

MINI JOHN COOPER WORKS TEAM DEBUTS TC CAR AT COTA



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MINI John Cooper Works Team Debuts Touring Car at Circuit of the Americas

Third car will run alongside two Touring Car A series race cars for remainder of the season

Woodcliff Lake, NJ, April 30, 2021. [MINI USA](#) and the [MINI John Cooper Works Team](#) are proud to announce the addition of a new race car into the Touring Car (TC) class for the [2021 SRO TC America](#) series. The #60 MINI, which is visually inspired by the latest generation [MINI John Cooper Works GP](#), will be piloted by team veteran driver Mark Pombo this weekend at [Circuit of the Americas](#) in Austin, Texas, and for the remainder of the 2021 season. Replacing Pombo in the #61 MINI in the Touring Car A (TCA) class for the remainder of the season is another team veteran Derek Jones. Jones will ride alongside Clayton Williams driving the #62 MINI.

Visually inspired by the third generation MINI John Cooper Works GP launched in 2020, the #60 MINI is a MINI John Cooper Works Hardtop that has been engineered and modified using both original equipment manufacturer (OEM) and components from across the MINI line up and aftermarket performance parts in order to meet the technical rules and regulations required to compete in the TC class. The GP-inspired visual cues presented on the #60 MINI, including the paint scheme and front grill and fender, help to meet requirements of the series to differentiate the TC versus TCA race cars while on the track.

While the #60 MINI has not turned any laps yet, the team is confident given their six years of success racing with MINI that they will be a contender this weekend and going forward. The MINI JCW Team had similar success running its very first race at Sebring International Raceway in 2015 without having turned a single lap in the race car prior to the qualifying session.

“We cannot wait to get back out on the track at COTA to compete in both TC and TCA,” said Luis Perocarpi, team owner, LAP Motorsports. “We started off the season very strong and look forward to continuing that momentum heading into this weekend.”

The MINI John Cooper Works team is looking to build on the momentum from the start of the season after taking three podiums at [Sonoma Raceway](#) in pursuit of the team’s third Manufacturer’s Championship in row in the series. The MINI JCW Team also won Manufacturer’s Championship in 2018 in the final season of the Street Tuner class of the [International Motor Sports Association](#) (IMSA) [Continental Tire SportsCar Challenge Series](#), where the team finished ahead of BMW, Porsche and Mazda.

Both races will be streamed live at [YouTube.com/GTWorld](#). In addition, MINI John Cooper Works Team owner Luis Perocarpi and driver [Mark Pombo](#) will provide live debriefings each session and also provide timing and scoring across the team’s social media channels including Facebook and Instagram.

The MINI JCW Team will have their usual fulltime race crew supported by two service technicians from [Momentum MINI](#) in Houston and [MINI of Plano](#) in the Southern Region. These are the same technicians that repair consumer MINIs and have proven time and again that their knowledge transfers to the racing world.

About the MINI JCW Team

The MINI JCW Team, operated by LAP Motorsports ([@lapmotorsports](#)), drives MINI’s most powerful Hardtop ever in the two-door MINI John Cooper Works Hardtop. The team competes in the fiercely competitive SRO TC America Series. For additional information please visit [minijcwteam.com](#) or email [luis@minijcwteam.com](#).

About MINI in the US

MINI is an independent brand of the BMW Group. In the United States, MINI USA operates as a business unit of BMW of North America, LLC, located in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey and includes the marketing and sales organizations for the MINI brand. The MINI USA sales organization is represented in the U.S. through a network of 116 MINI passenger car dealers. MINI USA began selling vehicles in the U.S. in 2002 with the introduction of the MINI Cooper and MINI Cooper S Hardtops. Since then, the MINI Brand in the U.S. has grown to encompass a model range of five unique vehicles.

Journalist notes: Media information about MINI and its products is available to journalists on-line at [www.miniusanews.com](#).

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