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SENTRA CUP

MAGAZINE



Event 2

Formula 1 Grand Prix du Canada
Circuit Gilles-Villeneuve, QC
June 17 - 18 - 19, 2022



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Summary



Simon Charbonneau and Stefan Rzadzinski win the Nissan Sentra Cup races presented at the Grand Prix du Canada!

Female drivers Valérie Limoges and Marie-Soleil Labelle also made event history with a double podium on Saturday



Presented this weekend as part of the Formula 1 Grand Prix du Canada, the third and fourth races of the 2022 Nissan Sentra Cup season were won by Simon Charbonneau, in the rain on Saturday, then by Stefan Rzdzinski Sunday, under the sun.

Nissan Sentra Cup drivers had the honour of being the first to hit the track at this Formula 1 Grand Prix du Canada, the country's premier sporting event, back on the calendar for the first time since 2019. On Friday morning, the twenty-eight drivers of the series competed in their free practice session.



Following that, the qualifying session, in front of already full grandstands, saw Justin Arseneau, another young talent of 16, take pole position with his Nissan Sentra from the ICAR Racing Team. Stefan Rzdzinski, Alexandre Fortin, Simon Charbonneau (the winners of the first two races of the season) and defending champion Kevin King completed the top 5.

After the hot sun on Friday, an icy wind greeted fans at the track on Saturday morning. The drivers' task was complicated as the rain made its appearance just before the start of the Nissan Sentra Cup race, forcing the mechanics to do a quick switch from slick to rain tires just before the green flag.

Shortened by weather conditions and a long full-course yellow, this first race saw Charbonneau win with just over a second ahead of Rzadzinski. Valérie Limoges completed the podium, her first on the Gilles-Villeneuve circuit, ahead of Kevin King, Daniel Fortin, Mathieu Miron, Simon Dion-Viens, Alexandre Fortin, Sylvain Ouellet and Éric Chaput.

In the Micra class, Samuel Rowe won his first victory, ahead of François Angers-Routhier, the championship leader, and Marie-Soleil Labelle. She finishes in front of the popular radio host Benoît Gagnon by a few hundredths of a second.

After the rain and cold on Saturday, the sun was back for the second Nissan Sentra Cup race at this 2022 edition of the Grand Prix du Canada on Sunday. With the encouragements of Karine Vanasse, the actress and spokesperson for Nissan in Quebec, and tens of thousands of fans in the grandstands, Stefan Rzadzinski returned to victory, exactly seven years after he triumphed in the Nissan Micra Cup on the same circuit Gilles-Villeneuve.

The Western Canadian driver won ahead of Kevin King and Simon Charbonneau after a short and spectacular race, but ended under yellow flag. Valérie Limoges, Éric Chaput, Sylvain Ouellet, Mathieu Miron, André Lapointe, Nicolas Touchette and Frédéric Chaput completed the top 10.

In the Micra class, Samuel Rowe took his second victory of the weekend, ahead of François Angers-Routhier, while Benoît Gagnon climbed on the podium. Marie-Soleil Labelle and Martin Barrette finished fourth and fifth.

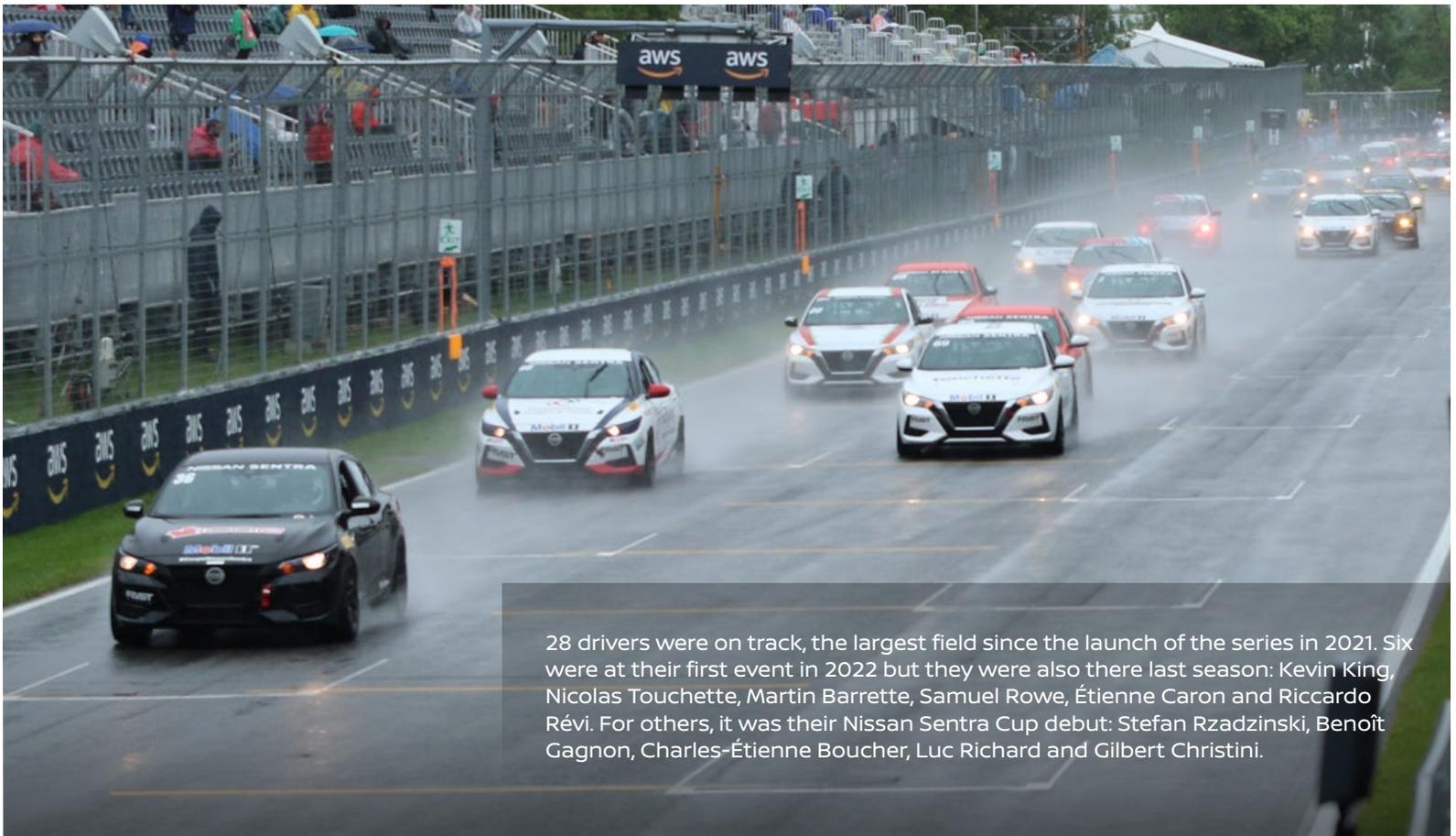




POSTCARD OF THE F1 Grand Prix du Canada



The Nissan Sentra has made history at GP du Canada more than once. Valérie Chiasson became the first female driver in the history of the event to stand on the overall podium, during a Nissan Micra Cup race in 2015. This weekend, Valérie Limoges and Marie-Soleil Labelle (here in picture with Steve Milette, president of Nissan Canada) both won a Top 3, one in the overall standings and the other in the Micra class, at the end of Saturday's race. No other motorsport series offers more success to female drivers on the circuit Gilles-Villeneuve than the Nissan Sentra Cup, and while Valérie Limoges is familiar with the Top 3 and even victories in the series, this is the very first podium at the GP of Canada for the young (18 years old) Marie-Soleil Labelle.



28 drivers were on track, the largest field since the launch of the series in 2021. Six were at their first event in 2022 but they were also there last season: Kevin King, Nicolas Touchette, Martin Barrette, Samuel Rowe, Étienne Caron and Riccardo Révi. For others, it was their Nissan Sentra Cup debut: Stefan Rzdzinski, Benoît Gagnon, Charles-Étienne Boucher, Luc Richard and Gilbert Christini.



After the GP de Trois-Rivières 2021, Karine Vanasse, actress and ambassador of the Nissan brand in Quebec, was present on Sunday at the circuit Gilles-Villeneuve, to cheer on the drivers of the Nissan Sentra Cup and give the first three their trophy on the podium. Karine Vanasse also had the opportunity to visit the paddocks of the series. No less than 338,000 spectators attended this 2022 edition of the Grand Prix du Canada.

Invited by Sylvain Ouellet to drive his old Micra, the popular radio host Benoît Gagnon rediscovered all the excitement of motorsports competition at the Grand Prix. He competed in the Nissan Micra Cup in 2015 and this weekend he showed that he is still very talented, finishing both races 4th then 3rd in his category. "An experience to be repeated" confided Gagnon on Sunday. In a Nissan Sentra at the GP3R?



The Canadian GP coincided this year with Father's Day. In the Nissan Sentra Cup, several drivers travel with their families to events, but some of them have created father-son duos on the track: after the Barrettes and Chaputs, this season sees Alexandre Fortin being joined by his father Daniel with Sentra sponsored by Ste-Foy and Beauport Nissan. Daniel also came very close to a podium spot during the 1st race!



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INTERVIEW

Stefan Rzdzinski

Third in the 2015 championship standings in the Nissan Micra Cup, then fourth in 2016 and seventh (partial program of races) the following season, Stefan Rzdzinski was one of the best talents of the series from 2015 to 2017. Then, he explored other types of motorsport, including a participation at the prestigious Race of Champions, in Miami in 2017.

At the Formula 1 Grand Prix du Canada, Stefan Rzdzinski came back to a Canadian series, this time in the Nissan Sentra Cup when he took the wheel of the #69 Sentra entered by Groupe Touchette. And it was a winning comeback for the driver from Western Canada...



Stefan, you won in 2015 at the GP du Canada. You were back this past weekend, this time in the Nissan Sentra Cup. How was the experience?

I was of course very happy to be back at the circuit Gilles-Villeneuve and, in addition, winning in a Sentra is just incredible! I want to thank Motorsports In Action (MIA), which also builds Sentra racecars, to be able to take part in the event. They contacted me two weeks earlier, and I've immediately accepted. I've always had fun with this series, I didn't see why it would be different with the Sentra! I also know a lot of regular drivers in the series, some that I have competed with in the past and others that I have met in the past seasons when I was coaching. So, I was not out of place when I arrived at the track.



Did you have the opportunity to test the Sentra racecar before the Grand Prix?

Only for two very short test sessions, on Sunday June 12, at Circuit Mont-Tremblant.

What are your impressions of the Sentra racecar?

It is obviously more powerful than the Micra that I competed with between 2015 and 2017. The Sentra is more stable, has more grip. It's a very pleasant car to drive because even if it's almost stock, you can feel the same experience of a real racing car behind the wheel. And it's even more fun to drive it when all the cars in the series are identical. The whole thing provides a real challenge for the driver to perform.

After this 1st and 2nd place finish, will you be competing in other events this season?

I do not know yet. In theory, my season should have consisted of coaching other drivers only, in different series. We saw with the GP du Canada that everything can be decided at the last minute, so I'm still hoping for a good surprise! We'll see for the Circuit Mont-Tremblant or the Grand Prix de Trois-Rivières.



RESULTS AND STANDINGS

F1 Grand Prix du Canada - Event 2

QUALIFICATION RACE 1

1) Justin Arseneau	#36
2) Stefan Rzdzinski	#69
3) Alexandre Fortin	#32
4) Simon Charbonneau	#88
5) Kevin King	#1
6) Simon Dion-Viens	#8
7) Valérie Limoges	#220
8) Daniel Fortin	#95
9) Nicolas Barrette	#427
10) Sylvain Ouellet	#99
11) Éric Chaput	#116
12) Mathieu Miron	#191
13) Jean Audet	#22
14) Nicolas Touchette	#55
15) André Lapointe	#12
16) Samuel Rowe	#23
17) Benoît Gagnon	#20
18) François-Angers Routhier	#90
19) Martin Barrette	#875
20) Étienne Caron	#429
21) Charles-Étienne Boucher	#89
22) Marie-Soleil Labelle	#27
23) Raphaël St-Pierre	#419
24) Max Poirier	#425
25) Frédéric Chaput	#63
26) Normand Boyer (excluded)	#11
27) Luc Richard (excluded)	#26
28) Riccardo Révi (excluded)	#13

RESULTS RACE 1

1) Simon Charbonneau	6 laps
2) Stefan Rzdzinski	-1.017
3) Valérie Limoges	-1.760
4) Kevin King	-2.163
5) Daniel Fortin	-3.730
6) Mathieu Miron	-5.579
7) Simon Dion-Viens	-7.288
8) Alexandre Fortin	-10.746
9) Sylvain Ouellet	-11.052
10) Éric Chaput	-11.768
11) Frédéric Chaput	-12.539
12) Jean Audet	-14.390
13) André Lapointe	-14.978
14) Nicolas Touchette	-16.587
15) Samuel Rowe	-17.551
16) François-Angers Routhier	-18.028
17) Marie-Soleil Labelle	-19.449
18) Benoît Gagnon	-19.818
19) Luc Richard	-19.920
20) Raphaël St-Pierre	-22.525
21) Charles-Étienne Boucher	-22.645
22) Justin Arseneau	-23.896
23) Riccardo Révi	-25.277
24) Max Poirier	-25.549
25) Normand Boyer	-5 laps
26) Nicolas Barrette	Did not started
27) Martin Barrette	Did not started
28) Étienne Caron	Did not started

QUALIFICATION RACE 2

1) Justin Arseneau	
2) Stefan Rzdzinski	
3) Alexandre Fortin	
4) Simon Dion-Viens	
5) Simon Charbonneau	
6) Kevin King	
7) Nicolas Barrette	
8) Valérie Limoges	
9) Daniel Fortin	
10) Éric Chaput	
11) Sylvain Ouellet	
12) Mathieu Miron	
13) Jean Audet	
14) Nicolas Touchette	
15) André Lapointe	
16) Frédéric Chaput	
17) Samuel Rowe	
18) Benoît Gagnon	
19) François-Angers Routhier	
20) Étienne Caron	
21) Charles-André Boucher	
22) Marie-Soleil Labelle	
23) Raphaël St-Pierre	
24) Max Poirier	
25) Martin Barrette	
26) Normand Boyer (excluded)	
27) Luc Richard (excluded)	
28) Gilbert Christini (excluded)	

ICAR Racing Team
Groupe Touchette
Ste-Foy Nissan / Fix Auto
Véloce / Cliccredit.ca
Complexe Autoplus
LP Apparel / Groupe Gabriel
Boutiques Tite Frette
Groupe Gabriel / Total Quartz
Ste-Foy Nissan / Fix Auto
Groupe Gabriel / Mallette
Automobiles Sylvain Ouellet
191 Motorsport
Grand Times Hôtel / Posimage
Groupe Touchette
Canadian Tire
Groupe Gabriel / Mallette
ICAR Racing Team
Automobiles Sylvain Ouellet
ICAR Racing Team
Unicorn Motorsport
Charlo Motorsport / PB Soft
Musée Gilles-Villeneuve
Sensei Groupe-Conseil
Unicorn Motorsport
Barrette Racing
Blocs Normand
Richard Motorsport
Révi Motorsport

RESULTS RACE 2

1) Stefan Rzdzinski	7 laps
2) Kevin King	-0.948
3) Simon Charbonneau	-1.755
4) Valérie Limoges	-2.670
5) Éric Chaput	-3.892
6) Sylvain Ouellet	-5.081
7) Mathieu Miron	-6.248
8) André Lapointe	-7.164
9) Nicolas Touchette	-8.496
10) Frédéric Chaput	-9.226
11) Normand Boyer	-11.506
12) Jean Audet	-13.121
13) Samuel Rowe	-16.572
14) François-Angers Routhier	Penalty
15) Benoît Gagnon	-17.624
16) Marie-Soleil Labelle	-18.541
17) Martin Barrette	-19.332
18) Nicolas Barrette	-20.666
19) Luc Richard	-21.550
20) Charles-Étienne Boucher	-22.564
21) Raphaël St-Pierre	-23.469
22) Max Poirier	-24.589
23) Gilbert Christini	-26.141
24) Simon Dion-Viens	-3 laps
25) Étienne Caron	-3 laps
26) Alexandre Fortin	-6 laps
27) Justin Arseneau	-7 laps
28) Daniel Fortin	-7 laps



OVERALL STANDINGS

Position	#	Driver	Class	Races	Points
1.	88	Simon Charbonneau		4	161
2.	220	Valérie Limoges		4	156
3.	32	Alexandre Fortin		4	121
4.	36	Justin Arseneau		4	115
5.	99	Sylvain Ouellet	S	4	112
6.	11	Normand Boyer	S	4	102
7.	69	Stefan Rzadzinski		2	96
8.	95	Daniel Fortin	S	4	94
9.	191	Mathieu Miron		3	88
10.	116	Éric Chaput	S	4	86
10.	63	Frédéric Chaput		4	86
12.	1	Kevin King		2	84
13.	12	André Lapointe	S	4	81
13.	90	François Angers-Routhier	M	4	81
15.	22	Jean Audet	S	4	78
16.	27	Marie-Soleil Labelle	M	4	65
17.	8	Simon Dion-Viens		4	62
18.	419	Raphaël St-Pierre	M	4	59
19.	427	Nicolas Barrette		3	57
20.	425	Max Poirier	M+R	4	50
21.	55	Nicolas Touchette	S	2	41
22.	23	Samuel Rowe	M	2	38
23.	20	Benoît Gagnon	M+S	2	31
24.	191	Nicolas Miron		1	24
24.	26	Luc Richard	M+S	2	24
26.	89	Charles-Étienne Boucher	M+R	2	21
27.	875	Martin Barrette	M	1	14
28.	13	Riccardo Révi	M+S	1	8
28.	13	Gilbert Christini	M+S	1	8
30.	429	Étienne Caron	M+R	1	6

R = rookie driver; S = Senior class; M = Micra class - poleposition.ca Trophy.



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NEXT EVENT

The Nissan Sentra Cup will return to the ravishing track of Circuit Mont-Tremblant for its next event, which will be a two-day event, on Saturday July 23 and Sunday July 24. This 2022 Summer Classic will feature exclusively the Nissan Sentra Cup, with various activities on site for all of Nissan's fans.

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