

# **BMW Media Information**

BMW Motorsport Junior Programme 2015.

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# Motorsport



# Foreword. BMW Motorsport Director Jens Marquardt.

## Dear Media Representatives,

The BMW Motorsport Junior programme enters its second lap in 2015. In Victor Bouveng, Nick Cassidy, Louis Delétraz and Trent Hindman we are once again supporting four talented young drivers this year, as we offer them the optimal preparation for a successful career in GT racing. Each of these four drivers has already gained initial experience in motorsport, and a number have already achieved notable success. However, all four Juniors are hungry for more. They want to become even stronger, to improve both on and off the track, and to find out more about working at the very highest level of motor racing. We are giving them the opportunity to do just that in 2015.

Our new BMW Motorsport Junior programme proved to be very successful in its debut season in 2014. In Jesse Krohn, we helped to develop an outstanding young driver, who we are now continuing to support on the GT racing scene, and for whom we have high hopes. I would now like to welcome the second year of our junior programme for young GT and touring car drivers to the BMW family. Our Juniors came through against a lot of opposition during the selection process. This shows that they are very talented and we can expect great things from them. I am very much looking forward to seeing the four drivers in action during their year of training. The promotion of young drivers is steeped in tradition at BMW Motorsport. It started back in the 1970s with the first BMW Junior Team with the likes of Manfred Winkelhock, Marc Surer, Bruno Giacomelli and Eddie Cheever. Later, many stars took their first steps in motor racing in Formula BMW and the Formula BMW Talent Cup, including our DTM drivers Marco Wittmann, Timo Glock and Martin Tomczyk, as well as Sebastian Vettel, Nico Hülkenberg and Nico Rosberg. I am confident that our current programme will follow on from this success and produce some successful GT and touring car drivers.

This media information is designed to give you an overview of the BMW Motorsport Junior programme.

Yours sincerely

Jens Marquardt BMW Motorsport Director



# Talented Youngsters Wanted. BMW Motorsport Junior Programme.

The promotion of promising and talented young drivers enjoys a long tradition at BMW Motorsport. In 2014 a new multi-level junior concept had been introduced and will now be continuously expanded over the coming years: the BMW Motorsport Junior Programme. In realigning its junior programme, BMW Motorsport shifted the focus of its promotion of young drivers back onto GT and touring car racing. In single-seater racing, the concept bore fruit for decades in Formula BMW and the Formula BMW Talent Cup, paving the way to a successful career in motor racing for the likes of Sebastian Vettel, Nico Rosberg and Nico Hülkenberg.

BMW Motorsport has focussed its youth development on GT and touring car drivers who are at least 18 years of age and already have some racing experience. Outings in the BMW M235i Racing, as part of the VLN Endurance Championship, are an integral part of the comprehensive training programme. At the race, the VLN provides participants with a prominent stage on which to gain experience at the wheel of the BMW M235i Racing, in a professional team and on the demanding Nordschleife.

A BMW Motorsport engineer supports the Juniors and team throughout the entire season. In addition to starts in the VLN, tests are also planned in the BMW M235i Racing and Formula BMW FB02, as are intense theory courses dealing with fitness, PR, mental training and simulator training. The driver places are fully financed by BMW Motorsport. The only costs involved for the participants are travel costs and insurance excess, should they be involved in an accident resulting in damage.

At the end of the season, the best junior in the BMW M235i Racing will complete a test in the BMW Z4 GT3. This decision is made by a jury of experts, headed by BMW Motorsport Director Jens Marquardt. BMW works driver Dirk Adorf will act as a mentor for the junior programme. Once they have gained initial valuable experience in GT and touring car racing, BMW Motorsport intends to cautiously promote the most impressive youngsters into higher classes.



In 2014, Jesse Krohn from Finland was the strongest junior on the programme. This season he will contest the European Le Mans Series in the BMW Z4 GTE and the VLN in the BMW Z4 GT3.

The participants in the second class of the BMW Motorsport Junior Programme are Victor Bouveng, Nick Cassidy, Louis Delétraz and Trent Hindman. They impressed the BMW Motorsport scouts with their talent at a shoot-out in Monteblanco in March, and will benefit from an extensive training programme in the coming months.

Lead by chief instructor Dirk Adorf, the programme gets underway with testing in May. In addition to a further test in September, the programme includes two workshops at the iZone Driver Performance Centre in Silverstone, and three VLN race starts in the BMW M235i Racing. At the end of the year, the most successful BMW Motorsport Junior of the season will be given the opportunity to continue his training for a second year in a higher racing category.



# Jesse Krohn. 2014 BMW Motorsport Junior of the Year.

The BMW Motorsport Junior programme enters the next round for Jesse Krohn in 2015. The winner of the first class to come through BMW's new programme for promoting young GT and touring car drivers, which was launched in 2014, will undertake a full programme of racing in the BMW Z4 GTE and BMW Z4 GT3 in his second year.

After gaining valuable experience in the BMW M235i Racing, with which he competed at selected races in 2014, Krohn is now taking the next step in his career as a GT driver. This season, the 24-year-old BMW Motorsport Junior will race for the Marc VDS Racing Team in the European Le Mans Series (ELMS), where he will share the cockpit of the BMW Z4 GTE with BMW works driver Andy Priaulx and Henry Hassid. Krohn will also have the opportunity to add to his experience at the Nürburgring-Nordschleife, where he will contest the entire season of the VLN Endurance Championship in a BMW Z4 GT3 run by Walkenhorst Motorsport from the third race onwards.

"I am living my motorsport dream at the moment," said Krohn. "To be able to drive the BMW Z4 in two such awesome series as the ELMS and VLN in my second year as a BMW Motorsport Junior is fantastic. I am sure I will benefit from the wealth of experience possessed by the Marc VDS Racing Team and drivers like Andy Priaulx. I am looking forward to another year of learning, and will do everything in my power to meet my own expectations."

## A profile of Jesse Krohn.

Date of birth: 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1990

Birthplacet: Nurmijärvi (FI)

Hobbies: Climbing, Pool billard



# Career.

2014	BMW Motorsport Junior of the Year
2013	1 <sup>st</sup> place in class 1 of the Porsche GT3 Cup Finland
2012	ADAC GT Masters, 2 podiums
2011	1 <sup>st</sup> place in the Camaro Cup Finland
2010	1 <sup>st</sup> place in Formula Renault 2.0 Finland, Estonia and NEZ



# BMW Motorsport Juniors 2015. Victor Bouveng.

Victor Bouveng has already gained experience in a touring car over the past two years. In the DTM supporting programme, he took part in the Scirocco R Cup races and in his second season in 2014 finished in an outstanding third place overall. Over the course of the season he finished on the podium six times. Before switching to touring car racing, Bouveng competed in karting and formula racing up until 2012.

Victor Bouveng flew the BMW Motorsport colours for the first time during the 24h qualifying race on the Nürburgring Nordschleife in April. The 18-year-old is in BMW Motorsport's driver line-up for the BMW M235i Racing media car, which will contest the 24 Hours Nürburgring. "It means a great deal to me to be part of the BMW Motorsport Junior Programme this season. I worked hard for this opportunity," said Bouveng. "The shoot-out in Monteblanco was a real challenge because the competition from the other candidates was so fierce. But I did it and I'm sure I will learn a lot in the coming months through working with a team as professional as BMW Motorsport."

Bouveng loves anything quick. His hobbies include skiing – on snow and on water. Despite his young age, he takes an extremely professional approach to anything motorsport related and has not only a fitness trainer, but also a mental coach. Although he is still a junior himself, he already coaches a 12-year-old karting talent from Sweden.

## A profile of Victor Bouveng.

Date of birth: 17<sup>th</sup> April 1996 Birthplace: Vassunda (SE)

Hobbies: Jet ski, snowmobile, waterskiing, skiing, rally driving



# Career.

2014 3rd place Scirocco R Cup, 6 podium finishes

2013 Scirocco R Cup

2012 Northern European Cup (NEC)

2008-2011 Karting



# BMW Motorsport Juniors 2015. Nick Cassidy.

Nick Cassidy has had his biggest successes to date in formula racing. Notably, he demonstrated his exceptional talent in 2014, when he finished third on his debut at the Formula 3 Macau Grand Prix. In the same year, he won the New Zealand Grand Prix in his home country for the third time in a row. He also got his first taste of touring cars in the Australian V8 Supercars and New Zealand V8 SuperTourers.

"Being a part of the BMW Motorsport Junior Programme is an important step in my career, and one I am very happy about," said Cassidy. "My career has been primarily single-seaters, but I have had some experience in touring cars in the past. I have two priorities this year: I want to win in Formula 3 and, together with BMW, I aim to learn as much as I can to improve myself as an all round driver. A challenge I am looking forward to!"

Cassidy has never shied away from challenges. For example: in 2010 and 2011, as well as his outings in single-seater and touring car racing, he also tried his hand at speedway – and was successful at the first attempt. In 2011 he moved to Europe for the first time, where he caught the eye from the word go.

## A profile of Nick Cassidy.

Date of birth: 19<sup>th</sup> August 1994 Birthplace: Auckland (NZ)

Hobbies: Mountain biking, squash, rugby



# Career.

2014	3 <sup>rd</sup> place Formula 3 Macau Grand Prix	
	1 <sup>st</sup> place New Zealand Grand Prix	
2013	1 <sup>st</sup> place Toyota Racing Series	
	1 <sup>st</sup> place New Zealand Grand Prix	
2012	1 <sup>st</sup> place Toyota Racing Series	
	1 <sup>st</sup> place New Zealand Grand Prix	



# BMW Motorsport Juniors 2015. Louis Delétraz.

Louis Delétraz turned 18 on 22nd April, making him the youngest participant in the 2015 BMW Motorsport Junior Programme. But the Swiss man is not a new arrival to the BMW family. He was successful in the Formula BMW Talent Cup in 2012, before switching to Formula Renault 2.0 NEC in 2013. He had a convincing season last year with one win, five podium finishes and second place in the overall standings. "It's great to be back in the BMW family," said Delétraz. "I enjoyed my time in the Formula BMW Talent Cup very much. Now I'm looking forward to joining the new programme for touring car drivers. So far I have driven single-seaters, but I'm sure that there is no better place to learn all about touring car racing than at BMW Motorsport."

Delétraz attends a German school in Switzerland, making him the only Junior in the class of 2015 to speak a little German. He practices the art of battling through to beat tough opposition in one of his hobbies - boxing.

## A profile of Louis Deletraz.

Date of birth: 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1997 Birthplace: Genf (CH)

Hobbies: travelling, boxing, cycling, skiing, tennis, football

#### Career.

2014	2 <sup>nd</sup> place Formula Renault 2.0 NEC
2012	4 <sup>th</sup> place Formula BMW Talent Cup
2011	1 <sup>st</sup> place "KF3" category Swiss Vega Championship Karting
2009	1st place "Super-Mini" category Swiss Vega Championship Karting



# BMW Motorsport Juniors 2015. Trent Hindman.

The fourth BMW Motorsport Junior Trent Hindman is no stranger to BMW. He contested the Continental Tire Sports Car Challenge (CTSCC) in a BMW M3 for the Fall-Line Motorsports team in 2014. Alongside BMW works driver John Edwards, Hindman celebrated two season wins and won the drivers' title. In the privateer standings of the BMW Sports Trophy, Hindman ended the year in 11th.

"It's truly an honour to be given this opportunity to further my education and development as a driver in the BMW Motorsport Junior Programme, especially after being involved in the BMW Sports Trophy last year and celebrating great success with my team Fall-Line Motorsports and John Edwards in the BMW M3," said Hindman. "I can't wait until the programme begins and I'm looking forward to spending time at the most incredible racetrack in the world; the Nürburgring Nordschleife. I'm really grateful and can't thank everybody at BMW Motorsport enough for allowing me to be a part of such an excellent programme."

Hindman is also a car nut away from the racetrack. He and his father enjoy nothing more than restoring vintage cars together. He is also a keen surfer in the summer and an enthusiastic ice hockey player in the winter.

## A profile of Trent Hindman.

Date of birth: 20<sup>th</sup> September 1995 Birthplace: Wayside, New Jersey (US)

Hobbies: Restoring vintage cars, surfing, ice hockey, mountain biking

#### Career.

2014	1 <sup>st</sup> place Continental Tire Sports Car Challenge
2012	2 <sup>nd</sup> place Cooper Tires Winterfest
2011	1 <sup>st</sup> place Formula Ford Ontario Championship F1600

2<sup>nd</sup> place Skip Barber National Championshiprestoring



# Dirk Adorf. Mentor on the BMW Motorsport Junior Programme.

Dirk Adorf has been racing successfully at the Nürburgring-Nordschleife for over 20 years. While other drivers speak, with a profound sense of awe, of the toughest circuit in the world, the experienced racing driver looks forward to driving in his own 'living room' every time he competes in the 24-hour race. "However, by no means have I lost my respect for this track," he says. "The Nordschleife would punish that kind of attitude immediately. If you give 99.5 per cent there, you will be quick. At 100.5 per cent your car will end up in the gravel. I just feel right at home on the Ring. Nothing it throws at me can surprise me anymore."

The BMW junior programme has allowed Adorf to pass on some of his experience to talented youngsters – first in the Formula BMW Talent Cup, and since 2014 within the BMW Motorsport Junior programme. The GT specialist is not only experienced, but also quick. Adorf has won the VLN Endurance Championship, which is held each year on the Nürburgring Nordschleife, three times. The racing driver from the Westerwald region of Germany has over 50 class wins in the VLN to his name. Fans have also crowned him "Driver of the Year" in this series on two occasions.

Although he has also enjoyed success in such championships as the German Touring Car Cup and the V8-Star series, the Nordschleife has always remained Adorf's sporting home. The 24 hour race forms an integral part of his schedule every year. His greatest success to date at this classic came back in 2007, when he finished third overall.

# BMW M235i Racing. The Training Car for the BMW Motorsport Juniors.

BMW Motorsport can look back on a long tradition of allowing ambitious teams and drivers an affordable way into motor racing – and of offering them an absolutely competitive car. While the BMW Z4 GT3 spearheads the range, the production-based BMW M235i Racing is the perfect model for those starting out in motorsport. The motorsport genes are also easily recognisable in the production version of the BMW M235i Coupé, courtesy of the aerodynamically optimised body design. It is propelled by the most powerful petrol engine developed so far for a BMW M Performance Automobile: a six cylinder in-line technology. With a capacity of 2,979ccm, the racing version is capable of generating 333hp (245kW).

Motorsport-specific driving aids such as ABS, DSC and traction control ensure that the motorsport newcomers can also handle the BMW M235i Racing surely and safely. The car also comes with mechanical limited-slip differential, which is also available for the BMW M235i Coupé in the original BMW Parts range. The racing car is also fitted with features such as the FIA-certified safety cell and the modern safety tank. On top of this come components from the BMW M Performance Parts range, such as the rear and front spoilers, diffusor and carbon wing mirrors.



# Technical specifications. BMW M235i Racing.

Max. width: 1,862 mm (without mirrors)

Wheelbase: 2,691 mm

Height: 1,380 mm (without antenna)

Max. track: 1,608 mm

**Engine:** six-cylinder in-line

Capacity: 2,979 ccm

**Output:** 333 hp (245 kW)



# Talent Promotion with History. Talent Promotion at BMW Motorsport.

#### **BMW JUNIOR TEAM.**

In 1977, the BMW 3.0 CSL coupé dominated the European touring car scene. In 1977, Jochen Neerpasch, managing director of the newly founded BMW Motorsport GmbH since 1972, pioneered the "BMW Junior Team" development programme. This programme was not limited to the German market. Alongside Manfred Winkelhock, the first team included Marc Surer (Switzerland), Eddie Cheever (America), and Bruno Giacomelli (Italy). The junior drivers mainly raced a BMW 320i according to Group 5 regulations on the touring car scene. However, almost all of the drivers took part in Formula 2, with great success. Cheever, supported by BMW, drove a Ralt for Ron Dennis's team in Formula 2 and finished second in the European championship in 1977, with Giacomelli finishing fourth. The following year the Italian pipped Surer to the post to win the title, with Cheever finishing fourth and Winkelhock ninth. In 1979 Surer claimed the title. The "BMW Junior Team" became the epitome of developing young talent and laid the foundations for BMW's intensive talent development programme.

### 1973-1982: FORMULA 2.

The relaxation of the engine regulations in Formula 2 made the sport more appealing to an increased number of manufacturers as of 1973, including BMW. In the following years, the development of the BMW four-cylinder engine saw it become the measure of all things. In 1973 Jean-Pierre Jarier secured the championship title in his rookie season. By 1982 drivers with BMW engines had won the European championship a further five times. All of the drivers eventually progressed to Formula 1, which usually incorporated Formula 2 races as part of its weekends.

## 1991-2001: THE "FIRST" FORMULA BMW.

In 1991 BMW and the ADAC joined forces to develop talent. Numerous racing drivers started their careers here. In the debut year of this cooperation, Christian Abt won the overall standings and the following year Alexander Grau lifted the trophy. The main objective of the competition was to create a level playing field for drivers and teams with a suitable budget, while sticking to all safety regulations. Successful graduates of the driving school included former Formula 1 driver Ralf Schumacher, who made his debut in Formula Junior in 1992, and Christian Klien. The final title holder in 2001 was Timo Glock, who now drives for BMW's DTM team.



## 2002-2010: THE "SECOND" FORMULA BMW.

For many years Formula BMW was the world leader in entry level formula motor racing. The series took place in Germany, Great Britain, Asia, and the US. At the early age of 15, junior drivers were able to make their mark in motor racing in the FB02, a state-of-the-art identical car. The talented young drivers proved themselves time and again within the Formula 1 framework. All of the series comprised a diverse training and coaching programme, as well as the development of promising new talent. The most famous graduates of this elite establishment were current Formula 1 drivers Sebastian Vettel, Nico Rosberg, Nico Hülkenberg, and Daniel Ricciardo, and current BMW DTM driver Marco Wittmann. From 2005 to 2008 there had been an annual Formula BMW World Final, in which junior drivers from the four regional Formula BMW series competed against each other. Between 2008 and 2010 there also was Formula BMW Europe.

#### 2011-2013: FORMULA BMW TALENT CUP.

The Formula BMW Talent Cup took place over three seasons. In this educational series, BMW Motorsport systematically introduced talented junior drivers to the requirements of professional motorsport. Driver coaches and race engineers supervised the participants in small groups and worked on everything; from the individual style of driving through to the complete set-up. In 2011 Stefan Wackerbauer was the very first overall winner, and in 2012 Marvin Dienst secured the top spot at the final in Oschersleben. Robin Hansson of Sweden triumphed in the third season, in 2013.



# Before Vettel, Glock and Co. were famous .... Former Champions.

Year	Series	Driver
1991	BMW ADAC Formel Junior Cup	Christian Abt (DE)
1995	BMW ADAC Formel Junior Cup	Dominik Schwager (DE)
1998	BMW ADAC Formel Junior Cup	Stefan Mücke (DE)
1999	BMW ADAC Formel Junior Cup	André Lotterer (DE)
2001	BMW ADAC Formel Junior Cup	Timo Glock (DE)
2002	Formel BMW ADAC Meisterschaft	Nico Rosberg (DE)
2003	Formel BMW ADAC Meisterschaft	Maximilian Götz (DE)
2003	Formula BMW Asia	Ho-Pin Tung (CN)
2004	Formel BMW ADAC Meisterschaft	Sebastian Vettel (DE)
2004	Formula BMW Asia	Marchy Lee (HK)
2004	Formula BMW USA	Andreas Wirth (DE)
2005	Formel BMW ADAC Meisterschaft	Nico Hülkenberg (DE)
2005	Formula BMW UK Championship	Dean Smith (GB)
2006	Formel BMW Deutschland	Christian Vietoris (DE)
2006	Formula BMW Asia	Earl Bamber (NZ)
2006	Formula BMW USA	Robert Wickens (CA)
2007	Formel BMW Deutschland	Jens Klingmann (DE)
2007	Formula BMW UK Championship	Marcus Ericsson (SE)
2008	Formula BMW Europe	Esteban Gutiérrez (MX)
2008	Formula BMW Americas	Alexander Rossi (US)
2009	Formula BMW Europe	Felipe Nasr (BR)
2010	Formula BMW Europe	Robin Frijns (NL)
2011	Formula BMW Talent Cup	Stefan Wackerbauer (DE)
2012	Formula BMW Talent Cup	Marvin Dienst (DE)
2013	Formula BMW Talent Cup	Robin Hansson (SE)



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