

## **Team Mini Mania Rolls Up Victories and Podiums in Ambitious Vintage Racing Year**

*A Full Race Schedule includes the Mini vs. Mustang Challenge at WeatherTech Raceway Laguna Seca this November*

June 4, 2021 (FPRC) -- The father and son team of Don and Dennis Racine have continued their winning ways this season in California races at WeatherTech Raceway Laguna Seca, Sonoma Raceway and Thunder Hill Raceway Park. Their Mini Cooper vintage racing cars have first and second place finishes at nearly every race this year.

This weekend they are taking four cars to the Classic Sports Racing Group (CSRG) Laguna Seca Vintage Car Races June 5-6. This is the first time CSRG has raced at the Monterey circuit in 20 years. The Racines are being joined by guest drivers Andrew Wait of Greenbrae, CA and CeCe Cord, of Santa Barbara, CA.

Also on Don's schedule is a vintage race this September in France, but the rest of his schedule may be curtailed due to preparations for a very special race weekend set for this November.

"The Velocity Invitational Mini vs. Mustang Endurance Challenge is a unique event for North America," Racine explained, "recreating the classic rivalry between the two marques during historic races held at the famed Goodwood Circuit in England."

The invitational event set for November 11-14 at the 11-turn, 2.238-mile WeatherTech Raceway Laguna Seca features a field of 18 vintage racing Mustangs and Minis in two separate one-hour endurance races. Two drivers are required for each vehicle, with a mandatory pit stop midway through each race for refueling and driver changes.

"I don't believe there's ever been a Mini vs. Mustang race like this in the U.S., and it will create difficult challenges to both drivers and teams to successfully compete," he added. For instance, one of the enduros takes place at night, so all vehicles need to be equipped with headlights. Typically, vintage races are held at daytime so the cars rarely have headlights installed.

"We're entering six teams so nearly all of Team Mini Mania has to have the lighting systems installed and cars mechanically prepped for the longer-than-usual race length and distance," Racine said. "We're looking forward to creating some of the classic nose-to-tail Mustang and Mini races so frequently seen at the Goodwood Festival of Speed each year." Further information regarding the invitational weekend can be found at: <https://velocityinvitational.com/>

### About Don Racine

Don Racine is the founder and owner of Mini Mania in Nevada City, CA. He has raced almost every type of sports car since the 1970s, including formula cars, sports racers and sedans at more than thirty tracks in the USA, Japan, Australia, United Kingdom, and Canada. Like many, he began by volunteering at events and autocrossing before graduating to a variety of racing cars while developing a love for Mini Coopers. Sourcing parts for the growing numbers of Minis he owned led to founding an import business that's flourished into Mini Mania, the leading restoration and performance parts supplier for both Classic Minis and the new BMW MINI. Don has won numerous

Classic Mini races in recent years, including events at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway and California's Sonoma, Laguna Seca and Coronado racing circuits, to name a few.

#### Dennis Racine

Following in his father's footsteps, Dennis' earliest memories are of when his parents purchased a Mini Woody station wagon. He also began with autocrossing and helping on his dad's cars while growing up. Dennis has owned more than 20 Minis and has been road racing them for the past 15 years with numerous victories. He was the winner at the recent SVRA Sonoma Speed Tour in his Mini Cooper, and hopes to repeat this accomplishment at this weekend's Laguna Seca Vintage Car Races.

#### About Mini Mania

Mini Mania is located in the heart of the Gold Country in Northern California's Sierra Nevada Foothills and has been in the business of providing parts and accessories for the original Classic Mini Coopers since 1974. As a result Mini Mania is the largest U.S. supplier of parts for the Classic Mini and developed performance parts for the new BMW MINI Cooper and Cooper 'S' in 2001. This was a year before the car was released in this country. Mini Mania continues as both enthusiasts and leaders in providing parts and accessories for the MINI, Classic Mini, Spridget, and Morris Minor. <http://www.MiniaMania.com>

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