

Press Release July 4, 2021

Victory and championship lead in Mitropa Rally Cup for Lukas Dunner at Rally Casentino

- Start-finish win for the Austrian team Lukas Dunner/Ilka Minor
- Change of lead in Mitropa Rally Cup: Lukas Dunner now ahead of Manuel Kößler
- Rino Muradore wins the historic competition
- The winners of the club championship are Rüdiger Dilg/Günter Bradl

(Munich, July 4, 2021) Right at the start of the rally, the young Austrian Lukas Dunner and his skilled co-driver Ilka Minor in the Škoda Fabia R5 set their scent and drove home a start-finish victory. The Mitropa Cup leader Manuel Kößler - in Tuscany again with his long-time co-driver Benedikt Hofmann - was left behind on the first two special stages, on the third stage he made a mistake and touched the guard rail, which meant the end of this event for him. Hermann Gassner sen. with Karin Thannhäuser took over his place in the Mitsubishi Lancer Evo X R4 and by constantly fast times this was also never endangered up to the finish. In the last test of the day the team even managed a best time ahead of Lukas Dunner.

Third place went to the promising young driver René Noller with co-driver Anne Katharina Stein on an Opel Corsa Rally4.

Another youngster, Jonas Ertz, took 6th place with the Toyota GT86 CS-R3, a team supported by HJS. Jonas was amazed about this foreign experience: "Normally I drive so many curves in Germany in a whole season, as here at the Rally Casentino!"

In the historical classification, the veteran Rino Muradore took the lead from the first special stage and did not give it up again. Second and third places alternated between the two Austrians Alfons Nothdurfter and Gerhard Openauer. At the finish, Openauer was able to pull away from his rival with a gap of about 2 minutes.

Hungarian Attila Maeszati crosses the finish line on rank 4 and keeps on scoring points in the championship. The newly married couple Hans-Ulrich Zacher and Katrin Gräbner reach the finish line in 5th place. The couple got married during the Rally Casentino on Wednesday in Talla - directly at the special stage "Crocina".

In the Mitropa Club classification, the pairing of Rüdiger Dilg/Günter Bradl in the Mitsubishi Lancer Evo VII won ahead of Martin Kainz/Andreas Bergmann, who fought for the lead throughout the day. Third place went to Norberto Droandi/Emanuela Florean on Peugeot

106 Rallye. On the last special stage they overtook the Hungarian driver Gyurinski, who lost many minutes of time due to a puncture.

The Casentino Rally started on Saturday at 10.30 a.m., the decisions were made on a total of 7 special stages with a total length of 105 kilometers. Thereby 3 different special stages were driven several times. After a total distance of over 300 kilometers, the participants reached the finish in Bibbiena in the evening.

The Mitropa Cup family met already on Wednesday evening at the traditional dinner of the Mitropa Rally Cup President and his family. The recce took place on Thursday, followed on Friday by the administration check and the technical inspection of the vehicles. In addition, there was the opportunity to test the handling of the race cars during the shakedown. However, many Mitropa Cup teams preferred to relax at the swimming pools of their hotels or vacation homes.

Results 41. Rally Internazionale del Casentino 2021

Mitropa Rally Cup (FIA App. J)

1. Dunner Lukas/Minor Ilka (AUT) – Škoda Fabia R5 (1:11:21,0)
2. Gasßer sen. Hermann/Thannhäuser K. (DEU) – Mitsubishi Lancer Evo X R4 (+47,4)
3. Noller René/Stein Anne Katharina (DEU) – Opel Corsa Rally4 (+1:30,8)
4. Osterhaus Klaus/ Moch Dietmar (DEU) – Mitsubishi Lancer Evo X (+2:47,7)
5. Kreuter Norman/Kreuter Michaela (DEU) – Peugeot 208 Rally4 (+4.13,1)
6. Ertz Jonas/Lade Maresa (DEU) – Toyota GT86 CS-R3 (+4.30,8)
7. Merencsics jun. Á./Kondella-Fülep E. (HUN) – Peugeot 208 R2 (+6:28,1)
8. Rachner Olaf/Rachner Heike (DEU) – Suzuki Swift Sport Mk4 (+12:03,7)
9. Puki/Csák Alex (HUN) – Citroën C2 R2 (+30:30,2)

Mitropa Rally Historic Cup (FIA App. K)

1. Muradore Rino/Borghese Sonia (ITA) – Ford Escort RS 1800 MKII (1.01:06,1)
2. Openauer Gerhard - Baumgartner G. (AUT) – Ford Escort RS 2000 MKII (+35,5)
3. Nothdurfter Alfons/Nolte Jürgen (AUT/DEU) – Ford Sierra RS Cosworth 4-door (+2:48,8)
4. Mészai/Paukovics Lilla (HUN) – Lada VAZ 21011 (+5:42,7)
5. Zacher Hans-Ulrich/Gräbner Katrin (DEU) – Ford Escort 1600 MKII (+6:10,6)

Mitropa Rally Club Championship

1. Dilg Rüdiger/Brandl Günter (DEU) – Mitsubishi Lancer Evo VII (1.15:50,7)
2. Kainz Martin/Bergmann Andreas (DEU) – Mitsubishi Lancer Evo VII (+39,4)
3. Droandi Norberto/Florea Emanuela (ITA) – Peugeot 106 Rallye (+2:39,2)
4. Gyuriczky Zsolt/Böröczi Levente (HUN) – Citroën C2 S1600 (+9:10,8)

Championship Points Mitropa Rally Cup

Mitropa Rally Cup – Driver

1. Dunner Lukas	(AUT)	110
2. Kößler Manuel	(DEU)	104
3. Noller René	(DEU)	69
4. Kiss Ferenc	(HUN)	66
5. Antal Ifj. Kanyik	(HUN)	59

Mitropa Rally Cup – Co-Driver

1. Kondella-Fülep ...	(HUN)	79
2. Nyirfas Julianna	(HUN)	70
3. Rachner Heike	(DEU)	66
4. Kiss Ferenc	(HUN)	66
5. Ostlender Hanna	(DEU)	56

Mitropa Rally Historic Cup – Driver

1. Mesziati Attila	(HUN)	74
2. Wirtmann Ferenc	(HUN)	60
3. Muradore Rino	(ITA)	58
4. Nothdurfter Alfons	(AUT)	54
5. Zacher Hans-Ulrich	(DEU)	44

Mitropa Rally Historic Cup – Co-Driver

1. Paukovics Lilla	(HUN)	82
2. Kerekes József	(HUN)	60
3. Nolte Jürgen	(DEU)	58
4. Gräbner Katrin	(DEU)	52
5. Taskó András	(HUN)	10

Mitropa Rally Club Championship – Driver

1. Gyarmati Ariel	(HUN)	106
2. Kainz Martin	(DEU)	89
3. Dilg Rüdiger	(DEU)	88
4. Scheidhammer Alois	(DEU)	68
5. Gyuriczky Zsolt	(HUN)	64

Mitropa Rally Club Championship – Co-Driver

1. Kocsis György	(HUN)	106
2. Bergmann Andreas	(DEU)	89
3. Regner August	(DEU)	76
4. Böröczi Levente	(HUN)	70
5. Florean Emanuela	(ITA)	67

Mitropa Rally Cup Calendar 2021

Rally Velenje (Slovenia) 28.-29.05.21
54. Mecsek Rallye (Hungary) 24.-26.06.21
Rally del Casentino – Toscana (Italy) 02.-03.07.21
Rally Zelezniki (Slovenia) 23.-24.07.21
Rally del Friuli (Italy) 19.-23.08.21
Rally Nova Gorica (Slovenia) 9.-11.9.21
ADAC 3-Städte-Rallye (Germany) 14.-16.10.21
Rally Citta di Bassano (Italy) 22.-23.10.21

The Mitropa Rally Cup is of the oldest rally series in Europe. It was founded in 1965. Famous names such as Sandro Munari, Franz Wittmann, "Lucky" Luigi Battistolli, Armin Schwarz and Hermann Gassner have already entered their names in the series' winners' lists. Fans affectionately refer to the Mitropa Rally Cup as the "unofficial European Rally Championship for private drivers." The series is a championship recognized by the FIA (Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile). Participants can register in the categories FIA homologated vehicles and historic vehicles according to FIA Appendix K.

<https://mitropa-rally-cup.com/>

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Lukas Dunner / Ilka Minor (AUT) Škoda Fabia R5

Photo Credit: Photo Zini



Winners Mitropa Rally Historic Cup (FIA App. K)

Photo Credit: Photo Zini

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