

# PRESS RELEASE

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## TIME FOR THE CLIO CUP SEASON FINALE!



**The Clio Cup Europe, Clio Cup Spain and Clio Cup Italia fields will come together one last time this year in Barcelona to wrap up an exceptionally intense campaign that has seen the discipline compete on 14 of Europe's most beautiful tracks. In a field of 50 cars, the various contenders will battle for the remaining crowns!**

After 13 meetings across Europe, the competitors will meet up this week at Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya for the season finale. At stake? The titles in Clio Cup Europe, Clio Cup Spain and Clio Cup Italia, not to mention numerous accessits in all categories!

### **Jurado versus the heavyweights in Clio Cup Europe**

Four drivers are still in the running for the European title. Among them, Anthony Jurado (Milan Compétition) heads to Barcelona with one hand on the crown, a brand new Clio Cup and the B.R.M. Chronographes worth €11,000 promised to the winner. Despite the possibility to seal the deal as soon as Saturday, the Montpellier native knows that he will have his work cut out for him against Nicolas Milan (Milan Compétition), David Pouget (GPA Racing) and Marc Guillot (Milan Compétition)... Three titans with an impressive total of 24 titles!

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media.renault@renault.fr  
media.renault.com



2022 Challengers Cup winner Jerzy Spinkiewicz (Uniq Racing) will look to take his first overall win. Nikola Miljkovic (Tempo Racing Team), Guillaume Maio (GM Sport) and Juuso Panttila (Chefo Sport) are preparing to fight for the places of honour while Cristian Ricciarini (Essecorse), Jacopo Giuseppe Cimenes (Essecorse), Nico Abella (Chefo Sport) and Lin Chen Han (Uniq Racing) want to finish their campaigns in style. Mathieu Lannepoudenx (Milan Compétition) also returns to the field for this last weekend of the year.

The Gentlemen Drivers Cup will be just as exciting, with Stephan Polderman (Chefo Sport), Quinto Stefana (Milan Compétition) and René Steenmetz (Chefo Sport) all covered in 22 points with 50 at stake this weekend. The Catalan races could therefore make all the difference in winning the title and the B.R.M. Chronographes desk clock, not to mention the potentially crucial role of their rivals Horn (GPA Racing), Michel Faye (GM Sport), Gabriel Alonso (GPA Racing) and Daniele Pasquali (Tuder Motorsport).

### **Clio Cup Spain set for a thriller**

On home soil, the Clio Cup Spain drivers will give it all they've got in this final confrontation. As in Europe, there are four drivers vying for the title and the three-handed B.R.M. Chronographes watch for the eventual winner: Nico Abella, Alex Royo (Team VRT), Jordi Palomeras (Team VRT) and Alex Lahoz (Cotauto Motorsport).

Nico Abella moved to the top of the classification in the previous round and wants to extend his winning streak to claim his maiden crown, but he cannot underestimate the experience of Alex Royo, who is looking for a second national title to pair with his 2017 crown. Meanwhile, Jordi Palomeras and Alex Lahoz are no longer masters of their fates, but they can still aspire to pull off an upset over the leader. They will also battle for the title and a B.R.M. Chronographes jewel in the Challengers Cup.

The show should also be on for the places of honour between the twins Alejandro and Adrian Schimpf (Cotauto Motorsport), Emre Can Ünal (Team VRT) and Lydia Sempere (Team VRT), all eager to excel in this last round of 2022. Frenchman Fabien Julia (LR Performance), who has already secured the Gentlemen Drivers Cup title, will look to continue his perfect record in the category, but Joaquin Rodrigo (Vearsa Sport) and Javier Cicuendez (Team VRT) hope to use their home track advantage to counter him.

### **Title duels in Clio Cup Italia**

With five wins each in the first ten races of the season, Gabriele Torelli (Faro Racing) and Felice Jelmini (PMA Motorsport) are separated by only 12 points heading to Barcelona season-ending weekend. Gabriele Torelli has the numerical advantage heading to this final duel, but his rival will rely on all his experience to go for his second crown after the one he won in 2019.

The battle at the sharp end promises to be most intense, with many places still up for grabs in a chase group led by Cristian Ricciarini and Giacomo Trebbi (MC Motortecnica), who will battle for third place in the general classification and the Challengers Cup title. Meanwhile, Gianalberto Coldani (MC Motortecnica), Jacopo Giuseppe Cimenes, Damiano Puccetti (PMA Motorsport) and Sandro Cutini (PMA Motorsport) will look to finish the season on a high note, heading to 2023.

Lastly, Quinto Stefana will focus on the quest for the Gentlemen Drivers Cup title on the European scene after securing the Italian crown, but Daniele Pasquali and Luciano Gioia (Essecorse) will try to make things difficult for him.



Several well-known contenders will be on the grid, such as Tomas Pekar (Carpek Service) in Clio Cup Europe and Sandro Soubek (Mair Racing Osttitol) in Clio Cup Italia. Other drivers will be ineligible for points, such as Benjamin Cauvas, Cédric Delcroix and Alexandre Finkelstein, all three entered by GPA Racing, and their countrymen Antoine Bordagaray (Team Borda Rally), Jérémy Bordagaray (Milan Compétition) and Julien Baziret (Vic'Team). Italians Luca Franca (MC Motortecnica) and journalists Dario Pennica and Ilaria Brugnotti will also be in action while Michele Locatelli (Faro Racing), Pietro Bacchi (PMA Motorsport) and Andrea Chierichetti (Oregon Team) will make their debut, bringing the total number of drivers to 109 for the season!

The 50-car field will be on track on Friday before the races - streamed live on the Renault Clio Series Facebook page and the Renault Clio Series YouTube channel - on Saturday at 2.55 pm and Sunday at 2.25 pm. Afterwards, the drivers and teams will be honoured at an awards ceremony in the Barcelona city centre.

## TIMETABLE

### Friday 11 November

9:00-9:30 am: Collective test 1

1:55-2:25 pm: Collective test 2

### Saturday 12 November

10:40-11:00 am: Qualifying 1

2:55-3:25 pm: Race 1 (25 minutes + 1 lap)

### Sunday 13 November

10:30-10:50 am: Qualifying 2

2:25-2:55: Race 2 (25 minutes + 1 lap)

## ABOUT THE CLIO CUP

Since the launch of the R8 Gordini Cup in 1966, Renault has maintained a continuous presence on circuits around the world. Several thousand Clio Cups have been sold since 1991, and all five generations have been recognised for their performance, reliability and affordability. With its experience in promotional formulas and one-make series, Renault provides its savoir-faire and expertise to professionals and amateurs by offering a modern product adapted to their needs. In 2022, the Clio Cup will be in action in the Clio Cup Europe but also in Clio Cup France, Clio Cup Spain, Clio Cup Italia and Clio Cup Eastern Europe, thanks to an innovative calendar opening up numerous opportunities for competitors from all backgrounds: experienced drivers, Challengers and Gentlemen Drivers!

## ABOUT RENAULT

Renault, a historic mobility brand and pioneer of electric vehicles in Europe, has always developed innovative vehicles. With the 'Renalution' strategic plan, Renault has embarked on an ambitious, value-generating transformation moving towards a more competitive, balanced and electrified range. Its ambition is to embody modernity and innovation in technology, energy and mobility services in the automotive industry and beyond.

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