

Press Release October 18, 2021

Raffael Sulzinger wins the Mitropa Rally Cup classification at the 3-Städte-Rallye

(Munich, October 18, 2021) Raffael Sulzinger with his brilliant drive wins the Mitropa Rally Cup classification and with his result also takes a sensational 9th place overall at the 3-Städte-Rallye, which this year was not only a predicate run for the German Rally Championship but was also rated for the Austrian National Championship.

Already on the first special stage local hero Sulzinger with co-driver Jürgen Heigl showed who is the boss in the house. With his Ford Fiesta Rally4 he set the best time, 5,7 sec. ahead of former champion Hermann Gaßner sen. Kößler as second in the championship reached the finish line in 4th position, the championship leader Lukas Dunner only in 6th position. Thus, excitement was guaranteed at this penultimate round of the Mitropa Rally Cup.

At the overnight break Sulzinger leads with 25,4 sec. ahead of Hermann Gaßner sen. Kößler on position 3, followed by Lukas Dunner on position 4. The young drivers René Noller and Jonas Ertz arrive at the leg finish on position 5 and 7 respectively.

On the first stage on Saturday Jonas Ertz drops out directly due to engine problems. It should remain the only retirement in the Mitropa Rally Cup. Raffael Sulzinger does not give up his lead and wins with 1:37,5 min. ahead of Hermann Gassner sen. Close behind with only 5,9 sec. behind Lukas Dunner, followed by Manuel Kößler. René Noller took 5th place as the second best 2WD driver.

The fight for this year's championship in the Mitropa Rally Cup remains open, the decision will be made already in one week at the Rally Citta di Bassano in Italy.

In the historical classification, the placings were quickly taken. After Brink in the Lancia Delta could not even start due to a gearbox failure, Alfons Nothdurfter with Co Jürgen Nolte had a free ride to a start-finish victory. The Italian Muradore had arrived at the 3-Städte with his previous year's car and therefore did not shine as usual with best times. 3rd place went to the mixed team Zacher/Gräbner, the Hungarian Mészáros reached the finish line with his Lada on 4th position.

In the Mitropa Rally Cup Club ranking Martin Kainz as the leader did not let anything go and secured the championship early with a lead of more than 9 minutes ahead of Scheidhammer at the finish. Mitropa Rally Cup President Norberto Droandi finished 3rd after a clear drive.

With 13 special stages over a length of 173 kilometers, the 3-City Rally led through the Bavarian district of Freyung-Grafenau near Passau.

Results 3-Städte-Rallye 2021

Mitropa Rally Cup (FIA App. J)

1. Sulzinger Raffael/Heigl Jürgen (DEU/AUT) - Ford Fiesta Rally4 1:42:29.0
2. Gaßner sen. Hermann/Öttl Lena (DEU) - Mitsubishi Lancer Evo X R4 +1:37.5
3. Dunner Lukas/Rausch Jürgen (AUT) - Škoda Fabia R5 +1:43.4
4. Kößler Manuel/Kalinke Melanie (DEU) - Subaru Impreza STi R4 +1:55.0
5. Noller René/Stein Anne Katharina (DEU) - Opel Corsa Rally4 +2:05.8
6. Zeiringer Fabian/Letz Angelika (AUT) - Opel Corsa Rally4 +3:53.3
7. Mayer Daniel/Klinger Jürgen (AUT) - Peugeot 208 R2 +7:29.5
8. Retzer Hansi/Lerch Jennifer (DEU) - Honda Civic Type-R EP3 +7:48.7
9. Kreuter Norman/Kreuter Michaela (DEU) - Peugeot 208 Rally4 +8:18.7

Mitropa Rally Historic Cup (FIA App. K)

1. Nothdurfter Alfons/Nolte Jürgen (AUT/DEU) - Ford Sierra RS Cosworth 4x4 1:57:29.4
2. Muradore Rino/Blasutto Luciano (ITA) - Ford Escort RS 1800 MKII +7:41.2
3. Zacher Hans-Ulrich/Gräbner Katrin (DEU) - Ford Escort RS 2000 MKII +14:52.8
4. Mészáros Attila/Schmidt Ádám (HUN) - Lada VAZ 2101 +19:47.2

Mitropa Rally Club Championship

1. Kainz Martin/Cerny Manfred (DEU/AUT) - Mitsubishi Lancer Evo VII 1:47:22.6
2. Scheidhammer Alois/Regner August (DEU) - Nissan 350Z +9:25.7
3. Droandi Norberto/Florean Emanuela (ITA) - Peugeot 106 Rallye +15:17.3

Punktstand Mitropa Rally Cup Meisterschaft

Mitropa Rally Cup – Driver

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| 1. Dunner Lukas (AUT) | 256 |
| 2. Kößler Manuel (DEU) | 249 |
| 3. Gaßner Hermann (DEU) | 201 |
| 4. Noller René (DEU) | 134 |
| 5. Kiss Ferenc (HUN) | 125 |

Mitropa Rally Cup – Co-Driver

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| 1. Kalinke Melanie (DEU) | 232 |
| 2. Rachner Heike (DEU) | 152 |
| 3. Thannhäuser Karin (DEU) | 136 |
| 4. Kiss Ferenc (HUN) | 125 |
| 5. Fakin Gregor (SVN) | 122 |

Mitropa Rally Historic Cup – Driver

1. Muradore Rino (ITA)	174
2. Mesziati Attila (HUN)	152
3. Nothdurfter Alfons (AUT)	89
4. Zacher Hans-Ulrich (DEU)	70
5. Wirtmann Ferenc (HUN)	65

Mitropa Rally Historic Cup – Co-Driver

1. Paukovics Lilla (HUN)	112
2. Nolte Jürgen (DEU)	93
3. Gräbner Katrin (DEU)	80
4. Kerekes József (HUN)	65
5. Bökamp Lothar (DEU)	30

Mitropa Rally Club Championship – Driver

1. Kainz Martin (DEU)	245
2. Gyarmati Ariel (HUN)	170
3. Scheidhammer Alois (DEU)	168
4. Dilg Rüdiger (DEU)	160
5. Matics Mihály (HUN)	150

Mitropa Rally Club Championship – Co-Driver

1. Regner August (DEU)	184
2. Bergmann Andreas (DEU)	171
3. Kocsis György (HUN)	170
4. Horváth Lajos (HUN)	141
5. Brandl Günter (DEU)	138

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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Raffael Sulzinger/Jürgen Heigl (DEU/AUT) - Ford Fiesta Rally4

Photo Credit: Sascha Dörrenbächer



Alfon Nothdurfter/Jürgen Nolte (AUT/DEU) - Ford Sierra RS Cosworth 4x4
Photo Credit: Sascha Dörrenbächer



Martin Kainz/Manfred Cerny (DEU/AUT) - Mitsubishi Lancer Evo VII
Photo Credit: Sascha Dörrenbächer

Contact

Mitropa Rally Cup
Press Officer

Lothar Bökamp
lothar.boekamp@mitropa-rally-cup.com