



Media Information  
BMW M Motorsport  
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## **BMW M Racing Academy: New support programme for customer racing launches with the "Class of 2025".**

- **BMW M Motorsport expands its support for customer racing with a new support programme.**
- **Four candidates form the inaugural class of the BMW M Racing Academy.**
- **BMW M works driver Bruno Spengler serves as a mentor for the racers' development.**

**Munich. Customer racing has been a cornerstone of BMW M Motorsport's programme for decades. In the 2025 season, it gains a new dimension as the BMW M Racing Academy is launching as a development programme for GT4-category racers. The "Class of 2025" includes Spain's Nerea Martí, Turkey's Berkay Besler, Matthew Million from the USA, and Germany's Niels Tröger. This quartet impressed BMW M Motorsport's decision-makers during a rigorous selection process and will undergo a unique development programme in 2025, unparalleled in customer racing. BMW M works driver Bruno Spengler (CAN) will mentor the participants, while Dirk Adorf (GER) will contribute his extensive experience from previous talent development initiatives, including the BMW Junior Team.**

In early November, a total of twelve candidates were invited to Munich (GER) to participate in the selection process for the BMW M Racing Academy. The programme offered unique challenges not typically accessible to customer racers. Candidates underwent a session in the BMW M Motorsport simulator, which is normally reserved for BMW M works drivers. Formula Medicine experts tested their physical and mental capabilities. The programme also included a setup session using the automotive gaming simulator on the iRacing platform and an interview with BMW M Motorsport's communication experts.

The selection process results determined the four members of the "Class of 2025": Nerea Martí, Berkay Besler, Matthew Million, and Niels Tröger. A



prerequisite for participating in the BMW M Racing Academy is competing in the BMW M4 GT4, underscoring the programme's focus on customer racing.

22-year-old Martí is currently competing for BMW Spain in the Iberian Supercars Series. In 2023, she claimed the title in the Spanish GT Championship with the BMW M4 GT4. Martí has also made a name for herself in recent years in single-seater racing through her performances in the W Series and the F1 Academy.

25-year-old Besler has been racing for Borusan Otomotiv Motorsport in the GT4 European Series with the BMW M4 GT4 since 2021. He achieved his best season in 2023, finishing third in the Silver class. In 2022, he became the champion of the Prototype Cup Germany.

24-year-old Million completed his debut season in 2024 with AutoTechnic Racing in GT4 America, driving the BMW M4 GT4. Prior to this, he enjoyed success with the BMW M3 E36 in various US amateur series. Since 2023, he has also been active as a driver coach.

22-year-old Tröger made headlines in 2023 by winning the Karting World Championship, becoming the first German to achieve this feat since DTM record champion Bernd Schneider (GER) 43 years ago. In the most recent season, he transitioned to the GT4 category, competing with FK Performance Motorsport in the BMW M4 GT4 in ADAC GT4 Germany.

**Björn Lellmann, Head of Customer Racing at BMW M Motorsport:** "I am incredibly proud that with the BMW M Racing Academy, we are offering our customer racers a unique and exclusive development programme that money cannot buy. Our customers have always played an exceptionally important role for us, and with the BMW M Racing Academy, we are further strengthening our commitment. Congratulations to our four selected members of the 'Class of 2025' – Nerea Martí, Berkay Besler, Matthew Million, and Niels Tröger. They will experience a programme next year that provides insights previously reserved for works racing. The selection process in Munich was an excellent preview of what is to come. I was impressed by the high level of all the candidates, which made the final decision a difficult one. However, I am delighted by the strong pool of talent we had to choose from."



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