

# Motorsport News

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## Austria

### Franky Zorn triumphs in Ice Speedway Championships

52-year-old Franky Zorn, the FUCHS rider, has had a strong start to the 2023 Ice Speedway season, winning the FIM European Individual Ice Speedway Championship and securing a vice-champion title in the FIM Ice Speedway Gladiators World Championship a few weeks later.

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## Romania

### Aron Radianu, the rising star of the National Karting Championship

Although still at primary school, Aron Radianu drives his kart like a professional and finished his second season of competing by coming third in the National Karting Championship. // Page 3.



## Italy

### FUCHS Italy confirms its partnership with GMS

The GMS Racing Team will participate in the Fanatec GT World Challenge Europe and is happy to welcome Nicholas Ristano, a talented driver for further success on the tracks. // Page 6.



## Austria

### Bravo Champion!

Franky Zorn, the renowned FUCHS rider, has had a strong start to the 2023 season. He was crowned the FIM European Individual Ice Speedway champion for the second time in his career in Poland, defeating 16 other riders in a hard-fought battle witnessed by thousands of spectators.

Reflecting on his success, Zorn said: “This season we had great tests in Sweden with perfect cold and ice conditions. After the big crash of last year, I had to train very hard and it was difficult, but I felt very good at the end of the many tests we did. My first goal was to win the European individual title and in February I did it. I’m so happy.”

In March, Zorn secured a silver medal for the second time (2000) in the FIM Ice Speedway Gladiators World Championship at the Inzell Racetrack in Germany, finishing just behind the 2022 champion Martin Haarahiltunen in front of 12,000 spectators. Despite a challenging final, Zorn won the vice-champion title.

“The final was very difficult because all the riders were overachieving. The first day, I pushed so hard to pass Haarahiltunen, but I finished in an ice hole and took fourth. With the help of my mechanics, we decided to operate some small set up changes on the bike to get more speed for the second day. Nobody thought that we had a chance to get on the podium, but I finished with the vice-champion title.”

This season, Franky celebrates his 30th year of racing. His anniversary reward: the title of champion in the 2023 European championship and the silver medal in the 2023 world championship.

**FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene CASTORENE R 40 S, Silkolene ALL-IN-ONE, Silkolene PRO CHAIN**



## Austria

### FUCHS signs a new partnership

FUCHS Austria has begun supporting the young Austrian Marco Mempör in the trial sports this season. Marco started his career at the age of seven. The 21-year-old rider is already well known in the trial world. He was crowned four-time Austrian national champion, finished third in the 2022 European championship, and was titled world champion in the 125 cc class. His father Mario was also an Austrian top trial rider.

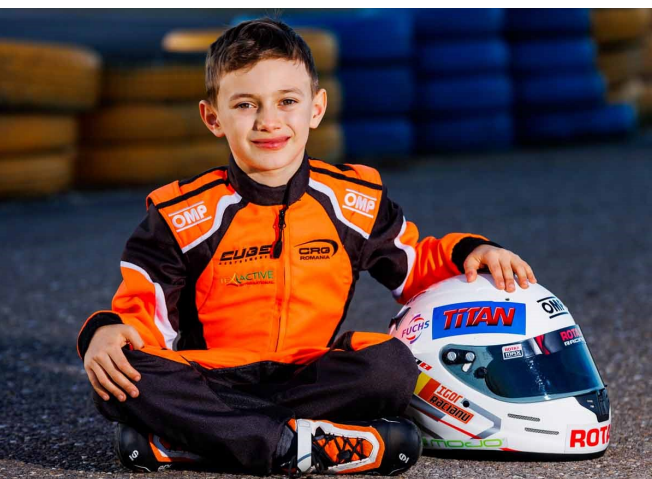
In 2023, Marco made his debut in the very popular X-Trial Indoor World Championship. The first race took place at the Wiener Neustadt track. He was delighted to be on the starting line amongst eleven elite trial riders. For his first competition in this championship, Marco finished seventh in the first day races with a Gas-Gas.

“We wish all the best to Marco in his future career,” said FUCHS Head of Application Engineering, Markus Kollenz.

Calendar: April: France; October: Andorra; November: Spain, France (TBA), and Reunion Island

**FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene PRO 2, Silkolene ALL-IN-ONE, Silkolene PRO CHAIN, Silkolene FOAM FILTER OIL**





## Romania

### Promising young driver makes an impressive start

At the age of seven, Igor Aron Radianu joined the CRG Romania Team, established in 2010. “I chose this team because I was attracted by their national and international success and their win in the 2022 World Championship in the KZ class. They are also the official importer of the CRG Kart.”

In 2021, for the first time, Igor participated in the six stages of the National Karting Championship in the Promo BB class. There is no national ranking in this class, the role of the championship is to accommodate children between the ages of five and seven in the sport. They learn safety rules, flag meanings, and the procedures of events.

“At the end of 2021, I decided to move to Micro Rotax, a higher class, even if I could stay in the Promo BB class for one more year. I started to train very hard because in this class the riders are three years older than me and have more experience. In this class, the kart reaches speeds of up to 100 km per hour compared to the Promo BB class where it tops out around 55 km per hour.”

Thanks to these great results (two second places and two third places), Igor won third place overall in 2022. “I’m so motivated to work hard to win the 2023 championship with FUCHS Romania, one of the main sponsors of the team. With my teammates, we tested the lubricants throughout the season and we were positively surprised by the results, so in 2023 we will race exclusively with the FUCHS products.”

**FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene PRO 2, Silkolene PRO SRG 75, Silkolene COMP GEAR, Silkolene FOAM FILTER CLEANER, Silkolene FOAM FILTER OIL, Silkolene PRO CHAIN, Silkolene PRO PREP, Silkolene BRAKE AND CHAIN CLEANER**





## Germany

### A second podium place for BLACK FALCON

After a challenging round one of the Nürburgring Endurance Series, the drivers of BLACK FALCON Team IDENTICA bounced back in the second round with a strong performance in the CUP2 class, clinching an excellent second place in the highly competitive race. The team's Porsche 992 GT3 Cup (#102) was expertly driven by Noah Nagelsdiek, Carlos Rivas, and the newcomer driver Ben Bünnagel.

Additionally, BLACK FALCON Team TEXTAR excelled in qualifying with a pole position in the CUP3 class. For the NLS2, Fisher and Glorieux shared the cockpit of the team's Cayman GT4 CS (#931), later joined by Gabriele Piana. After four hours of racing, final driver Piana crossed the finish line fifth in the AM classification, after facing difficulties with his seatbelt.

The sister car (#932) was driven by Daniel Schwerfeld and Florian Wahl. With the Cayman GT4 CS, the duo

crossed the finish line as the best Permit B vehicle in the CUP3 class after a flawless race.

Team Principal at BLACK FALCON, Alexander Böhm, said: "We had a turbulent start to the season in the NLS. After the accident-related retirement at NLS1, we got everything right with the IDENTICA Porsche this round. Perfect tactics put us on a podium course within a few laps and the drivers brought the car home in second place without a scratch – a job well done by the entire team! We are also quite happy with the two TEXTAR Cayman. With the #932 we have achieved all the goals we had set. The pole position of the sister car was a great proof of performance, even if the race unfortunately did not go one hundred per cent according to plan."



## Italy

### Exciting upcoming 2023 season

GMS Racing Team, sponsored by FUCHS Italy for several seasons, has confirmed its participation in all ten rounds of the Fanatec GT World Challenge Europe in 2023.

Team Principal, Andrea Grillini, explained: “We are happy to participate in the Sprint Cup of the highly regarded GT3 Gran Turismo this year. The official tests kicked off at the Paul Ricard Circuit (France) with Nicholas Risitano, the newcomer in the team. I’m glad to welcome him, he’s a very fast driver and has a lot of experience. I’m sure that his contribution will be fundamental for the team’s growth and get results in this very competitive championship.”

Nicholas Risitano said: “I’m really excited to join the team for this new challenge with a Lamborghini. When I received the call from Andrea Grillini, I immediately perceived his determination and his desire to go the same way as me. I want to thank the team for making me part of the family and working tirelessly to give me a competitive car for the testing days. I’m very excited about this new project and contributing to the team’s development. I’m sure that great satisfaction will come.”

Fanatec GT World Challenge Europe calendar: April: Monza (Italy); May: Brands Hatch (UK); June: Paul Ricard (France); July: 24H of Spa (Belgium), Misano (Italy), and Nürburgring (Germany); September: Hockenheim (Germany), Valencia (Spain), and Barcelona (Spain); October: Zandvoort (The Netherlands)

**FUCHS lubricants: TITAN RACE PRO S 10W-60, TITAN SINTOPOID LS 75W-90, MAINTAIN DOT 4 HT, MAINTAIN BRAKE CLEANER**



## Italy

### **FUCHS partnership boosts European visibility**

FUCHS Italy announced a new partnership with NCT Racing Team managed by former WRC top driver Gianfranco Cunico, world renowned for his 90's rally performance.

The team is competing in the FIA European Rally Championship with driver Andrea Nucita and co-driver Rudy Pollet with a new Hyundai i20 N WRC Rally2 supplied by the European unit of Hyundai motorsport.

FUCHS Product and Marketing Manager, Luigi di Tollo, said: "It's a very competitive team with long-lasting experience in the WRC, ERC, IRC, and Italian Rally Championship. There is a long-term project with the aim to become one of the top international teams and they

have chosen FUCHS TITAN lubricants as technical partners. This important investment by FUCHS Italy is part of our brand awareness development program, which aims to support the future growth of our automotive business. It's not just a sponsorship, but a fully structured marketing and communication program that serves brand awareness, a brand ambassador program, customer communication and experience, web and social communication, as well as store visibility."

Calendar: March: Rally Serras de Fafe e Felgueiras (Portugal); May: Rally Islas Canarias; May: Rally Poland; June: Rally Liepāja (Latvia); July: Royal Rally of Scandinavia (Sweden) and Rally di Roma Capitale (Italy); October: Barum Czech Rally Zlin (Czech Republic) and IV Rally Hungary



## South Africa

### A rider to watch

FUCHS female rider Dakota Grobbelaar raced in the SA Motocross Nationals Championship in 2023. The first of eight rounds took place at the Phakisa MX Track in hard conditions. The bike was ready, but the mechanics waited until the last moment to select the tires and tune the bike according to the weather conditions. It was on a muddy and water-logged track that Dakota took the start. "I was really nervous as I have only been back on the bike for three weeks and am still working on strengthening my ankle. At the end of heats one and two, I finished with ninth place overall after a great start and hard-fought battles."

Calendar: February: Welcom; April: Cape Town (rounds two and three); May: Pietermaritzburg; June: Richards Bay; July: Gqeberha (rounds six and seven); November: Gauteng

FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene PRO 4 XP 10W-40, Silkolene FOAM FILTER OIL, Silkolene WASH OFF, Silkolene CARB AND INJECTOR CLEANER

## South Africa

### Like father, like son

Nine-year-old Joe Louw and his father Michael are competing again for FUCHS in 2023.

Joe is in his sixth racing season and moved up from the Stock PW Supermoto to the Junior Motard 50 cc class in the SuperBike Mag Short Circuit Series in 2021. He then won third place overall in the B class of the 2022 SA Short Circuit Series. This season, Joe is competing in the Supermoto SM50 class and, for the first time, in the 65 class of the SASCS.

The second round of the SASCS was held at the famous Idube Racetrack. Joe finished fifth overall for the day in the 65 class of the SASCS while also taking third place overall in the 50 cc Supermoto class finishing. Racing was tough as he is still getting used to the bike, but he improved on lap times every heat of the day.

Michael finished third overall for the day in the Master Supermoto despite encountering some crashes in front of him which forced him to get off track to avoid damage.

FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene PRO COOL, Silkolene BRAKE FLUID, Silkolene PRO 4 10W-40 XP, Silkolene BRAKE & CHAIN CLEANER, Silkolene WASH OFF, Silkolene FOAM FILTER CLEANER, Silkolene CARB CLEANER







## South Africa

### Vogelesang, enthusiastic for the 2023 season

Johan Vogelesang, the 25-year-old FUCHS rider, kicked off the SA MX National Championship at the Phakisa Raceway. In race one, after placing third on the starting line, Johan had a minor crash in lap three. The event cost him a few positions and valuable points, and he eventually finished eighth.

“In the start of race two, I made a great jump out the gate, had a bike length lead over the field that I lost due to a wheelie caused by my Pirelli tires hooking up too much. I had to shut off completely which cost me a holeshot and so I settled a second-place start. In the final of race two, I took the third place and managed to secure that position for the first few laps after being passed by Cameron Durow and Neville Bradshaw. I finished with two eighth places in the MX1 class. It is not exactly what I had in mind but after not riding for two weeks because of a big crash and minor injuries, I am happy to leave the first round with points.”

FUCHS Marketing Specialist, Kayla Van Vught, commented: “After an incredible 2022 season in the SA MX National Championship, the Free State, and the MSA NRMX Championship, with a few one-off events like the North vs South Interprovincial thrown into the mix, Johan is ready to set his sights on a podium finish in 2023. We are proud to support him and cannot wait to see what he achieves this season.”

**FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene PRO 4 10W-60 XP, Silkolene TITANIUM DRY LUBE, Silkolene FOAM FILTER OIL, Silkolene FOAM FILTER CLEANER, Silkolene PRO BOOST, Silkolene WASH OFF**





## South Africa

### Podium finish for Cameron Aitken

South African rider Cameron Aitken secured a podium finish in the first round of the KZN Championship held at the Dezzi Raceway. Aitken and his team made the decision to switch categories and run in the Super Motard class.

In race one, starting from the back of the grid, Aitken worked his way up to third place with some impressive riding. In race two, he adapted quickly to the new track and tough competition, starting in sixth place, and exchanging positions with the front runners each lap to finish with a commendable third place in the race and an overall third place finish for the day.

## South Africa

### A strategic alliance for FUCHS

FUCHS South Africa has announced its sponsorship of the Harescramble Styled Enduro Series known as Farm Jam, now in its 14th year. The series attracts an average of 250 riders per race, along with dedicated pit crews and co-sponsor Dunlop members. The five races of the season will be held mainly in Middelburg.

FUCHS Marketing Specialist, Kayla Van Vught, said: "As the exclusive lubricant supplier of the series, we will reward the first five riders of each class with a FUCHS product. This partnership allows us to have our own space in the pits, boost brand awareness, sell directly to the end user, and push the trial of our FUCHS Silkolene range to the target market. This well-known and well-attended series offers us an excellent opportunity to gain great exposure."





## South Africa

### Ian Rall finishes in top ten at Gauteng

Ian Rall started in 42nd position during the time trial but managed to finish in tenth place overall at the Gauteng Xcross Country Club. Despite breaking his front disc during the main race, Rall persevered and finished in sixth place in his class and 20th overall. In his own words: "It was a funny and challenging race."

## South Africa

### The winner is FUCHS rider Jamie Berry

Jamie Berry took part in the first round of the Western Cape Off-Road Club. "Despite starting sixth among many new riders I had never competed against, I set out onto the track. Due to the recent rainfall, the track was covered in slippery mud and the river we had to cross had become deep and dangerous. At this moment, I realized that my bike wasn't in the best condition and needed immediate attention. I pulled onto the side of the track to dry off my air filter and change the spark plug. I was very grateful for the FUCHS air filter and gearbox oil; without these great products I wouldn't have been able to continue my race. After two and a half hours of intense racing, I secured first place in the Junior 85 cc class. This race tested me physically and mentally and I have learnt more about my abilities and skills as a rider."



## South Africa

### Filen claims podium finish in the EWXC Series Race

FUCHS rider, Riley Filen, participated in the third round of the Enduro World EWXC Series, which took place at the Mhara Lodge, featuring a very challenging cross-country race. "What an awesome weekend of racing! I started strong with a holeshot out of the gate and my race went smoothly until the fourth lap when my gear lever came off. Nevertheless, I had a successful race securing second place in the PRO B class in front of 15 riders and took third overall."

The fourth and final race of the season will be held in May.

**FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene COMP 2 PLUS, Silkolene FOAM FILTER OIL, Silkolene WASH OFF**



## Zimbabwe

### Winning start for Rademeyer

The first round of the Zimbabwe National Saloon Car Championship was held in Harare at the Donny Brooke Circuit. "It is not my favorite race, but we were confident of a solid outing," said Calvin Rademeyer, the FUCHS driver.

Rademeyer took the pole with the VW Polo in the Saloon B class during qualifying and secured the win in his class in heat one. "Nothing too difficult in that race." He was closely followed over the line by young Dylan Praji, who stepped up to Saloon B in another FUCHS lubricants-backed VW Polo.

Heat two was a slightly different story. "I made a great start in the rain and jumped a few positions going into turn one, but by the time lap two started, the rain had increased severely. A competitor spun in front of me, and I had to take avoiding action, which led me to spin and go off the circuit." From there, Calvin drove a great race, clawing back the time lost in the spin and managed to pass other competitors on the last corner to secure the overall win for the day.

Dylan Praji won heat two and finished with second place overall for the day.

A great performance for both FUCHS drivers.

**FUCHS lubricants for Calvin: TITAN PRO RACE S 10W-60, MAINTAIN DOT 5.1, MAINTAIN FRICOFIN LL50, TITAN SINTOPOID LS 75W-90**

**FUCHS lubricants for Dylan: TITAN SUPERSYN 5W-40, MAINTAIN FRICOFIN LL50, TITAN SUPERGEAR 80W-90**



## Great Britain

### Strategic alliance for FUCHS UK

FUCHS UK announces a new partnership with Toyota Gazoo Racing UK ahead of the 2023 Kwik Fit British Touring Car Championship (BTCC) which launches into action at the official season launch at Brands Hatch. The partnership will bring great exposure through the TV reach and media platforms of the championship, however initial talks focus on the development of engine and transmission oils to maximize the performance of the three racing Toyota Corollas.

Following a successful 2022 campaign, the team has been working hard in the off-season, with sights firmly set on success and the highly competitive nature of the BTCC, meaning that any opportunity to improve performance and efficiency will support the ambition to win the championship.

The team has confirmed drivers Rory Butcher who finished fifth in 2022, Ricky Collard who has shown great improvement, and newcomer George Gamble who enjoyed a great rookie season last year.

FUCHS Marketing Manager, John Mosley, said: “FUCHS has a long global history within motorsport in various disciplines and so we are proud to have been involved with leading BTCC and rally teams for many years. We look forward to working closely with the Toyota Gazoo Racing UK Team, using their performance data to keep them on the track whilst helping us develop the next generation of lubricants.”

Toyota Gazoo Racing UK Team Principal, Christian Dick, said: “FUCHS is a world-renowned organization with a strong heritage in the sport; its reputation for excellence is thoroughly well-deserved. We are all tremendously excited to embark upon the BTCC campaign together and look forward to carrying the FUCHS branding on our Toyota Corollas over the coming season as its first-class lubricants continue to do the business underneath the bonnet.”





## Great Britain

### Chilman and Walsh are currently leading the FUCHS LUBRICANTS BHRC

Roger Chilman and Patrick Walsh added to their round one Riponian Rally win by taking a convincing victory at the second round of the FUCHS LUBRICANTS British Historic Rally Championship, the Get Jerky Rally North Wales.

In a nip-and-tuck fight for the lead in round one, which saw up to four protagonists in with a chance of taking the win, it was Chilman and co-driver Patrick Walsh who kept their cool over the final loop of stages to set their stall out early for the season ahead.

Taking second place and finishing just four seconds behind the winners, BHRC debutants Tom Walster and Chris Ridge proved they will be the ones to watch this season, whilst Adrian Hetherington and Ronan O'Neill put their troublesome 2022 Riponian memories firmly behind them with a third-place finish, giving the Ford Escort MKII a podium lockout.

In round two, Chilman threaded his Ford Escort MKII through the slippery world-class stages to the west of the Welshpool rally base, taking the lead on the second test and not to be headed, securing the second BHRC victory of his career.

Behind the winner, there was a tight battle for the remaining podium spots with Nick Elliott and Dave Price recording their best result of 2023 with a second-place finish, and BHRC returnees Jason Pritchard and Phil Clarke stealing third on the final stage.

The FUCHS LUBRICANTS BHRC stays in Wales for round three, as the Plains Rally takes crews to Bala in May.



## Australia

### Ups and downs in Melbourne

Mark Winterbottom, Team 18 driver, participated in races three to six of the Gen3 Supercars during the second round of the 2023 Repco Supercars Championship held at the Beaupaires Melbourne SuperSprint in support of the 2023 Formula 1 Australian Grand Prix in front of 440,000 fans.

The team started the season very strongly in the first round, emerging third in the Teams' Championship and in the top ten of the Drivers' Championship after the Newcastle 500.

The event covered a total of 320 km, and Mark raced the #18 DEWALT Racing Chevrolet Camaro ZL1 that could reach a top speed of 275 km per hour.

In race three in Melbourne, Mark secured 21st after finishing first in practice one and 17th in qualifying in mixed conditions. Race four was chaotic, after qualifying a strong fifth, Mark's race was thrown into chaos as early as turn one when he was forced off the road in an incident and dropped to the back of the pack. However, he claimed ninth by the end of lap 15.

"It was unavoidable, but at least we got back to ninth from the back. The team did a great job with strategy."

Starting ninth in race five, Mark made a great start and moved up three positions by turn two. However, three corners later, he was crashed out of the race by James Golding, making severe contact with the concrete wall on the outside of the corner.

The mechanics worked all night to repair Mark's car and made it out for race six on Sunday. Starting eleventh, he showed a strong one-lap pace but struggled for tire life in the closing stages of his super-soft stint before pitting on the final lap for hard tires to finish 23rd. "It's been a tough weekend. We had so much promise and had a very good car in qualifying, great one-lap pace on new tires. Things just didn't fall our way."

Team 18 will be back in action for the third of twelve rounds at the Perth SuperSprint.

**FUCHS lubricants: TITAN RACE SYN 20, TITAN CYTRAC TD 75W-90**