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# SENTRACUP MAGAZINE



**EVENT** 1

Victoria Day SpeedFest Canadian Tire Motorsport Park **MAY 16, 17, 18, 2025** 



Summary



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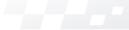


# Simon Vincent and Valérie Limoges: First 2025 Nissan Sentra Cup Winners

The 2025 season kicked off in Ontario with two spectacular races, crowning two of the title favourites

The 2025 Nissan Sentra Cup season launched this weekend at Canadian Tire Motorsport Park, where Valérie Limoges and Simon Vincent emerged as the first official race winners of the series' eleventh season on Canadian tracks. Since its debut in 2015 as the Nissan Micra Cup, the series—supported by Nissan Canada and JD Promotion—has become a staple of Canadian motorsport. The series stood out once again at the 2025 Victoria Day Weekend SpeedFest, drawing





thousands of fans despite the unpredictable weather.

Friday delivered summer-like conditions and a full day of free practice sessions. Qualifying took place Saturday morning on a slightly damp track, where championship contenders quickly made their mark. Simon Vincent secured pole position on one of his favourite circuits, followed by Nicolas Barrette, Nicolas Lévesque, and defending champion Valérie Limoges. Series newcomer Marc-Antoine D'Amour impressed with a fifth-place qualifying effort, just ahead of Raphaël St-Pierre.

Saturday's race began under threatening skies, though the track had dried. Vincent made a clean start and held off intense pressure from Barrette, with the two never separated by more than a second. Lévesque, now in his third season, remained close behind, signaling his intent to secure the title.

After 14 minutes of exciting racing, a sudden downpour forced officials to halt the race. Despite efforts to restart, the race was called off, and final results were based on the standings after eight laps. Vincent was declared the winner, followed by Barrette, Lévesque, Limoges, D'Amour, St-Pierre, Jean-François Couture, Steve Poulin, Christian Thibault, and Stéphane Pouliot.

Sunday's race unfolded under overcast skies and cooler temperatures. Vincent once again started from pole, but it was Lévesque who secured the



lead on the opening lap. Three laps later, Vincent reclaimed the top spot, leading a tightly packed group of five Sentra Cup cars separated by mere fractions of a second. The lead group included Vincent, Lévesque, Barrette, Limoges, and a slightly trailing D'Amour.

The second half of the 40-minute race remained incident-free, with constant position changes among the top four. At the chequered flag, Lévesque appeared to have secured his first career victory. However, during post-race technical inspection, his car was found to be under the minimum weight requirement, resulting in disqualification.

As a result, Valérie Limoges was declared the winner, followed by Simon Vincent and Marc-Antoine D'Amour. Barrette was forced to retire on the final Iap. Rounding out the top ten were Raphaël St-Pierre, Steve Poulin, Jean Audet, Stéphane Pouliot, rookie François Bourassa, and Christian Thibault.

PRO-SERIES

The 2025 Nissan Sentra Cup season is off to a thrilling and unpredictable start, setting the stage for another exciting year of competition across Canada.

For more information on the Nissan Sentra Cup, visit **sentracup.com** and follow the series on social media. To relive the 2024 season races in video, visit the **Nissan Sentra Cup YouTube page**.



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# 2025 entries

1. Valérie Limoges

Brossard, QC



7.

## Jean-François Couture

Mont-St-Hilaire, QC





Jean Audet

Québec, QC





François Bourassa

Trois-Rivières, QC





37. Steve Poulin

Thetford Mines, QC

<mark>46.</mark> Christian Thibault





# 50.

## Nicolas Lévesque

Trois-Rivières, QC



# 91. Simon Vincent

St-Jérôme, QC





# Marc-Antoine D'Amour

Ayer's Cliff, QC



# 210. Stéphane Pouliot



Saguenay, QC

**419.** 

### Raphaël St-Pierre

Trois-Rivières, QC





Nicolas Barrette

Sorel-Tracy, QC



QC

## ALSO REGISTERED FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP BUT ABSENT FOR THE FIRST TWO RACES AT CTMP:

| 3.   | P.O. Paquette    | Mirabel, QC    |
|------|------------------|----------------|
| 95.  | Baptiste Gimenez | Ganges, Franc  |
| 777. | Mathieu Lemvre   | Trois-Rivières |

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# Live from CTMP



#### STEVE POULIN: PASSION FOR MOTORSPORTS AND THE NISSAN BRAND

"I have the Nissan logo tattooed on my heart!" says Steve Poulin. A former Super Production Challenge driver during the era of the Nissan 350Z, Poulin is the owner of three car dealerships in his hometown of Thetford Mines, Quebec, including Nissan Thetford. A true enthusiast and skilled driver who enjoys the atmosphere of the series' paddocks, Steve Poulin is competing in the full season of the Nissan Sentra Cup this year. "I wish I had started in the series earlier, but I just didn't have the time. I enjoy driving a frontwheel-drive car—it's new for me, and it's motivating to see how much I've improved compared to the 2024 season," he adds. After a flawless weekend, Steve Poulin finished the two races in 8<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> place.

#### THE NISSAN SENTRA CUP BACK TO RDS FOR A FIFTH SEASON

Produced by NV Productions, a partner of the series since its inception, along with JD Promotion, the broadcasts of the Nissan Sentra Cup races are back this year on RDS. The French-language Canadian sports network, based in Quebec, will air all 12 races, each in a 30-minute format. Hosted by Jacques Deshaies, the series promoter, and Philippe Brasseur, editorin-chief of Pole-Position Magazine (also a Nissan Canada partner for the Sentra Cup), these shows are being aired for the fifth consecutive year; every season since the Sentras joined the series!

#### **AN IMPRESSIVE ROOKIE!**

The Nissan Sentra Cup is a Canadian racing series open to all. From the beginning, rookie drivers have competed alongside seasoned veterans from open-wheel, endurance, NASCAR, rallying, and other backgrounds. The level of competition has always been exceptionally high, according to the drivers themselves—much to the delight of the spectators. But for a newcomer, it usually takes a few races to learn the ropes before aiming for podium finishes. At CTMP, during the opening round of the 2025 season, Marc-Antoine D'Amour made a strong impression: battling with title contenders like Valérie Limoges, Nicolas Barrette, and Simon Vincent, the rookie finished the two races in 5<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place. D'Amour recently earned his circuit racing license, having come from dirt track racing, where he won last year's championship in the Super 4 obstacle racing series for cars and pickups, in Quebec.

#### AN 11<sup>TH</sup> SEASON... AND STILL FULL OF NOVELTIES!

Launched on Canadian tracks in 2015 with the Micra Cup, the Nissan Sentra Cup kicked off its 11<sup>th</sup> season at CTMP. On this occasion, no fewer than five rookie drivers are registered. While three of them were absent from this 2025 season opener and will join later in the season, the other two (Marc-Antoine D'Amour and François Bourassa) finished in the Top 8. The 2025 season will also feature two events where drivers and fans will enjoy three races instead of the usual two. This will be the case at the next event in Nova Scotia, as well as during the season finale, which will return to the Canadian Tire Motorsport Park circuit.



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11

# Results and standings

Canadian Tire Motorsport Park - Event 1

#### RACE 1

#### QUALIFICATION

| <ol> <li>Simon Vincent</li> <li>Nicolas Barrette</li> <li>Nicolas Lévesque</li> <li>Valérie Limoges</li> <li>Marc-Antoine D'Amour</li> <li>Raphaël St-Pierre</li> <li>Jean Audet</li> <li>Steve Poulin</li> <li>Christian Thibault</li> <li>Jean-François Couture</li> <li>Stéphane Pouliot</li> <li>François Bourassa</li> </ol> |   |
|---|---|
| RESULTS   |   |
| <ol> <li>Simon Vincent</li> <li>Nicolas Barrette</li> <li>Nicolas Lévesque</li> <li>Valérie Limoges</li> <li>Marc-Antoine D'Amour</li> <li>Jean-François Couture</li> <li>Raphaël St-Pierre</li> <li>Steve Poulin</li> <li>Christian Thibault</li> <li>Stéphane Pouliot</li> <li>François Bourassa</li> <li>Jean Audet</li> </ol> | 9 laps<br>-0.651<br>-1.306<br>-2.371<br>-3.235<br>-3.236<br>-5.044<br>-7.756<br>-8.717<br>-9.950<br>-10.885<br>-1 lap |

## RACE 2

#### **QUALIFICATION** 1) Simon Vincent

| <ol> <li>2) Nicolas Lévesque</li> <li>3) Nicolas Barrette</li> <li>4) Valérie Limoges</li> <li>5) Marc-Antoine D'Amour</li> <li>6) Raphaël St-Pierre</li> <li>7) Jean Audet</li> <li>8) Steve Poulin</li> <li>9) Christian Thibault</li> <li>10) Stéphane Pouliot</li> <li>11) François Bourassa</li> <li>12) Jean-François Couture</li> </ol> |   |
|--|---|
| RESULTS  |   |
| <ol> <li>Valérie Limoges</li> <li>Simon Vincent</li> <li>Marc-Antoine D'Amour</li> <li>Raphaël St-Pierre</li> <li>Steve Poulin</li> <li>Jean Audet</li> <li>Stéphane Pouliot</li> <li>François Bourassa</li> <li>Nicolas Barrette</li> <li>Christian Thibault</li> </ol>   | 23 laps<br>-0.442<br>-18.060<br>-37.361<br>-59.849<br>-1:16.580<br>-1:37.385<br>-1:38.625<br>-1 lap<br>-1 lap |
| 11) Nicolas Lévesque<br>12) Jean-François Couture  | Excluded<br>Excluded  |

#### CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS

| Position | · #  | Driver                | Races | Points |
|----------|------|-----------------------|-------|--------|
| 1        | 91.  | Simon Vincent         | 2     | 102    |
| 2        | 1.   | Valérie Limoges       | 2     | 90     |
| 3        | 113. | Marc-Antoine D'Amour  | 2     | 76     |
| 4        | 427. | Nicolas Barrette      | 2     | 70     |
| 5        | 419. | Raphaël St-Pierre     | 2     | 66     |
| б        | 37.  | Steve Poulin          | 2     | 60     |
| 7        | 210  | Stéphane Pouliot      | 2     | 50     |
| 8        | 22   | Jean Audet            | 2     | 49     |
| 9        | 46.  | Christian Thibault    | 2     | 46     |
| 9        | 27.  | François Bourassa     | 2     | 46     |
| 11       | 50.  | Nicolas Lévesque      | 2     | 42     |
| 12       | 7.   | Jean-François Couture | 2     | 30     |
| 13       | 3.   | P.O. Paquette         | 0     | 0      |
| 13       | 95.  | Baptiste Gimenez      | 0     | 0      |
| 13       | 777. | Mathieu Lemyre        | 0     | 0      |



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The next event will take place on June 20, 21, and 22 at Atlantic Motorsport Park, located in Shubenacadie, Nova Scotia. It will be the very first time in the history of the Nissan Sentra Cup that the series visits the Maritime provinces. Thousands of spectators are expected at this track, which is a significant part of Canadian motorsport history!

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