



**FR** FIA  
WORLD CUP



MACAU 2024

**33**

71



澳門格蘭披治大賽車  
GRANDE PREMIO DE MACAU  
GRAND PRIX MACAU

LUBRICANTS  
TECHNOLOGY  
PEOPLE



**FR WORLD CUP**

**THE START OF  
A NEW ERA**





Raffaele Marciello



Daniel Juncadella

# FIA GT WORLD CUP

## SAME NAMES, DIFFERENT MACHINES

RENATO MARQUES

**N**OW in its seventh year, the FIA GT World Cup for GT3 specification cars race has received deserved attention.

The race's main attraction is not in the names of those involved, nor in the car manufacturers that are joining the field as they mostly repeat themselves from previous editions but in the fact that most of the former winners are returning to Macau in different cars.

At the top of the list is the return of last year's winner, Raffaele Marciello, who will defend his title obtained with Mercedes-AMG at the wheel of perhaps Mercedes' major competitor - BMW.

Marciello will take a seat at Toro Racing's BMW M4 GT3, a similar car that will also see another former GT World Cup winner take on Guia Circuit this year, Augusto Farfus, although Farfus will be racing with Team KRC.

Also returning to the Guia circuit and also in a different car is "Mr Macau" Edoardo Mortara, who, once again, changes manufacturer for the GT World Cup event.

After winning in 2017 in Mercedes-AMG and also achieving a third-place finish in 2018 in the same car, Mortara returned to his origins in 2022 with second place overall in an Audi R8 LMS EVO 2, a position he repeated last year in the same car.

This time, he will be at the wheel of a Lamborghini Huracan GT3 Evo 2s from SJM VSR Theodore Racing team, a car that is yet to prove its worth at the Guia Circuit.

Other previous winners are returning this year eager for more laurels, such as Maro Engel and Laurens Vanthoor.

Also present at the GT World Cup will be several drivers who have achieved good results in Macau in other racing categories, such as the F3.

Examples are Daniel Juncadella and Antonio Fuoco.

Joining these are others such as Chinese GT star Leo Ye, who won the Macau GT Cup race in 2020, and Ferrari Factory Driver Ye Yifei.

The competition was also mentioned by FIA's president Mohammed Ben Sulayem, who, in a video message to local organizers, noted the competition continues to grow and has an "even stronger lineup" this year.



## TECHNOLOGY: FIA GT World Cup field to use 100% sustainable fuel

**T**HE FIA GT World Cup grid will be 100% powered by sustainable fuel for the first time during this year's seventh World Cup, the FIA has announced.

The measure is in line with the FIA GT Commission-developed fuel roadmap, which, through partnerships with ETS Racing Fuels, the FIA GT World Cup competitors had

already run last year on 50% sustainable fuel.

This year, the FIA's most prestigious GT3 competition has reached another milestone for environmental goals.

All 23 cars from six manufacturers will use 100% sustainable fuel for the first time from the Renewablaze line by ETS Racing Fuels.

The 50% sustainable drop-in solution was

adopted in 2023 as the first step of the transition towards sustainable power sources, allowing manufacturers to adjust for the seamless implementation of the fuel in a short timeframe.

This year's fuel is made from second-generation bio-components sourced from bio-waste.

It requires only minor engine mapping

adjustments and has been thoroughly tested by all manufacturers in preparation for this year's FIA GT World Cup.

Earlier this year, ETS Racing Fuels was awarded the FIA Three-Star Environmental Accreditation, the highest level of environmental sustainability recognition from the governing body of world motorsport. **RM**



# FIA FR World Cup

## A new path to continue the legacy

RENATO MARQUES

**D**EBUTING in Macau this year, the Formula Regional (FR) will now be the top race of the local Grand Prix.

Initial skepticism about the change from the F3 International cars, which raced in Macau only in 2019 and 2023, to the FR cars was based on the FRs' being considered more "junior."

However, Macau and the Guia Circuit have always been the launchpad for previously unknown names in junior motorsport.

This was highlighted in a video message from FIA president Mohammed Ben Sulayem, sent to Macau ahead of the debut of the race.

"This race has been a highlight for young drivers for a very long time," he said.

"The cars will be different, but it will keep its spirit on bringing top teams and drivers together" to potentially join "the ranks of legends like Ayrton Senna or Michael Schumacher."

Proving to be deserving of such an honor will be a group of 27 young racers, representing 15 different countries and regions and all five FIA (F3) Regional championships.

Although young and mostly unknown, some of these names are not a secret to those who follow motorsports closely.

Some of the drivers have ra-

ced in Macau before, and have gained experience that might put them a few steps ahead of their competitors.

Among those names to watch is Ferrari Driver Academy racer Dino Beganovic.

He is a former Formula Regional European Champion (FRECA) and will be driving under the banner of SJM Theodore PREMA Racing, alongside Freddie Slater and Alexander Dunne.

Both Beganovic and Dunne return to Macau, having raced in last year's F3 World Cup.

Beganovic wants to top his best result of last year when he finished the Qualifying Race in the fourth position, while Dunne wants to finally rise to the top spot of the podium after being seconded by Luke Browning last year.

Slater raced in Macau last year but that was during the first weekend of the celebratory 70th anniversary GP in the F4 race.

Although finishing ninth in the final race, Slater showed great talent, topping the time sheets in both the Qualifying and Qualifying Race just behind race winner Arvid Lindblad.

Other names to look out for include Oliver Goethe (part of the Red Bull Junior Team program), Tuukka Taponen (Ferrari Driver Academy), and Ugo Ugochukwu (McLaren Driver Development Program).

Local racer Tiago Rodrigues

will join the race, and this year will be the sole Macau representative in the races of the main program.

Rodrigues will be racing with Evans GP and teaming up with F4 Indian Champion Cooper Webster and Kai Daryanani.

Former racer and current FIA Single-Seater Committee president, Emanuele Pirro, said, "I am really happy to see so many of the most talented junior drivers and teams committed to the FIA FR World Cup."

"This event has always been one of the toughest and most rewarding challenges on the pathway for young drivers as they progress towards the goal of Formula 1 and our other FIA World Championships," he said.

"To have so many different former champions of F4 and Formula Regional coming to Macau really brings the spirit of this historic race."

"I will be watching the weekend very closely, with a bit of nostalgia, and I am sure the same is true for all the Formula 1 teams."

FR World Cup cars will go out on track for the first time today at 9:15 a.m. for the Free Practice 1 session, which will last for 40 minutes.

FR cars will return to the Guia Circuit later in the afternoon at 3:25 p.m. for the Qualifying 1 session.





**RENATO MARQUES**

**N**OW in its 56th edition, the Macau Motorcycle Grand Prix has seen a decline in competitiveness over the past few years, with a noticeable gap forming between the top two or three riders and the rest of the field. This year, with most of the favorites competing under the FHO Racing team banner, it seems likely that we'll witness some "friendly fire" as teammates battle it out for supremacy.

At the top is Peter Hickman, the reigning champion of the local GP, who will be aiming for his fifth victory after winning last year's event. If he clinches the win again this year, Hickman will become the third most successful rider in Macau GP history, following Michael Rutter (nine wins) and Ron Haslam (six wins).

Hickman's teammate at FHO Racing is none other than the record-holder, Rutter. With nine victories between 1998 and 2019, Rutter brings a wealth of experience to the team and will be looking to leverage that to his advantage. While Hickman's younger age and better preparation from higher-level competition may give him an edge, Rutter will no doubt be targeting a podium finish.

Last year, Rutter didn't finish the race due to a mechanical failure after posting the fifth-fastest time in qualifying. This year, he'll be determined to put

RENATO MARQUES



# MOTORCYCLE GP 'FRIENDLY FIRE' AT FHO

that disappointment behind him and deliver a result that reflects his true capabilities.

Davey Todd, who finished second last year, also showed great potential, and with FHO Racing this time around, he is one of the riders most likely to challenge Hickman's dominance.

With Mario Datzer, who finished third last year and second in 2022, absent from this

year's race, the field seems to be wide open for FHO Racing's riders to assert their control. Joining them this year is Craig Neve, another FHO Racing rider. Neve, who was a regular competitor in the British Supersport Championship, significantly raised his profile last year by joining Rutter at Bathams Racing for the Isle of Man TT. There, he finished five out of six races inside the top

15, including an impressive eighth-place finish in the second Monster Energy Supersport TT race.

All four FHO Racing riders will also be competing on BMW M1000RR bikes. This same bike will also be ridden by 2022 winner Erno Kostamo, who suffered a DNF last year after starting from third due to a mechanical issue. Kostamo seems to be the only non-FHO Racing rider ca-

pable of challenging for a podium finish and breaking the team's potential dominance.

Other riders to watch include Rob Hodson, who finished fifth last year and will be racing an SMT Honda CBR1000RR-R this time, and Paul Jordan, who finished seventh in 2023. Jordan, also racing a CBR1000RR-R, enjoyed a strong performance in this year's North West 200 and Isle of Man TT events.

Among the newcomers to this year's race are Marcus Simpson and Ryan Whitehall, both of whom will be taking on the Guia Circuit for the first time after competing in the North West 200 and TT races.

**SCHEDULE**

**November 14 (Thursday)**

- 07:45 - 08:30 Macau Motorcycle Grand Prix - Free Practice
- 09:15 - 09:55 FIA FR World Cup - Free Practice 1
- 10:15 - 10:45 FIA TCR World Tour Event of Macau - Free Practice 1
- 11:05 - 11:35 FIA GT World Cup - Free Practice 1
- 12:15 - 12:45 GBA GT Cup (GT 4) - Free Practice
- 13:00 - 13:30 Roadsport Challenge- Free Practice
- 13:45 - 14:15 FIA TCR World Tour Event of Macau - Free Practice 2
- 14:35 - 15:05 FIA GT World Cup - Free Practice 2
- 15:25 - 16:05 FIA FR World Cup - Qualifying 1
- 16:25 - 16:55 Roadsport - Macao SAR Cup - Free Practice

**November 15 (Friday)**

- 07:45 - 08:30 Macau Motorcycle Grand Prix - Qualifying 1
- 09:20 - 10:00 FIA FR World Cup - Free Practice 2
- 10:15 - 10:45 Roadsport Challenge- Qualifying
- 11:00 - 11:30 GBA GT Cup (GT 4) - Qualifying
- 12:10 - 12:40 Roadsport - Macao SAR Cup- Qualifying
- 12:55 - 13:25 FIA TCR World Tour Event of Macau - Qualifying 1
- 13:30 - 13:45 FIA TCR World Tour Event of Macau - Qualifying 2
- 14:05 - 14:35 FIA GT World Cup - Qualifying
- 14:55 - 15:35 FIA FR World Cup - Qualifying 2
- 16:15 - 17:00 Macau Motorcycle Grand Prix - Qualifying 2

**November 16 (Saturday)**

- 07:20 - 07:40 Macau Motorcycle Grand Prix - warm up
- 09:30 - 10:15 Macau Motorcycle Grand Prix - Race (12 laps)
- 10:55 - 11:40 Roadsport Challenge - Race (12 laps)
- 12:35 - 13:15 FIA TCR World Tour Event of Macau - Race 1 (9 laps)
- 13:50 - 14:50 FIA GT World Cup - Qualification Race (12 laps)
- 15:30 - 16:30 FIA FR World Cup - Qualifying Race (10 laps)

**November 17 (Sunday)**

- 08:15 - 09:00 GBA GT Cup (GT 4) - Race (12 laps)
- 09:35 - 10:20 Roadsport - Macao SAR Cup - Race (12 laps)
- 10:55 - 11:35 FIA TCR World Tour Event of Macau - Race 2 (9 laps)
- 12:25 - 13:35 FIA GT World Cup (16 laps)
- 13:45 - 14:25 Special Event
- 15:15 - 15:20 Lion Dance
- 15:30 - 16:30 Macau Grand Prix - FIA FR World Cup (15 laps)