had a meeting with them at the head office of the National Post to guide them in their editorial efforts and share the expectations of Postmedia.

They have two days to submit their paper. Following this, the jury composed of Neil Vorano and David Booth of the National Post and Didier Marsaud, Nissan Canada's Communications Director, will select the best of the five articles.

The winner will see his article posted on Driving.ca in the week and then the following week it will be published in the auto section of the National Post. Neil Vorano, Editor of the Postmedia Auto section, was the mentor of these aspiring journalists

throughout the weekend. This is a unique opportunity for these students who will also see their articles promoted on Nissan Canada's social networks.

These students are not motorsport enthusiasts. Only one of them had ever been on a circuit. So it offers a new angle, which also brings a lot to the Nissan Micra Cup with a different and new vision."

Neil Vorano said: "I am very thankful for Didier to have approached me about this, I think it is a good idea. I am always looking for good writers and this is a chance to help develop the next generation. We started with five students this year and the program went really well. I think putting these students in an environment that they are not used to is good. These are journalism students, not just auto journalists. It teaches them to go into any situation and find out what the story is and go from there. In this group, I think only one student has been to a

race before, so it really opens their eyes and forces them to look for the story.

My colleague David Booth and I took these students under our wing, we give them a little bit of guidance to explain what we are looking for, and what we would like to see in their stories. After this, we will critique what they do and give them points. It will give them a little bit of experience with the real publication, but it will also give them something for their portfolio, it would be great to have something printed in Driving.ca or National Post and go look for a job afterwards.

We are starting small this year, but so far it is going great and we hope to develop the partnership with Nissan Canada for next year and beyond and possibly include not just print but video and multimedia in the future."

Neil Vorano, Postmedia Driving editor, with the five journalism students.





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CANADIAN TIRE MOTORSPORT PARK RACE 9 AND 10 RESULTS

ROUND
5

QUALIFICATION RACE 1

- 1) Xavier Coupal No.1
- 2) Stéfan Gauthier No.96
- 3) Kevin King No.40
- 4) Stefan Rzdzinski No.59
- 5) Jean-Michel Isabelle No.86
- 6) Olivier Bédard No.99
- 7) Jesse Lazare No.21
- 8) Valérie Limoges No.220
- 9) Marc-Antoine Cardin No.4
- 10) Normand Boyer No.11
- 11) Frédéric Bernier No.28
- 12) Vincent Doyle No.43
- 13) Keishi Ayukai No.59
- 14) Peter Dyck No.73
- 15) Jake Exton No.00
- 16) Edward Wong No.80
- 17) Nicolas Barrette No.427
- 18) Fadi Mourad No.77
- 19) Austin Riley No.20
- 20) Vic Simone No.8
- 21) Alex Habrich No.75
- 22) Michael Habrich No.88
- 23) Mario Charette No.728

QUALIFICATION RACE 2

- 1) Kevin King No.40
- 2) Jesse Lazare No.21
- 3) Stéfan Gauthier No.96
- 4) Jean-Michel Isabelle No.86
- 5) Keishi Ayukai No.59
- 6) Normand Boyer No.11
- 7) Olivier Bédard No.99
- 8) Marc-Antoine Cardin No.4
- 9) Valérie Limoges No.220
- 10) Stefan Rzdzinski No.59
- 11) Peter Dyck No.73
- 12) Frédéric Bernier No.28
- 13) Vincent Doyle No.43
- 14) Austin Riley No.20
- 15) Michael Habrich No.88
- 16) Fadi Mourad No.77
- 17) Jake Exton No.00
- 18) Edward Wong No.80
- 19) Alex Habrich No.75
- 20) Jean-Michel Isabelle No.8
- 21) Mario Charette No.728
- DNS) Nicolas Barrette No.427
- DNS) Xavier Coupal No.1

RACE 1

- 1) Kevin King 15 laps
- 2) Olivier Bédard -0.340
- 3) Stéfan Gauthier -0.544
- 4) Stefan Rzdzinski -2.818
- 5) Marc-Antoine Cardin -3.294
- 6) Jesse Lazare -4.584
- 7) Normand Boyer (S) -4.777
- 8) Keishi Ayukai -10.871
- 9) Frédéric Bernier (S) -16.747
- 10) Jake Exton (R) -17.401
- 11) Valérie Limoges -23.625
- 12) Vincent Doyle (R) -25.556
- 13) Peter Dyck (S) -26.508
- 14) Fadi Mourad (R) -36.232
- 15) Alex Habrich (S) -1:14.119
- 16) Vic Simone (S) -1:14.765
- 17) Michael Habrich (R) -1:40.418
- 18) Austin Riley (R) -2:08.767
- 19) Mario Charette (S+R) -1 lap
- 20) Jean-Michel Isabelle -6 laps
- 21) Nicolas Barrette (R) -9 laps
- 22) Xavier Coupal -15 laps
- 23) Edward Wong (S) Excluded

RACE 2

- 1) Stefan Rzdzinski 15 laps
- 2) Olivier Bédard -0.123
- 3) Kevin King -0.514
- 4) Jesse Lazare -0.661
- 5) Valérie Limoges -4.415
- 6) Stéfan Gauthier -5.464
- 7) Normand Boyer (S) Penalty
- 8) Frédéric Bernier (S) -5.617
- 9) Jake Exton (R) -10.443
- 10) Marc-Antoine Cardin -10.939
- 11) Vincent Doyle (R) -11.528
- 12) Peter Dyck (S) -15.053
- 13) Fadi Mourad (R) -16.184
- 14) Austin Riley (R) -16.449
- 15) Edward Wong (S) -32.921
- 16) Michael Habrich (R) -33.767
- 17) Alex Habrich (S) -34.957
- 18) Vic Simone (S) -36.136
- 19) Mario Charette (S+R) -1:10.408
- 20) Keishi Ayukai -1 lap
- 21) Jean-Michel Isabelle -10 laps
- DNS) Nicolas Barrette (R)
- DNS) Xavier Coupal

DRIVERS STANDINGS

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) Olivier Bédard 342 points | 18) Jesse Lazare 48 points |
| 2) Kevin King 315 points | 19) Austin Riley (rookie) 48 points |
| 3) Xavier Coupal 285 points | 20) Fadi Mourad (rookie) 39 points |
| 4) Jean-Michel Isabelle 201 points | 21) Nicolas Touchette (Senior) 38 points |
| 5) Valérie Limoges 198 points | 22) Michael Habrich (rookie) 31 points |
| 6) Normand Boyer (Senior) 198 points | 23) Luc Richard 26 points |
| 7) Keishi Ayukai 175 points | 24) Martin Barrette (rookie) 26 points |
| 8) Stéfan Gauthier 171 points | 25) Edward Wong (Senior) 23 points |
| 9) Stefan Rzdzinski 157 points | 26) Michel Barrette (Sen.+rookie) 23 points |
| 10) Marc-Antoine Cardin 130 points | 27) Vic Simone (Senior) 22 points |
| 11) Metod Topolnik (Senior) 116 points | 28) Mario Berthiaume (Senior) 21 points |
| 12) Frédéric Bernier (Senior) 85 points | 29) Mario Charette (Sen.+rookie) 16 points |
| 13) Jake Exton (rookie) 79 points | 30) Sylvain Ouellet (Senior) 14 points |
| 14) Peter Dyck (Senior) 77 points | 31) Jeff Boudreault (Senior) 4 points |
| 15) Vincent Doyle (rookie) 70 points | 32) Brian Makse (Senior) 3 points |
| 16) Nicolas Barrette (rookie) 57 points | 33) Samuel Rowe (rookie) 0 point |
| 17) Alex Habrich (Senior) 49 points | |

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