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# **300 DRIVERS EXPECTED IN LONATO FOR THE 35th ANDREA MARGUTTI TROPHY**

## A record participation is anticipated for the 35th Andrea Margutti Trophy, race scheduled at the South Garda Karting next March 14–17th and organized by Parma Motorsport.

There are about 300 participants in the 35th Andrea Margutti Trophy at South Garda Karting in Lonato across the MINI, OKN, OKNJ, OKJ and KZ2 categories, with drivers coming from 41 nations. These drivers are ready to bring further excitement to this international event that has been held regularly since 1990, with the organization by Parma Motorsport.

Therefore, the 35th edition is expected to break records for this historic competition that renews itself every year in memory of the late Andrea Margutti, who passed away in 1989. The event was initiated based on the desire of his parents, Patrizia and Enrico Margutti, in collaboration with the Pellegrini family of Parma Motorsport. It is embraced by all the drivers and friends who were part of Andrea's era, including Jarno Trulli and Giancarlo Fisichella.

#### All the represented nations.

An impressive number of nations will be represented in the event, a total of 41. Among the foreign nations, Romania stands out with the participation of 20 drivers. In terms of teams, the most numerous this year is Baby Race Driver Academy with 12 drivers. The represented nations at the 35th Andrea Margutti Trophy include: Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and the United States.

### Great participation in all categories.

A high turnout is observed in all categories, featuring prominent names and major international teams. This includes significant participation in the two new federal categories, OK-N and OK-N Junior, which, with approximately 80 drivers, confirm an excellent success in their first appearance at the Margutti Trophy. The OKN and OKNJ, along with the international OK-Junior with a full grid of 34 drivers, represent the direct-drive categories in this 35th edition. The most numerous category is MINI with 106 drivers: 66 in MINI Gr.3 Under 10 and 40 in MINI Gr.3. Additionally, there is a significant presence in the high-performance KZ2 category, boasting a field of 72 drivers.

#### A lot of champions at the start.

**KZ2.** A significant number of champions will participate in the Andrea Margutti Trophy, starting with the KZ2 category featuring Cristian Bertuca, the winner of the last edition, competing this year with the KCS team, alongside the champion Riccardo Longhi, who previously won the trophy in 2017. Many other top drivers from the Andrea Margutti Trophy's Hall of Fame will also be on the grid, including the multiple champion Davide Forè, a previous winner in 2015 with Team GSR, and the winners of the 2020, 2021, and 2022 editions: the talented Dutch driver Senna Van Walstijn, victorious in 2020 and 2021 with the CPB team, along with Giuseppe Palomba, the 2022 winner.



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Among the others ready to make their mark are Markus Kajak with Maranello SRP, Alex Maragliano with Renda Motorsport, Alessio Piccini making his debut with Modena Kart and the ever-present Andrea Dalè, joined by Angelo Lombardo from Sicily.

**MINI.** Among the youngest participants in the MINI Gr.3 Under 10 category, some of the most competitive names include Niccolò Perico with Energy Corse, Lorenzo Di Pietrantonio and Mason Robertson with BabyRace, Achille Rea and Henri Kumpen (Max Verstappen's nephew) with Tony Kart, David Moscardi with BirelART, and Antonio Ianni with Gamoto. In the MINI Gr.3 category, notable young talents include Daniel Miron Lorente and Oleksandr Legenkyi with Team Driver, Leonardo Goski with Tony Kart, Alessandro Truchot and Albert Tamm with BabyRace, Antoine Venant with Kidix, and Nicola Stanley with Gamoto.

**OKJ.** The international OKJ category features many promising young talents in an international challenge composed mainly of foreign teams and drivers from across Europe, as well as from Indonesia, Japan and South Africa.

**OK-N.** Many teams are also present in OKN, where the Italian flag prevails. Here, in the battle for victory, specialists include champions from previous editions in the Senior category directly involved, starting with Cristian Comanducci, the 2021 champion racing with PRK, the Italian OKN 2023 champion Federico Albanese with Italcorse and Riccardo Ferrari with M2 Racing, the champion of the 2023 Margutti Trophy. Several young talents from last year's OKN Junior category will also be making their debut in OKN.

**OKNJ.** Many drivers are seeking success in the OKN Junior category, and among the most interesting and competitive are Davide Mizzoni with Italcorse, Pietro Bagutti with Gamoto, Valerio Viapiana with Team Driver, Giacomo Giusto and Billy Van Staveren with Modena Kart, Cristian Tonalini with KCS, Ludovico Mazzola and Gioele Carrer with Scarpi Racing. Also competing is Ella Hakkinen, the daughter of Mika Hakkinen, with Fusion Motorsport.

**LIVE STREAMING.** The Final stages on Sunday, March 17th will be covered through the Live Streaming feed available from <u>www.trofeomargutti.com</u>.

### The program:

Thursday, March 14th: 8:30 Sporting Scrutineering and Free Practice.

**Friday, March 15th:** 8:30 Free Practice, 10:40 Official Practice, 13:15 Qualifying Practice, 15:30 Qualifying heats.

Saturday, March 16th: 8:30 Warm up, 10:30 Qualifying heats.

Sunday, March 17th: 8:30 Warm up, 10:10 Second chance races, 10:50 Pre-Finals, 13:50 Finals, 17:15 Prize Ceremony.

All information can be found at <u>www.trofeomargutti.com</u>.

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