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SENTRA CUP MAGAZINE



Atlantic Motorsport Park Shubenacadie, NS **JUNE 20, 21, 22, 2025**



Summary

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Simon Vincent, Nicolas Barrette, and Nicolas Lévesque Share Victories in Nissan Sentra Cup's Nova Scotia Debut

Three races, three different winners at Atlantic Motorsport Park near Halifax this weekend

The Nissan Sentra Cup made history this past weekend by racing in Canada's Maritime provinces for the first time, with a triple-header event at Atlantic Motorsport Park, located just 30 minutes north of Halifax. This marked another milestone for the series, which typically features only two races per event. Under sunny skies and warm summer temperatures, the weekend delivered thrilling action and strong attendance. In qualifying, championship leader Simon Vincent used his rally racing experience to master the unfamiliar circuit, securing pole position by nearly half a second. Rookie standout Marc-Antoine D'Amour continued



to impress with a second-place effort, followed by two-time champion Valérie Limoges, Nicolas Lévesque, Raphaël St-Pierre, and Nicolas Barrette.

In Saturday's first race, Vincent led a tight four-car pack until a red flag was issued following an offtrack incident involving Jean-François Couture. After the restart, Vincent held on to win by just 0.306 seconds over D'Amour, with Limoges close behind in third. Barrette and Lévesque completed the Top 5, followed by Christian Thibault, St-Pierre, Jean Audet, Stéphane Pouliot, and Sean Scully, who made his Sentra Cup debut after competing in the former Micra Cup. Later that afternoon, D'Amour made a bold move at Turn 1 to take the lead from Vincent. Despite the track's narrow layout, overtaking was frequent and exciting. Vincent was eventually passed by Barrette, who surged to a spectacular win, finishing 0.323 seconds ahead. Lévesque claimed third, while Limoges recovered to fourth after an early off-track excursion. The rest of the Top 10 included St-Pierre, D'Amour, Steve Poulin, Scully, Audet, and François Bourassa.



Sunday's race once again took place under clear skies, with Vincent starting on pole alongside Lévesque. The two engaged in a thrilling battle, with Lévesque taking the lead after 30 minutes and securing his first-ever series victory. Vincent finished second, 1.441 seconds behind, while Barrette claimed third after fending off intense pressure from Limoges. St-Pierre finished fifth, ahead of D'Amour, who went off track. Scully, Pouliot, Audet, and Bourassa rounded out the Top 10. Vincent remains the championship leader, while Limoges, D'Amour and Barrette continue to battle closely for second place. Seven races remain on the 2025 calendar. The next event takes place July 6 at Complexe ICAR in Mirabel, during the third edition of the Nissan Grand Prix. The event will also showcase the new Nissan LEAF, LEAF Nismo RC, and Z NISMO. Public test drives will be available, and admission is free.

For more information on the Nissan Sentra Cup, visit **sentracup.com** and follow the series on social media. To relive the 2024 season races in video, visit the **Nissan Sentra Cup YouTube page**. 

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INTERVIEW MARC-ANTOINE D'AMOUR Rookie... and early-season revelation!



A newcomer this year in the Nissan Sentra Cup, Quebec's Marc-Antoine D'Amour has made an immediate impact, stepping onto the podium at Canadian Tire Motorsport Park in May and doing it again in Nova Scotia. A true revelation at the start of the season, he's now emerging as a title contender alongside experienced drivers like Valérie Limoges, Nicolas Barrette, and Simon Vincent...



Marc-Antoine, can you tell us about your motorsport background before joining the Nissan Sentra Cup?

I started in ATV racing and competed in that discipline for seven years — two summer seasons and five winter seasons on snow. Then I moved on to obstacle course racing. That's when I got into driving cars, and what I liked about it was the dirt driving aspect. I then bought a competition kart, which I only used three times during the summer, just for the fun of it. That's when I discovered circuit driving — and I loved it. Eventually, I decided to buy a car to compete in this season's Nissan Sentra Cup.

What motivated you to choose the Nissan Sentra Cup?

I'd say it was fairly easy to discover the Nissan Sentra Cup because it's well covered in the media. Also, it's much more affordable than other series and it's a national-level championship in Canadian motorsport.

What do you enjoy about driving the Sentra?

I really like the fact that we all race in equal cars, and that makes a huge difference. It's not about the budget — it's about the driver's talent, and

that's important to me. Technically, because of the tires used in the series, you can get understeer if you push too hard, so you have to adapt and be strategic to perform well. But overall, the Sentra is a very enjoyable car to drive.

From your very first races, you've been fighting with experienced drivers. Did you expect to be competing at this level?

I was confident to a certain degree, but honestly, I thought I had a good shot at finishing in the top eight, which seemed like a solid goal for a first season. But right from the opening weekend at Canadian Tire Motorsport Park, things went really well. That's when I started taking things more seriously — when I saw I had the pace to reach the podium.

What's your goal for the season?

Now that I've had a taste of the podium, I'm thinking that winning and aiming for the title would be great. But Simon Vincent already has a good lead in the standings. I'm a rookie — if I finish the season as runner-up, that would still be incredible. That's a realistic and exciting goal for the 2025 season. NISSA





NEWS BRIEFS from Nova Scotia

A TRACK THAT HAS KEPT ITS 1970S SPIRIT

All the Nissan Sentra Cup drivers were discovering Atlantic Motorsport Park for the first time last weekend. Located in Shubenacadie, about 30 minutes north of Halifax, the circuit was inaugurated in 1974 by a group of enthusiasts. Still managed today by a nonprofit organization, it has preserved its vintage charm: spectators seated on grassy hillsides enjoying the sun and watching races without fences blocking the view, drivers navigating a narrow track with grassy run-offs, where overtaking requires careful strategy; and minimalist infrastructure. Despite its old-school style, Atlantic Motorsport Park won over even the skeptics—just like the idea of hosting three races in a single weekend instead of two. This format will return for the season finale at Canadian Tire Motorsport Park (Ontario) in late August.



THE 10[™] DIFFERENT CIRCUIT FOR THE NISSAN SENTRA CUP

Following visits to Circuit Mont-Tremblant, Circuit Gilles-Villeneuve (Grand Prix of Canada), Autodrome St-Eustache, Trois-Rivières, Canadian Tire Motorsport Park, Calabogie Motorsports Park, Shannonville, Complexe ICAR, and Lime Rock Park in Connecticut, Atlantic Motorsport Park became the 10th different racetrack visited in the series' history. At 2.5 km long, it is also the 8th shortest of the 10. The track has hosted victories by Canadian motorsport legends over the years, including Gilles Villeneuve (1976) and Bill Brack (1974, 1975, 1977) in Formula Atlantic, as well as Jacques Bienvenue and Richard Spénard.



A FIRST FOR SEAN SCULLY... IN A SENTRA!

Montreal driver Sean Scully made his debut behind the wheel of a Nissan Sentra at Atlantic Motorsport Park. While it was his first time racing a Sentra, Sean is not entirely new to the series. Between 2021 and 2023, he competed in 17 races in the Micra class, finishing in the Top 5 of the 2023 championship. Back then, his main rivals for victory included Nicolas Lévesque, Raphaël St-Pierre, and Simon Vincent. Is he now looking to challenge them again in the Sentra? "I came back mainly for the enjoyment of driving in this series and to experience the Sentra. It was Nicolas Barrette who convinced me to sign up," Scully told us.

DOUBLE POINTS IN NOVA SCOTIA

To further motivate all championship-registered drivers to take part in this milestone event in the Maritimes—on a track never before visited in the 11 seasons of the Nissan Sentra Cup—the series organizers decided to double the points awarded. Thus, a win earned 100 points instead of the usual 50. The goal was achieved: not only did every driver from the first event take part, but Sean Scully also joined for his debut. Drivers quickly calculated what such victories could mean in the championship standings—while also keeping in mind that mistakes and potential DNFs could be very costly in the long run. Trackside fans were treated to hard-fought races... by respectful drivers!







Results and standings

Atlantic Motorsport Park- Event 2

RACE 1

QUALIFICATION

Simon Vincent
Marc-Antoine D'Amour
Valérie Limoges
Nicolas Lévesque
Raphaël St-Pierre
Nicolas Barrette
Christian Thibault
Steve Poulin
Jean Audet
François Bourassa
Jean-François Couture
Stéphane Pouliot
Sean Scully

RESULTS

1) Simon Vincent	15 laps
2) Marc-Antoine D'Amour	-0.306
3) Valérie Limoges	-0.797
4) Nicolas Barrette	-1.113
5) Nicolas Lévesque	-6.724
6) Christian Thibault	-9.636
7) Raphaël St-Pierre	-9.997
8) Jean Audet	-10.361
9) Stéphane Pouliot	-10.719
10) Sean Scully	-15.298
11) François Bourassa	-17.143
12) Jean-François Couture	-9 laps
13) Steve Poulin	-10 laps

RACE 2

QUALIFICATION

Simon Vincent
Marc-Antoine D'Amour
Valérie Limoges
Nicolas Lévesque
Raphaël St-Pierre
Nicolas Barrette
Christian Thibault
Steve Poulin
Jean Audet
Stéphane Pouliot
François Bourassa
Sean Scully
Jean-François Couture

RESULTS

1) Nicolas Barrette	26 laps
2) Simon Vincent	-0.323
3) Nicolas Lévesque	-2.420
4) Valérie Limoges	-4.242
5) Raphaël St-Pierre	-5.898
6) Marc-Antoine D'Amour	-10.736
7) Steve Poulin	-11.168
8) Sean Scully	-20.365
9) Jean Audet	-22.156
10) François Bourassa	-25.012
11) Christian Thibault	-10 laps
12) Stéphane Pouliot	-18 laps
13) Jean-François Couture	Did not start

RACE 3

QUALIFICATION

Simon Vincent
Nicolas Lévesque
Nicolas Barrette
Marc-Antoine D'Amour
Raphaël St-Pierre
Valérie Limoges
Steve Poulin
Christian Thibault
Sean Scully
Jean Audet
Stéphane Pouliot
François Bourassa
Jean-François Couture

RESULTS

1) Nicolas Lévesque	29 laps
2) Simon Vincent	-1.441
3) Nicolas Barrette	-4.055
4) Valérie Limoges	-5.786
5) Raphaël St-Pierre	-19.400
6) Marc-Antoine D'Amour	-33.916
7) Sean Scully	-20.365
8) Stéphane Pouliot	-46.448
9) Jean Audet	-49.962
10) François Bourassa	-1:02.706
11) Steve Poulin	-13 laps
12) Christian Thibault	-24 laps
13) Jean-François Couture	Did not star



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Results and standings

Atlantic Motorsport Park- Event 2



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CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS

Positior	n #	Driver	Races	Points
1.	91	Simon Vincent	5	386
2.	427	Nicolas Barrette	2	330
3.	1	Valérie Limoges	5	326
4.	50	Nicolas Lévesque	2	294
5.	113	Marc-Antoine D'Amour	5	288
б.	419	Raphaël St-Pierre	5	258
7.	22	Jean Audet	5	197
8.	37	Steve Poulin	5	192
9.	210	Stéphane Pouliot	5	188
10.	46	Christian Thibault	5	184
11.	27	François Bourassa	5	174
12.	428	Sean Scully	3	152
13.	7	Jean-François Couture	3	68
14.	3	P.O. Paquette	0	0
14.	95	Baptiste Gimenez	0	0
14.	777	Mathieu Lemyre	0	0



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The next event will take place on Sunday, July 6, as part of the third edition of the Nissan Grand Prix at the Complexe ICAR in Mirabel. This highly anticipated event for fans of the series and the brand will feature two new races along with a variety of brand-related activities, including test drives of the all-new LEAF. Admission to the site will be free.

