

Motorsport News

International Edition – December 2020



Austria

Ready for a successful season

Sponsored by FUCHS Austria for more than 20 years, talented ice speedway rider Franky Zorn prepared for the 2021 FIM Ice Speedway Gladiators World Championship with great commitment. He built a new bike, trained in Sweden, and bet on his experience to win a lot of podiums. // Page 7.

Hungary

Congratulations!

After a victorious season in the individual national motocross championship, HTS Team's riders triumphed in the Magyarország Nyílt Nemzeti Motocross Csapatverseny (Hungarian National Motocross Team Race) and celebrated their eighth title in the tournament at Ajka Park. // Page 4.



France

Making of a champion

At the age of 13, Romain Boiron decided to follow in the footsteps of his grandfather and father and enter into car-rally racing. After two seasons in the PACAC Karting League Championship, the young driver is now ready to contest the South East Trophy with a powerful kart in 2021. // Page 2.



France

Three generations of car-racing passion

Romain Boiron started racing when he was 13 in the 2019 PACAC Karting League Championship. To achieve a good level of performance and progress rapidly, he benefited from the support of a sports coach and above all the wise advice of Patrick, his father, a former rallyman. "To improve my performance, I regularly train with my father on regional circuits. He guides me, advises me on the good trajectories, and supports me during competitions."

A FUCHS customer since 1988, Patrick Boiron is a mechanic based in the south of France. Passionate about motorsports, he himself started in regional car rallies with his father, Robert.

Romain inherited the family's passion for motorsports and mechanics. Even though he is an apprentice mechanic, it is always Patrick who prepares his kart and finds the perfect set-up for the chassis and engine.

For his first season in 2019, Romain secured a good 22nd place against 250 opponents. This year, having gained more experience, the young driver claimed fifth place in the championship. "I love the adrenaline rush that comes from competing, sharing intense moments with my father, dealing with the pressure, and having fun."

Romain has some good advice for young drivers who would like to join him on the circuits: "You just have to keep pushing, set achievable goals – at least initially, practice a lot, and live your passion."

Romain will start the 2021 season in a new category with a more powerful kart that can reach 130 km per hour.

FUCHS lubricant: Silkolene PRO KR2



France

SpeedCar Team on the GT4 final podium

Despite a chaotic year with many postponements, drivers Robert Consani and Benjamin Lariche of the SpeedCar Team had a successful season with victories and podiums. When they entered the Championnat de France FFSA GT4 (French National FFSA GT4 Championship) in the Silver Cup class with an Alpine A110 GT4, the duo knew that the fifth and final round would be decisive for the 2020 title.

This event took place on the Paul Ricard Circuit (France) in November with 32 cars. There was a lot of excitement in the pitlane, considering the fact that the titles were still open in three categories, including the Silver Cup, and that many drivers wanted to end the year in style. Many twists and turns punctuated this final and the opponents for the crown fought tooth and nail on this legendary circuit.

Against experienced riders, Consani and Lariche fought hard to the checkered flag. “Everything

was still possible for the title, although difficult, but we had a small chance and kept our hopes up until the finish line,” said Robert Consani. After incredible struggles, the duo won the first heat of the Silver Cup and third place in the second one. They got enough points to take third place on the podium of the French GT4 Championship ranking in their category. Note that the duo was only three points behind the vice-champions of France.

“It’s no coincidence, it’s thanks to everyone’s hard work that we’ve been able to fight with such consistency at the front for so many seasons. All we need now is the title as a reward for all the work done by our team over the years. Thanks to my teammate, Robert, for his consistency, fighting spirit, ability to question and listen, and for his professionalism, which has allowed him to keep progressing,” explained Benjamin Lariche.

FUCHS lubricant: TITAN RACE PRO S 10W-60



Hungary

Unbeatable

After a few weeks of interruption, the HTS Team's riders were enthusiastic to contest the Magyarország Nyílt Nemzeti Motocross Csapatverseny (Hungarian National Motocross Team Race), a tournament which took place at Ajka Park. The team was under great pressure to claim a new title and build on the collection of seven trophies its riders have won since 2012. Team Manager, Lajos Horváth, said: "Our goals were to succeed with first and second places in this tournament and collect our eighth title. Erik Hugyecz, Imre Varga, and Kristóf Jakob raced in Group A, while Técsi László Mark, Pergel Bence, and Sándor Wimmer competed in Group B."

Rain showers on the circuit during the week made for difficult racing conditions. Kristóf Jakob secured first place in Group A in the qualifying session, then Técsi László Mark claimed second place in Group B. In great shape, the HTS Team's riders proved their top performance and motivation during fantastic duals. At the end of the last round, they were victorious in Groups A and B. "We're delighted to be back home with an eighth title. Now we're going to train on the MX circuit in Piliscsév to be ready for the 2021 season. We hope to have a full season and race in international competitions."

With this eighth trophy, the team have rewritten the history of Hungarian motocross and officially become the most successful motocross club team in their country.

FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene PRO 4 10W-50 XP, Silkolene PRO PREP, Silkolene PRO CHAIN, Silkolene BRAKE & CHAIN CLEANER, Silkolene WASH OFF



Italy

A satisfying season for the GSM Racing Team

Venezuelan Jonathan Cecotto (20) and Californian Patrick Liddy (23) of the GSM Racing Team (Grillini Sport Management Racing Team) raced in the Lamborghini Huracán Super Trofeo of the GT World Challenge powered by AWS Endurance Cup. The last of the five rounds of the season was held at the Paul Ricard Circuit in the south of France over two 50-minute races.

After winning third places at the Misano World Circuit and at the Barcelona-Catalunya Circuit, as well as second place in Spa-Francorchamps, the team was determined to succeed with another podium class in the final round. As 32 points were up for grabs in the ultimate race, there were five teams competing for the title, including the GSM Racing Team with their provisional fifth place overall.

In race one, Jonathan Cecotto and Patrick Liddy gained fifth place. With the best lap time in race two, they were third across the finishing line and moved to fourth in the championship ranking.

Team Principal, Andrea Grillini, declared: "I'm satisfied with this result for our first season in such demanding races. We've always been competitive and raced in the top five. We've fought against teams that have been racing far longer than us in this championship. I thank the mechanics for their impressive work and my sponsors, who believed in this new adventure and have made it possible."

Calendar 2021: April 16-18 – Monza (Italy); May 28-30 – Paul Ricard (France); June 18-20 – Zandvoort Park Circuit (The Netherlands); July 29 and August 1 – Spa-Francorchamps (Belgium); September 3-5 – Nürburgring (Germany); October 28-29 – Misano World Circuit (Italy)

FUCHS lubricants: TITAN RACE PRO S 10W-60, TITAN SINTOPOID LS 75W-90, MAINTAIN DOT 4 HT, TITAN ATF 4000, MAINTAIN BRAKE CLEANER



Italy

A standing ovation for Nicolas Covatti

Nicolas Covatti of the Moto Club Olimpia was unbeatable in the Campionato Italiano Speedway (Italian Speedway Championship) in 2020. The Italian rider triumphed with six victories in the six rounds of the season, and in doing so celebrated the fifth title of his career. His teammate Paco Castagna won the silver medal, while opponent Nicolas Vicentin claimed bronze.

The last round of the season took place at the Terenzano Speedway. It seemed a good omen for Castagna after five good qualifying heats, winning once against the main contenders Vicentin and Covatti. These points in the provisional ranking allowed him to choose his starting line place in the final heat. Covatti, Vicentin, and Lenarduzzi completed the line-up, which was certainly the most competitive and hard-fought heat of the season.

Castagna took the lead at the green light, but Covatti chased and overtook him on the second straight. Full of hope, Vicentin also battled for first place. Covatti

won with a large lead, confirming once more that he is unbeatable.

The five-time Italian champion was radiant about his decision. "I chose the external line because I saw that it gave good results. The bike worked perfectly and I went out very fast to overtake Castagna."

Covatti is one step away from matching the six national titles of champion Mattia Carpanese, who is himself behind the unrivaled Armando Castagna with twelve titles. "I hope to be able to race for several more years and still carve out satisfaction and victories. I'm very happy with the life choice I made this season, giving up on foreign leagues and racing only at weekends. Now I'm starting to prepare for the winter season, hoping that we can compete without COVID-19 problems."

FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene CASTORENE R50S, Silkolene CHAIN LUBE, Silkolene ALL-IN-ONE, Silkolene CHAIN & BRAKE CLEANER, Silkolene PRO WASH, Silkolene FOAM FILTER OIL, Silkolene FOAM FILTER CLEANER



Austria

Franky Zorn bets on fully preparing for a successful season

Just after winning the Silver and Gold races of the Rupert Hollaus Gedächtnis-Rennen (Rupert Hollaus Memorial Race), Franky Zorn is already looking ahead to the new season. The two 2021 rounds of the Rupert Hollaus are scheduled for the Automotodrom Grobnik (Croatia) in May and the Red Bull Ring in Spielberg (Austria) in August. "The plan is to build a new, slightly stronger engine for next year."

At the moment, the Austrian rider is focusing on the ice speedway season. "I worked very hard on the bikes for racing in the FIM Ice Speedway Gladiators World Championship and the European Individual Ice Speedway Championship in 2021. I built and tested a new engine in our workshop."

His original plan was to attend a training camp after the final round of the European championship. Due to COVID-19, this championship was postponed, so the team decided to start his training in Strömsund (Sweden) at the beginning of December. "This decision gave us the opportunity to practice before the European championship," said Franky.

These ice races are extremely popular in Nordic countries and usually welcome around 7,000 spectators. Intrepid riders race at over 100 km per hour on the ice circuit and not only do they not slow down for corners, they simply have no brakes on their bikes! Each tire is equipped with 170 nails of 28 millimeters to grip on the ice.

Franky Zorn is the most successful Austrian ice speedway racer and has an impressive fan club, which follows him around the circuits. For 23 years, he has been winning a lot of titles in the European and world championships. He has represented Austria in the Ice Speedway Team World Championship and helped his nation to challenge Russia's domination of this sport. Zorn and his Austrian teammates have finished as runners-up in the Team World Championship on eight occasions.

Bike: motor Jawa, two valves, single cylinder, 55 cc, weight: 110 kg, steel framework, only two gears

FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene CASTORENE R 40 S, Silkolene ALL-IN-ONE, Silkolene PRO CHAIN, Silkolene PRO PREP



Great Britain

Suspense at Lydden Hill

December saw the resumption of the National Rallycross Championship at Lydden Hill with two rounds organized under strict sanitary rules. FUCHS Lubricants-backed Bellerby RX Team, comprising father Dave and daughter Paige Bellerby had to manage with a very muddy track. Sister Drew, expecting a baby, has stopped racing for the moment.

On day one, Paige got off to a slightly difficult start in her Lotus Exige, spinning off into the wall in qualifying two, but finally made the front row for the final and gained second place.

Dave last competed at this track five years ago and was new to the BMW Mini. He took a little while to familiarize himself with it in the practice heats but still managed front row for the final. Dave shot off the starting line to lead into the first corner, a position he held until the checkered flag.

On day two, Paige secured two firsts and a second place in the three heats, leading to pole in the final, and a handy lead into the first corner. Unfortunately, things took a bad turn and she had to drop out. "That was so disappointing after such good heats, but it looks like the gearbox has gone. But I still picked up

some championship points and I keep my championship lead in the Super National class."

Dave continued his learning curve and, after three uneventful heats, lined up on the front row of the grid again. This time though, Dave was chasing his main rival from lights to flag. Brake problems, which got worse over the course of the race, didn't seem to faze Dave – he was still glued to the rear bumper in front as the two cars crossed the line.

Team Manager Drew said: "That was a lot of hard work from everybody. We're pleased with one first and three second places. We're so grateful to FUCHS LUBRICANTS UK for their support, not just this year, which has been difficult for everyone, but throughout our careers in rallycross. Thanks to everyone at FUCHS for their help, we do appreciate it. Both race cars are liveried with heartfelt tributes to Sally Travis (FUCHS UK Marketing Manager) for her stalwart support."

FUCHS lubricants: TITAN RACE SYN 5, TITAN RACE PRO S 5W-40, TITAN RACE PRO S 5W-30



Great Britain

A podium for Brown

Nissan Micra Kit Car ace Steve Brown rounded out a quieter than normal season with third in class at the Dukeries Rally, which took place at Donington Park Race Circuit in December.

Acting as the opening round of the winter-based Motorsport News Circuit Rally Championship, a bumper entry saw a healthy battle for class 1 honors, with Brown and regular co-driver Paul Stringer overcoming several hurdles throughout the day to take the final class podium spot and 60th overall. Brown had elected to head to Donington in a bid to further reacclimatize himself with the machine after two years away from the driving seat of the Nissan.

Conditions were treacherous with temperatures failing to rise much above freezing. A misted windscreen prevented an early charge in the opening stage, leaving Steve fifth in class. The second stage was

as unlucky, a spin in the slippery conditions further hampering any progress up the leader board.

As Brown's confidence improved during the day, his fightback began, with only six special tests to improve his position. By the fifth test, Brown was third in class with a comfortable lead on fourth allowing him to overcome a damaged gearbox in the final stage. Limping across the finishing line, Brown had secured third place.

"It was a trying day, but I'm really pleased with the stages that we managed to do cleanly and it shows that the Micra certainly has potential for the future," remarked Brown.

**FUCHS lubricants: TITAN RACE PRO R 20W-50,
TITAN RACE SYN 5 75W-90**



Benelux

Honors for the Speed Lover Team

After a chaotic season disrupted by COVID-19, the final of the 24H SERIES, an international endurance series powered by Hankook, was held during the 12H Mugello at the Autodromo Nazionale del Mugello in Italy. Only 17 cars took part in this sixth edition, which was an inevitable consequence of the sanitary restrictions in a lot of countries.

Belgian Speed Lover Team, the structure of André Van Hoof sponsored by FUCHS Benelux, lined up a Porsche 991. Drivers Jürgen Van Hover, Olivier Dons, and Eric Mouez took part in the last two races of the season. In the first race, while fighting for fourth place, the Belgian team had some problems and dropped back to seventh position in the GT classification but maintained its leadership in the 991 class. They crossed the finishing line of race two in first position and, thanks to the two podiums won in the Mugello race, they were crowned 24H Series Europe champions in their class.

“After an eventful season, we were enthusiastic to race on the very impressive circuit of Mugello. The team passed the checkered flag after an adventurous and physically demanding race during the Hankook 12H Mugello. We were racing in fifth position just behind the FIA-GT3 cars, which are faster than us, until we got a problem with the fuel pressure. Because of that, we had to come into the pit to fill the car with petrol, so we lost a lot of time and some precious places in the overall classification. Nevertheless, I was happy that we won the European title in the Porsche Cup,” said Jürgen Van Hover.

A program of night rounds is announced for the 2021 motorsports season. The first race should take place during the Hankook 24H Dubai in January.

FUCHS lubricants: TITAN GT1 5W-40, TITAN SINTOPOID LS 75W-90, MAINTAIN BRAKE CLEANER