

SEI WORLD RX OF
Hong Kong, China

10-12 NOVEMBER 2023 : CENTRAL HARBOURFRONT EVENT SPACE



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Johan Kristoffersson stands on the verge of a sixth career title after triumphing in four of the rounds to-date this year, as the Volkswagen Dealerteam BAUHAUS star continues to stake his claim to greatest-of-all-time status.

It will take quite something to stop the Swede from lifting the laurels in Hong Kong, but his rivals are similarly laser-focused on signing off the season on the top step of the podium. Timmy and Kevin Hansen, Niclas Grönholm and Timo Scheider all know what it takes to win in World RX, while the two fast females in the field - Klara Andersson and Mikaela Åhlin-Kottulinsky - are both more than capable of challenging for silverware, as we have seen in the past.

All the ingredients are in place for a truly show-stopping spectacle of awe-inspiring automotive action, and while you're here, don't miss out on your chance to meet the stars of the show at the daily autograph sessions, while enjoying the end-of-day concerts and additional on-site activities courtesy of our event and championship partners.

Then, once the weekend is done-and-dusted, make sure you continue to soak up every moment of the on-track thrills and off-track insights in 2024 and beyond via our pioneering broadcast platform, Rally.TV.

In the meantime, though, it's time to tighten your seatbelts. Hong Kong, Let's Race!

A very warm welcome to the Central Harbourfront circuit for World RX of Hong Kong, China.

I will begin by saying we are all hugely excited to be here in Hong Kong for the FIA World Rallycross Championship's debut in the Asia-Pacific region, and the first city centre event in the series' history. I can think of no more spectacular location to bring down the curtain on our 2023 campaign - at the end of which, a world champion will be crowned!

With everybody in equal equipment - making skill behind the wheel the key differentiator - the drivers are ready to put on an electrifying show, and the weekend's double-header format means competitors have twice the opportunity to score, raising the stakes and setting the scene for a double dose of exhilarating electric entertainment.

Arne Dirks

Managing Director
Rallycross Promoter GmbH



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High stakes in Hong Kong: Downtown debut for World RX season finale

The 2023 FIA World Rallycross Championship concludes with its inaugural city centre event in Hong Kong this weekend, as a feast of electrifying entertainment awaits fans on the series' maiden visit to the Asia-Pacific region.

Set against the spectacular backdrop of Hong Kong's famous skyline, in the Central Harbourfront Event Space next to the iconic Victoria Harbour, the all-new 1225-metre circuit - composed of both gravel and asphalt surfaces - will be sure to challenge drivers with its blend of flat-out straights, flowing corners, tight-and-twisty sections, crowd-pleasing jump and dramatic joker merge just before the finish line.

All ten competitors will be aiming to be first past the chequered flag, but ultimately, only one can be crowned - with Johan Kristoffersson firmly in pole position for glory. The Swede - already five times a world champion in the discipline - has won four times to-date this season and holds a commanding 36-point advantage over his nearest pursuer at the summit of the standings, with only 46 remaining in play during the course of the double-header weekend.

Kristoffersson does not need to win in Hong Kong to take the title, but with 54 prior victories to his name at the pinnacle of the sport, he is not accustomed to settling for second place.

While it would require a significant slice of misfortune to deny the Volkswagen DealerTeam BAUHAUS star the laurels, in rallycross, nothing can ever be ruled out - particularly given the intense, no-holds-barred nature of the racing and the high calibre of competition.

Kristoffersson's four closest rivals in the classification - Kevin Hansen, Timo Scheider, Niclas Grönholm and Timmy Hansen - have all previously ascended the top step of the podium in World RX, with ALL-INKL.COM Münnich Motorsport ace Scheider bringing the championship leader's winning run to an end courtesy of a stellar performance in Cape Town last time out.

Timmy Hansen - the elder of the Hansen siblings and world champion in 2019 - has been a thorn in Kristoffersson's side for many years, while younger brother Kevin finally halted his countryman's hitherto unbroken SuperPole run in South Africa. All of them will be keen to complete the campaign with a champagne celebration in Hong Kong.

Similarly capable of doing battle for silverware are fast females Klara Andersson and Mikaela Åhlin-Kottulinsky. The former made history last year as the first woman ever to reach the rostrum in top flight international rallycross and has continued to progress ever since. Compatriot Åhlin-Kottulinsky has been a leading contender in the supporting FIA RX2e Championship this season, finishing third overall and scooping the runner-up spoils behind guest entrant Kristoffersson in Belgium back in the summer.

It will be intriguing, meanwhile, to see how Patrick O'Donovan fares on his series debut with Hansen World RX Team. The highly-rated British teenager is both a national champion as well as an event-winner at RX2e and Euro RX level, and like Åhlin-Kottulinsky, has plenty of experience in the ZEROID X1 car that all drivers will pilot this weekend.

So here we go. Hong Kong, Let's Race!



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History - FIA World Rallycross Championship

Rallycross was invented by Robert Reed, the producer on ITV's World of Sport programme, when he created the format of a series of short, sharp and entertaining races tailor-made for television. The dual-surface discipline was duly born at Lydden Hill in the UK on 4 February, 1967, going on to quickly become a staple of Saturday afternoon sports broadcasts in the country. What's more, rallycross soon spread beyond British shores, with the first event on the European mainland taking place in the Netherlands in 1969, and Scandinavia following suit with its own maiden rallycross meeting in Sweden two years later.

The series has since branched out to include events in Spain, Latvia, South Africa, the United States and Abu Dhabi, while attracting some of the biggest stars in the sport, from Petter Solberg, Mattias Ekström, Johan Kristoffersson and Timmy Hansen - all of whom went on to win the championship - to Gymkhana hero Ken Block, 1997 Formula 1 World Champion Jacques Villeneuve, nine-time FIA World Rally Champion Sébastien Loeb and even multiple Olympic Games cycling gold medallist, Sir Chris Hoy.

In 2022, rallycross raced into a bright and exciting new era, as World RX went fully electric for the first time.

Rapidly growing in popularity across the continent, the new sport spawned a European Championship in 1973, with John Taylor prevailing in the inaugural season. The series was formally adopted by the FIA in 1976 when Franz Wurz - father of future Formula 1 driver, Alex Wurz - was crowned champion. The FIA European Rallycross Championship would remain the pinnacle of the discipline for the next three-and-a-half decades.

Between 1989 and 2008, Kenneth Hansen re-wrote history time and again with no fewer than 14 title triumphs - a record unlikely ever to be beaten. Six years later, the FIA granted World Championship status to the sport, making it at the time one of only four series to benefit from such an elite standing. Thus, World RX came into being.

The first World Championship event took place at Montalegre in Portugal in 2014, with World RX going on to visit the UK, Norway, Finland, Sweden, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Turkey and Argentina over the course of that maiden campaign.



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FIA 2023 FIA World RX of Hong Kong, China - FIA President welcome

It is my honour to extend a warm welcome to the 2023 FIA World RX of Hong Kong, China.

We are proud to bring the all-electric FIA World Rallycross Championship to the Asia-Pacific region for the first time, and into the beating heart of Hong Kong.

The event is a significant milestone in the continued development of motorsport in China. It is also an important step in the FIA's efforts to grow motorsport globally, and to increase participation in every corner of the globe.

The World RX of Hong Kong, China will showcase the advanced technologies and sustainability that electrification brings in the most spectacular way, as the event hosts the first FIA World Rallycross Championship rounds ever to be held in the centre of one of the world's greatest cities.

And as a fitting tribute to this historic event, the inaugural World RX of Hong Kong, China will crown the 2023 FIA World Rallycross champion.

I am delighted to confirm that Mr. Lung-Nien Lee, FIA Vice-President for Sport Asia-Pacific, will attend the event, along with our highly experienced team of FIA delegates to oversee the smooth running of the World RX of Hong Kong, China.

I would like to thank all those involved in the World RX of Hong Kong, China, drivers, teams, officials, organisers, volunteers, and the media, for their essential participation alongside us - and wish you all a safe and successful event.



Mohammed Ben Sulayem
President of the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile



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Hong Kong City Circuit Introduction

The layout has been revealed for the Central Harbourfront circuit in downtown Hong Kong that will stage the 2023 World RX season finale on 11-12 November.

World RX is heading to the Asia-Pacific region for the very first time, with the campaign set to conclude on a 1225-metre track next to the iconic Victoria Harbour in Hong Kong's Central Harbourfront Event Space, composed of alternating gravel (37%) and asphalt (63%) sections - the latter all closed public roads.

The cars will blast away from the start-line and hit the gravel on the dash to Turn One - a double 90-degree left-hander - which leads to a short, sharp sequence through Turns Two and Three. The unsealed surface then makes way for a long drag

down to Turn Four, a tight right-hand hairpin - as the asphalt part of the lap begins.

After exiting the hairpin, drivers will deploy all of the power available to them as they race down the longest straight on the circuit. Next to tackle are a pair of consecutive right-handers in Turns Five and Six - the latter overlooked by the Hong Kong Observation Wheel - before sliding back onto the gravel and leaping over the jump on the approach to Turn Seven.

Alternatively, they may elect to dive into the joker, which is 23m shorter than the standard lap but tighter, twistier and slower. The joker and main lap then merge right before the finish line - setting the scene for some spectacular battles around the first city centre circuit in the championship's history.

Race Schedule

FIA World Rallycross Championship, Rounds 9 & 10, World RX of Hong Kong, China, 10-12.11.23

Start	Category	What
Saturday 11.11.23		
08:10	Practice - All championships	
10:05	World RX	SuperPole
11:10	World RX	Heat One
followed by	Hong Kong RX	Heat One
12:40	World RX	Heat Two
13:00	Lunch break	
13:15	Autograph session	
14:00	World RX	Heat Three
followed by	Hong Kong RX	Heat Two
15:30	World RX	Semi-Finals
followed by	Hong Kong RX	Heat Three
16:25	Hong Kong	RX Final
followed by	World RX	Final
16:50	World RX	Podium

Sunday 12.11.23		
08:10	Warm-up & Practice - All championships	
09:45	World RX	SuperPole
11:10	World RX	Heat One
followed by	Hong Kong RX	Heat One
12:40	World RX	Heat Two
13:00	Lunch break	
13:15	Autograph session	
14:00	World RX	Heat Three
followed by	by Hong Kong	RX Heat Two
15:30	World RX	Semi-Finals
followed by	Hong Kong RX	Heat Three
16:25	Hong Kong RX	Final
followed by	World RX	Final
16:50	World RX	Podium

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Championship Points Table - 2023

POS	NO.	NAT.	DRIVER									Hong Kong, China	Hong Kong, China	POINTS
1	1		JOHAN KRISTOFFERSSON	23	23	23	-	-	-	23	15	-	-	107
2	71		KEVIN HANSEN	16	8	14	-	-	-	16	17	-	-	71
3	44		TIMO SCHEIDER	7	13	11	-	-	-	14	23	-	-	68
4	68		NICLAS GRÖNHOLM	15	18	9	-	-	-	11	10	-	-	63
5	21		TIMMY HANSEN	10	6	17	-	-	-	14	12	-	-	59
6	96		OLE CHRISTIAN VEIBY	12	10	13	-	-	-	10	9	-	-	54
7	12		KLARA ANDERSSON	11	12	7	-	-	-	9	11	-	-	50
8	9		SÉBASTIEN LOEB	10	11	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29
9	36		GUERLAIN CHICHERIT	8	9	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27
10	17		GUSTAV BERGSTRÖM	6	8	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
11	77		RENÉ MÜNNICH	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	8	-	-	16

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World RX of Hong Kong, China - Venue Introduction

World RX of Hong Kong, China is a captivating motorsport extravaganza that will leave spectators in awe. Held in the vibrant city of Hong Kong, this event draws top rallycross drivers from around the globe. The circuit's unique layout, amidst the city's skyscrapers and bustling streets, adds to the excitement, making it a truly one-of-a-kind experience. Competitors showcase their skills and bravery on a challenging track with a mix of surfaces, providing thrilling races, daring overtakes and spectacular jumps. World RX of Hong Kong, China is a highlight of the rallycross calendar, combining high-speed action with the allure of this cosmopolitan city.

B Baby Care 嬰兒護理間	C Entrance Gates 1 & 2 1號及2號閘入口	D Entrance Gate 3 3號閘入口	E Fan Zone 粉絲區	F First Aid 急救站
G Formula Square	H Exit 出口	J Grandstand 看台座位(不設劃位)	K General Admission 自由席企位	I Information 資訊中心
M Media Centre 媒體發佈中心	O NGO	P ProRacing	Q Stage / Podium 舞台 / 頒獎台	T Toilet 洗手間
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2023 FIA World Rallycross Championship Calendar



SAT 29 - SUN 30 APR 2023
Euro RX of Hungary
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SAT 3 - SUN 4 JUN 2023
World RX of Portugal
COMPLETED



SAT 17 - SUN 18 JUN 2023
World RX of Norway
COMPLETED



SAT 1 - SUN 2 JUL 2023
World RX of Sweden
COMPLETED



SAT 22 - SUN 23 JUL 2023
Cooper Tires World RX of United Kingdom
COMPLETED



SAT 5 - SUN 6 AUG 2023
World RX of Benelux, Mettet
COMPLETED



SAT 19 - SUN 20 AUG 2023
World RX of Germany, Estering
COMPLETED



SAT 7 - SAT 7 OCT 2023
World RX of South Africa, Cape Twon 1
COMPLETED



SUN 8 - SUN 8 OCT 2023
World RX of South Africa, Cape Twon 2
COMPLETED



SAT 11 - SAT 11 NOV 2023
World RX of Hong Kong, China 1



SUN 12 - SUN 12 NOV 2023
World RX of Hong Kong, China 2

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**Entry List, World RX of Hong Kong, China
(11-12.11.23)**

CAR	DRIVER	NAT.	TEAM
1	Johan Kristoffersson		Volkswagen Dealersteam BAUHAUS
7	Patrick O'Donovan		Hansen World RX Team
12	Klara Andersson		CE Dealer Team by Volvo Construction Equipment
19	Mikaela Åhlin-Kottulinsky		Volkswagen Dealersteam BAUHAUS
21	Timmy Hansen		Hansen World RX Team
44	Timo Scheider		ALL-INKL.COM Münnich Motorsport
68	Niclas Grönholm		CE Dealer Team by Volvo Construction Equipment
71	Kevin Hansen		Hansen World RX Team
77	René Münnich		ALL-INKL.COM Münnich Motorsport
96	Ole Christian Veiby		Volkswagen Dealersteam BAUHAUS



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JOHAN KRISTOFFERSSON

Nationality : **SWE**

Date of birth : **06 December, 1988**

Birthplace : **Arvika, Sweden**

Team : **Volkswagen Dealerteam BAUHAUS**

Car Number : **1**

The most successful rallycross racer of the current generation, Johan Kristoffersson is the son of former rallycross and touring car driver Tommy Kristoffersson.

In the early stages of his career, he contested the Junior Touring Car Championship for the family-run Kristoffersson Motorsport (KMS) outfit in 2008, winning two races on his way to fourth in the final reckoning, before spending the next two years competing in the Swedish Touring Car Championship.

The 2011 season yielded a brace of podium finishes and tenth position overall in the Scandinavian Touring Car Championship with Team Biogas.se, despite only entering just over half of the 18 races. A parallel campaign in the Porsche Carrera Cup Scandinavia saw Kristoffersson take the fight for glory right the way down to the wire.

2012 marked a breakthrough for the Swede, with title triumphs in the Italian-run Superstars Series, the Scandinavian Touring Car Championship and the Porsche Carrera Cup Scandinavia - and in 2013, he made his competitive debut in the FIA European Rallycross Championship on home soil at Höljes, reaching the semi-final stage behind the wheel of a KMS-run Volkswagen Scirocco.

Further European and World Championship outings followed in 2014 - including Euro RX victory at Franciacorta - before he truly turned up the wick in 2015 as he cemented his full-time switch to World RX. Piloting a Volkswagen Team Sweden VW Polo, he won the Montalegre curtain-raiser, with four additional rostrum results firing him to third in the Drivers' table.

A second career success came in France in 2016 as Kristoffersson improved to grab the runner-up spot in the standings behind countryman Mattias Ekström, setting him up for record-breaking back-to-back title charges in 2017 and 2018 with the rebranded PSRX Volkswagen Sweden team and a factory-developed Polo Supercar. From 24 starts over the course of the two seasons, he claimed 18 victories and only missed the podium on three occasions.

He did not return to defend his laurels in 2019, instead focussing on the FIA World Touring Car Cup, in which he took three wins en route to fifth in the points table for Sébastien Loeb Racing. That preceded a sensational World RX comeback in 2020 in a KMS-fielded Polo, with four victories from eight rounds and no finish lower than fourth securing Kristoffersson a third Drivers' trophy.

A move to KYB EKS JC in 2021 produced a fourth crown in five years, as the Arvika native rebounded from a luckless start to proceedings to ultimately get the verdict on countback - winding up tied on points with countryman Timmy Hansen at the conclusion of a dramatic Nürburgring decider. Kristoffersson then made history in 2022, dominating the first season of World RX's electric era for Volkswagen Dealerteam BAUHAUS, with eight triumphs from ten rounds catapulting him to a fifth career title.

Successful rallying exploits over the years have served to underscore the multiple champion's versatility, while he also signed up to the inaugural campaign of Extreme E with Rosberg X Racing, winning three events out of five in partnership with Molly Taylor to scoop the spoils.



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KEVIN HANSEN

Nationality : **SWE**
 Date of birth : **28 May, 1998**
 Birthplace : **Götene, Sweden**
 Team : **Hansen World RX Team**
 Car Number : **71**

2016 FIA European Rallycross Champion - and younger brother of 2019 FIA World Rallycross Champion, Timmy Hansen - Kevin Hansen began his career in karting in 2005 before claiming the ROK Junior World Championship title in 2010.

Running under the Hansen Junior Team banner, in 2012, Hansen won the JRX Junior Rallycross Cup - on the support bill to the FIA European Rallycross Championship - which he retained in 2013. Stepping up to RX Lites in 2014, he finished runner-up in his rookie campaign before going one better in 2015 to lift the trophy. Impressively, he reached the rostrum in each of his 11 outings in the single-make series.

Shortly after, the Swede made history as the youngest driver ever to compete in a World RX event when he debuted at the highest level in the season-closing World RX of Argentina aged 17 years and 6 months - progressing through to the final in the high-calibre, 19-strong field.

In 2016, he moved up to Supercar full-time to contest Euro RX, where four wins and a runner-up finish from five starts saw him crowned champion at the first time of asking. He dovetailed that successful title bid with a partial World RX challenge - and picked up the FIA 'Rookie of the Year' accolade at the end of the season.

The following year, Hansen took the next step in entering every round of the World Championship as a third entry for Team Peugeot-Hansen. Piloting a Peugeot 208, he secured eighth place in the standings in both 2017 and 2018, advancing to the final on eight occasions.

2019 marked his breakthrough campaign in World RX, winning the Abu Dhabi season-opener and tallying four further podiums en route to third in the title table, while playing a vital role in Team Hansen MJP's successful acquisition of the Teams' crown.

Two more rostrum appearances in 2020 propelled the younger Hansen to fifth in the Drivers' classification, while a second career triumph in the Catalunya curtain-raiser in 2021 - allied to six subsequent podiums - earned him fourth overall and the family-run outfit a second Teams' title in three years. He followed that up with a trio of runner-up results in 2022 - the inaugural campaign of World RX's electric era - but disqualification over a technical infringement in the Nürburgring finale cost him a top three championship finish.



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KLARA ANDERSSON

Nationality : SWE

Date of birth : 29 February, 2000

Birthplace : Löberöd, Sweden

Team : CE Dealer Team by Volvo Construction Equipment

Car Number : 12

The younger sister of FIA Euro RX TouringCar event-winner Magda Andersson, Klara Andersson began competing herself in karting at the age of seven, spending the next six years racing in her native Sweden as well as further afield.

Multiple regional championship titles ensued, but it wasn't until 2018 that Andersson followed in her sister's wheeltracks by turning her attentions to rallycross. After scooping the runner-up spoils in the Swedish Junior Rallycross Championship in 2020, the FIA Rally Star ambassador impressively clinched the overall crown a year later behind the wheel of a BMW 120 before making her FIA RX2e Championship bow at Spa-Francorchamps.

Belying her rookie status in the single-make series, the Sweden Junior National Team member finished an impressive fourth first time out, missing the podium by barely a second after getting the better of champion-elect Guillaume De Ridder in an enthralling Q2 duel. She returned for the season finale, prior to stepping up to the World Championship - as the first permanent female competitor in World RX history - with Construction Equipment Dealer Team in 2022.

After advancing to the final and out-pointing experienced, race-winning team-mate Niclas Grönholm on her debut in Hell, Andersson made history again when she reached the rostrum at Montalegre and then came within an ace of pipping multiple world champion Johan Kristoffersson to the top spot in the pair's progression race at the Nürburgring. She was retained by the team for a second consecutive campaign at the highest level in 2023.



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MIKAELA ÅHLIN-KOTTULINSKY

Nationality : **SWE**
 Date of birth : **13 November, 1992**
 Birthplace : **Karlstad, Sweden**
 Team : **Volkswagen Dealersteam BAUHAUS**
 Car Number : **19**

From a racing family – her grandfather won the 1980 Paris-Dakar Rally and her father, mother and brother have all competed in the FIA European Rally Championship – Mikaela Åhlin-Kottulinsky has similarly forged a highly successful career in the sport.

After beginning racing in go-karts at the age of 12, Åhlin-Kottulinsky stepped up into cars in 2011, finishing second in an FIA Women in Motorsport shoot-out, which earned her the opportunity to contest the Volkswagen Scirocco R Cup the following season. In 2014, she became the first woman to win a race in a Volkswagen-supported series before joining the Audi Sport TT Cup, claiming a best result of third place at Germany's Norisring.

The Swede's next move was into ADAC GT Masters, prior to embarking upon a five-year stint in the TCR Scandinavia Touring Car Championship with PWR Racing. In another milestone, she became the first female racing driver to achieve a pole position and race win in the series, finishing runner-up in the overall standings in her final campaign as she reached the rostrum more often than not.

Åhlin-Kottulinsky has similarly been a leading contender in Extreme E, placing fourth in the inaugural season in 2021 – tallying a quartet of podium finishes for Jenson Button's JBXE outfit alongside World RX event-winner Kevin Hansen – before improving to second in 2022, as she and multiple FIA World Rallycross Champion Johan Kristoffersson sped to two victories from five starts for Rosberg X Racing.

Having made a brace of appearances in RX Lites in 2014 – taking the chequered flag fifth on home soil at Höljes – the Karlstad native returned to the World RX paddock in the FIA RX2e Championship in 2023, racing to the rostrum first time out in Hell with Team E. She went one better in finishing runner-up to Kristoffersson at Mettet on her way to securing an excellent third position in the title table.

She joins the top category for the first time this weekend.



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NICLAS GRÖNHOLM

Nationality : FIN

Date of birth : 29 May, 1996

Birthplace : Kauniainen, Finland

Team : CE Dealer Team by Volvo Construction Equipment

Car Number : 68

The son of two-time FIA World Rally Champion Marcus Grönholm, Niclas Grönholm enjoyed a rapid rise up the ranks in rallycross.

In 2014, he finished third in the autocross class of the Finnish Rallycross Championship, reaching the rostrum during a one-off outing in the World Championship-supporting RX Lites category on home soil at Kouvola along the way. A year later, he piloted an Olsbergs MSE-run Ford Fiesta Supercar to the Finnish title, while making his World RX bow that same summer at Höljes in Sweden.

After contesting the off-season RallyX on Ice series at the beginning of 2016, Grönholm committed full-time to World RX, completing his maiden full campaign in the championship with OMSE before switching to the family-run GRX outfit in 2017, securing his first final appearance with fifth position in Germany.

2018 marked a significant step forward for the Finn, with four visits to the final behind the wheel of the new Hyundai i20 yielding seventh place in the overall classification - comfortably the top independent entry.

That paved the way for a full-on title tilt the next season, when a brace of triumphs and two further podiums saw Grönholm wind up just 25 points shy of the Drivers' crown, despite missing two rounds due to appendicitis. His points-per-event tally was the highest in the field.

Another race win in 2020 cemented fourth spot in the standings for the second consecutive campaign, while 2021 would prove to be the Kauniainen native's most successful to-date, as he matched eventual champion Johan Kristoffersson for victories en route to third in the title table. Grönholm replicated that result the following season - the first of World RX's electric era - courtesy of a seventh career triumph and three additional rostrum finishes as Construction Equipment Dealer Team made its series debut.



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OLE CHRISTIAN VEIBY

Nationality : NOR
 Date of birth : 17 June, 1996
 Birthplace : Kongsvinger, Norway
 Team : Volkswagen Dealerteam BAUHAUS
 Car Number : 96

Ole Christian Veiby is a name well-known in both rallycross and rallying circles, having achieved considerable success in both disciplines.

After finishing seventh in the Porsche Carrera Cup Scandinavia at the age of just 16 in 2013, Veiby turned his attentions to rallycross, making four World Championship appearances in 2014 and 2015 in a Kristoffersson Motorsport-prepared Volkswagen Polo and twice advancing to the semi-final stage.

The Norwegian simultaneously excelled in European competition, triumphing in Barcelona in his sophomore season in the headlining Supercar (now Euro RX1) class and additionally ascending the podium at Mettet and Franciacorta on his way to third in the title table.

Veiby subsequently switched to rallying, making sporadic appearances in the FIA World Rally Championship and placing inside the top ten on multiple occasions. In parallel with that, he has showcased his talents via a brace of victories and multiple rostrum results in the supporting WRC2 category, where he has been a consistent front-runner, securing a career-high fourth in the standings in 2020 behind the wheel of a Hyundai Motorsport-run i20.

The Kongsvinger native returned to rallycross with JC Raceteknik's Audi S1 in RallyX Nordic in 2022, prior to rejoining the Euro RX fray for Höljes' famous 'Magic Weekend' in the same car. Barely a month later, he announced a full-time World RX comeback as team-mate to Johan Kristoffersson at Volkswagen Dealerteam BAUHAUS for the beginning of the sport's electric era - going on to tally five podium finishes en route to fourth in the overall classification.



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PATRICK O'DONOVAN

Nationality : GBR
 Date of birth : 13 April, 2004
 Birthplace : London, England
 Team : Hansen World RX Team
 Car Number : 7

Patrick O'Donovan made his rallycross debut in 2018 - aged just 14 - racing a 1300cc Suzuki Swift in the Motorsport UK Junior Rallycross Championship. In only his second season in the category, he was a title contender in 2019 and went on to finish runner-up in the standings.

Midway through 2020, O'Donovan graduated to the single-make RX150 Rallycross Championship for buggies within the British Rallycross Championship 5 Nations Trophy. He clinched the crown the following year while dovetailing his efforts with a full-season assault on the inaugural FIA RX2e Championship, placing fourth overall and reaching the rostrum at Höljes along the way.

His success earned him recognition as Motorsport UK's Young Driver of the Year, and he subsequently stunned observers by scooping the runner-up spoils in his very first Supercar outing at Lydden Hill. He joined the Euro RX1 field for the 2022 curtain-raiser in Hungary, behind the wheel of the same Ford Fiesta that his father - former British Rallycross Champion and Euro RX Supercar podium-finisher, Ollie O'Donovan - raced to third place in Catalunya in 2017.

That same season, O'Donovan won twice in RX2e on his way to fourth in the title chase, often proving to be eventual champion Viktor Vranckx's closest rival. He simultaneously lifted the British Championship laurels in the headlining Supercar class, before throwing his hat into the ring for a full campaign of Euro RX1 competition in 2023 in an ex-Hansen Motorsport Peugeot 208 WRX.

He makes his World RX bow this weekend.



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RENÉ MÜNNICH

Nationality : DEU
 Date of birth : 06 May, 1977
 Birthplace : Löbau, Germany
 Team : ALL-INKL.COM Münnich Motorsport
 Car Number : 77

A team owner, successful entrepreneur and experienced driver, René Münnich began his rallycross career in the FIA European Rallycross Championship in 2007, finishing fourth on his debut in Division 1A (now Euro RX3) in Hungary in a Münnich Motorsport Volkswagen Polo. He switched to Škoda machinery for the next four seasons after stepping up to Division 1 (now Euro RX1).

Two years in the Super1600 category followed - yielding tenth in the points table on both occasions - with subsequent outings in Euro RX's headlining class resulting in multiple podiums and final appearances. A high of fifth position in the overall standings in 2019 preceded a breakthrough victory at Lohéac in 2021.

Münnich has simultaneously been a regular in World RX since 2014, predominantly behind the wheel of a SEAT Ibiza and contesting full seasons in 2016 and 2022. He progressed through to the final for the first time in the 2021 curtain-raiser in Catalunya, finishing fifth.

Away from rallycross, the German contested the FIA World Touring Car Championship until 2016, while his ALL-INKL.COM Münnich Motorsport team won the 2012 FIA GT1 World Championship. Münnich himself reached the rostrum in the TCR International Series with WestCoast Racing in 2015 and took a clean sweep of sprint race victories in the 2019 TCR Middle East Series to clinch the Drivers' crown.



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TIMMY HANSEN

Nationality : SWE
 Date of birth : 21 May, 1992
 Birthplace : Lidköping, Sweden
 Team : Hansen World RX Team
 Car Number : 21

The eldest son of Kenneth Hansen - the most successful rallycross driver in history, with 14 European Championship titles to his name - Timmy Hansen has gone on to establish himself as a master of the discipline in his own right, clinching the coveted World Championship Drivers' crown in dramatic fashion in the 2019 season finale in South Africa.

Notwithstanding his roots, Hansen began his motorsport career in karting and single-seaters before focussing on rallycross, reaching the final on his international debut in the discipline, in the Finnish round of the FIA European Rallycross Championship at Kouvola in 2012.

After placing third overall in his maiden full campaign of Euro RX in 2013, he stepped up to the FIA World Rallycross Championship at the wheel of a Peugeot 208 WRX the following season and scored his and the car's maiden success at World RX of Italy, with three further podium finishes propelling him to fourth in the title table.

A successful 2015 campaign yielded three more wins (Norway, France, Turkey) and the runner-up spot in the standings behind Petter Solberg, before Hansen was joined at Team Peugeot-Hansen by nine-time FIA World Rally Champion Sébastien Loeb in 2016. The Swede won World RX of Canada that year and reached the podium in half of the events he contested, bolstering his tally with an additional four rostrum appearances in 2017.

Peugeot took its World RX effort in-house in 2018, utilising resources from the firm's winning Dakar Rally programme. Hansen again partnered Loeb, now under the Team Peugeot Total banner, and picked up two podiums on his way to sixth in the championship.

His 2019 season was his most accomplished to-date, recording four victories from ten starts to secure both the Drivers' laurels as well as the Teams' trophy for Team Hansen MJP alongside younger brother and team-mate, Kevin. The 2020 campaign delivered another four rostrum results - including a win in Barcelona - en route to third in the classification, while in 2021, despite leading the way right up to the Nürburging finale, Hansen was ultimately forced to give best to countryman Johan Kristoffersson in a dead-heat duel for the crown.

The pair reprised their battle the following season - the first of World RX's electric era - and although unable to stop his compatriot's march towards a fifth world championship title, the Lidköping native once more proved to be Kristoffersson's closest challenger, triumphing in Catalunya and spraying podium champagne on five further occasions.



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TIMO SCHEIDER

Nationality : DEU
 Date of birth : 10 November, 1978
 Birthplace : Lahnstein, Germany
 Team : ALL-INKL.COM Münnich Motorsport
 Car Number : 44

Timo Scheider began his motorsport career in karting, before graduating to single-seaters in Formula Renault. In 1997, he moved up again to Formula 3 level, finishing runner-up in his rookie campaign in the domestic series to future Formula 1 star, Nick Heidfeld.

In 2000, Scheider joined the DTM touring car championship, contesting five seasons in Opel machinery before taking a year out, during which he raced to second overall in the FIA GT Championship for Vitaphone Racing Team - winning the Spa 24 Hours along the way - and was selected to represent his nation in the inaugural A1 Grand Prix campaign, reaching the rostrum in the final race.

In 2006, he returned to the DTM, registering his first podium finish the following year and claiming back-to-back championships with factory Audi outfit Abt Sportsline in 2008 and 2009 - in so doing, becoming only the second driver in the series ever to successfully defend the title. Scheider continued in the DTM until the end of 2016, winning one more race in his penultimate season.

Showcasing his versatility, the German has also won the Nürburgring 24 Hours, while he finished third in the GT2 class of the Le Mans 24 Hours in 2010 and contested the 2018 World Touring Car Cup in an ALL-INKL.COM Münnich Motorsport Honda Civic Type R, achieving a podium finish in Macau.

He debuted in World RX with the same team in 2015. After making sporadic appearances that year and the next, he entered all bar one round of the 2017 campaign for MJP Racing Team Austria, racing to the runner-up spoils in the Barcelona curtain-raiser. Four further outings followed in 2018 - back behind the wheel of Münnich's SEAT Ibiza - which would be a precursor to his first full season in the series in 2019, progressing through to the final on three occasions en route to ninth in the Drivers' standings.

Remaining with the team in 2020, Scheider improved a spot to eighth overall, adding another podium to his tally in the opening round at Höljes. He replicated that championship finish in 2021, despite only contesting five of the nine rounds, advancing to the final twice. After sitting out the 2022 campaign, the Lahnstein native returned to the fray for the second season of World RX's electric era in 2023, once more with ALL-INKL.COM Münnich Motorsport.



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World RX Glossary

Alternating Current (AC)

An electric current that reverses its direction many times a second at regular intervals.

Battery

A device that creates electrical energy from stored chemical energy.

BMS

Battery Management System, which monitors and controls charging and discharging of the battery.

Cooper Tires

Single supplier of tyres for all categories. Drivers can use up to eight new tyres per event.

Direct Current (DC)

An electric current flowing in one direction only.

Double Joker

Penalty imposed for making a false start, where the guilty driver must pass through the Joker Lap twice in that race.

FIA

Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile - the governing body of world motorsport.

G-Force

Where 'g' refers to the 'weight' created by gravity. So 2.5g experienced under acceleration, deceleration or cornering force etc. refers to 2.5 times 'normal' weight.

Gravel/Asphalt

Generalised terms for the mixed surfaces of a rallycross circuit.

HANS

Device acronym for Head and Neck Support, a specific form of Frontal Head Restraint (FHR) which is compulsory for all drivers to wear during races.

Inverter

The device that converts DC from the battery to AC used by the electric motor.

Joker Lap

Longer section of the circuit, which all participants have to take once during each race.

Jump/False Start

Caused by a driver starting before the green light is shown. Controlled by an automated system that monitors every car on the grid. The race is then re-started and the driver in question must take the Joker Lap twice.

Kerbs

Raised and painted track-edge markers placed on corners and chicanes.

Kilowatt (kW)

A measure of one thousand watts of electrical power (power = the rate at which energy is transferred).

Kilowatt Hour (kWh)

A measurement of energy (energy = the rate at which power is made or consumed). 1kWh is 1kW of power supplied for one hour.

Official Practice

Track session before the Heats in each event, offering drivers the opportunity to learn the circuit and prepare for the races. Restricted to a maximum of eight laps per driver.

Paddock

The area where teams set up their awnings/pit garages and hospitality units, and where cars are worked on between races.

Parc Fermé

'Closed Park' where cars can be isolated after a race for controlled checks by Scrutineers.

Pre-Grid

Area behind the start-line where cars line up before each race.

Ranking

Classification after all four rounds of Heat races, which determines the starting order of drivers in the Semi-Finals and is used to settle any subsequent tie-breaks.

Ready to Race

Board or sign notifying drivers on the start-line that the start of the race is imminent.

RESS

Rechargeable Energy Storage System (a battery).

Scrutineering

Pre- and post-event technical and safety checks of cars to ensure their compliance with the regulations. Carried out by Scrutineers.

Sealed/Unsealed

Various surfaces of the circuit, sealed typically being asphalt and unsealed being gravel.

SOC

State of Charge - equivalent of fuel gauge for a battery. Measured in % where 0% is empty and 100% is full.

Spotter

Member of the race team informing his or her driver on position and timing, and advising on Joker Lap strategy via radio communication.

Suspension

The combination of springs, dampers and fixing links that connect the wheels to the car and by which wheel movement is controlled.

SuperPole

A single-lap shootout from a standing start for World RX drivers, used to determine grid positions for Heat One.

Top Qualifier/TQ

First-placed driver in the Ranking at the end of the Heats. Starts on pole position in Semi-Final 1.

Torque

The rotational force of an engine or motor. Most usually measured in Newton-metres (Nm).

Watt (W)

The international unit of power.





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