

Porsche Carrera Cup North America ace Zachary Vanier sets sights on prestigious competition

Zachary Vanier heads to Porsche Junior Shootout at Estoril

13/11/2025 For talented young drivers, being selected as a Porsche Junior opens a decisive door to a professional racing career. Since 1997, this development program has produced many factory drivers, Le Mans winners, and world champions. Canadian Zachary Vanier, fresh off a third-place finish in Porsche Carrera Cup North America, joins eleven other exceptional young drivers face the demanding selection process: but only one will become the 32nd Porsche Junior and contest the 2026 Porsche Mobil 1 Supercup.

For this year's Porsche Junior selection process, each of the twelve Porsche Carrera Cup series worldwide could nominate one young driver aged up to 23.

Vanier was chosen by Porsche Motorsport North America following a strong sophomore season in Porsche Carrera Cup North America. The JDX Racing driver earned a pair of wins – one each at Watkins Glen International and Indianapolis Motor Speedway – and nine total podium finishes. The 23-year-old is already familiar with the Porsche Motorsport Pyramid, winning the 2023 Porsche Sprint Challenge

North America Pro-Am title and, in 2024, becoming the first driver to win a Porsche Sprint Challenge North America and a Porsche Carrera Cup North America race.

"Zachary's success this season, and his effort over the past three years, have earned his opportunity to represent Porsche Carrera Cup North America at the Junior Shootout," Volker Holzmeyer, President and CEO of Porsche Motorsport North America, said. "We are all his progression through the Porsche Pyramid and wish him the best of luck this week against the other top Junior Drivers."

Vanier, who has made a name for himself with spectacular opening lap passes on the track, will face some of the world's best young road racers during the competition.

Alongside the 11 direct nominations, 20-year-old Paul Cauhaupé completes the dozen as a wildcard. The Frenchman finished third overall in the Carrera Cup France and has also turned heads with strong drives in the Porsche Mobil 1 Supercup.

The youngest contender, 18-year-old Janne Stiak from northern Germany, represents Porsche Carrera Cup Middle East as overall champion and has also drawn attention to himself as a race winner in the Porsche Sixt Carrera Cup Deutschland. Similarly, Alexander Tauscher from Germany wrapped up the Carrera Cup Italia season in third place and has been a regular front-runner in the German one-make series since 2022, scoring two race wins. At 23, Tauscher is the oldest contender in the field. Porsche Carrera Cup Benelux sends 20-year-old Dutch driver Sam Jongejan, the reigning runner-up, while Carrera Cup France puts forward its newly crowned champion, 19-year-old Marcus Amand, who took home the title in just his second season.

Representing Porsche Carrera Cup Great Britain is 22-year-old vice champion William Martin, who brings six years of experience behind the wheel of the 911 GT3 Cup. Like Vanier, William Siverholm has successfully advanced through the Porsche Motorsport Pyramid: the 20-year-old Swede won the 2023 Porsche Sprint Challenge Scandinavia and went on to finish second overall in the Carrera Cup Scandinavia this season. The Porsche Sixt Carrera Cup Deutschland nominates race winner Flynt Schuring, a familiar name in the series: the 19-year-old Dutchman is the younger brother of Porsche DTM driver Morris Schuring (20), who won the LMGT3 class at last year's 24 Hours of Le Mans in the 911 GT3 R. Flynt himself also secured three victories in the German one-make series last season and finished third overall in the Porsche Mobil 1 Supercup.

Italian Enzo Trulli earned his spot in the Junior shootout via the Carrera Cup Asia: the 20-year-old son of former Formula 1 driver Jarno Trulli finished second overall and secured the series' talent-pool support. Carrera Cup Brazil sends Matheus de Barros Comparatto to Europe; the 18-year-old Formula 4 graduate is the second-youngest contender and wrapped up his national Porsche one-make series as vice champion. The award for the longest journey goes to Bayley Hall from Australia, who placed fourth overall in his home Carrera Cup and won the Junior classification.

The shootout covers two venues over four days

Two locations will host the Porsche Junior shootout this year. This Saturday, November 15, interviews, tests, and various assessments will be held at the Porsche Esports Performance Center (PEPC) in Cologne-Ossendorf, Germany — home of the Porsche Coanda Esports Racing Team. On Monday and Tuesday, November 17-18, the candidates will showcase their driving skills at the former Portuguese Formula 1 circuit in Estoril, driving the ca. 510 PS (375 kW) 911 GT3 Cup (Generation 992.1) – the same car used in most of the 35 Porsche one-make series in 2025 worldwide.

The new Porsche Junior will receive up to 225,000 Euros for their 2026 Porsche Mobil 1 Supercup campaign. The international series sits at the top of the sports car manufacturer's one-make ecosystem and runs as part of selected Formula 1 events. Candidates also benefit from Porsche Motorsport's extensive mentorship, covering every key aspect of a professional racing career – support that has helped numerous Porsche Juniors earn a factory driver seat.

This list of standout alumni is long: Timo Bernhard, Porsche Junior from 1999 to 2001 and now Porsche brand ambassador, and Marc Lieb (2000 to 2002), won the legendary 24 Hours of Le Mans at the helm of the Porsche 919 Hybrid, claimed titles in the FIA World Endurance Championship and notched countless other individual victories, including the 24 Hours of Nürburgring and championships around the globe. In 2023, Thomas Preining (2017 to 2018) was crowned the first DTM champion in Porsche history with the 911 GT3 R, followed this year by Ayhancan Güven (2020 to 2021). Laurin Heinrich (2022) clinched the 2024 GTD Pro title in the IMSA and delivered a standout Hypercar debut in the FIA WEC last weekend. Porsche 963 factory drivers and former Porsche Juniors Mathieu Jaminet (2016) and Matt Campbell (2017) were crowned overall IMSA champions this year.

The "X channel @PorscheRaces and Instagram @porsche.motorsport provide live updates from Porsche Motorsport with the latest information from racetracks around the world. And now new: the Porsche Motorsport Channel on WhatsApp!

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Title: Zachary Vanier (CDN), Porsche Carrera Cup North America, Porsche Motorsport Junior Shootout, 2025, Porsche AG
Subline: Zachary Vanier

Path: Zachary Vanier heads to Porsche Junior Shootout at Estoril/Images/img_2.jpg
Title: Paul Cauhaupé (FRA), Porsche Carrera Cup France, Porsche Motorsport Junior Shootout, 2025, Porsche AG
Subline: Paul Cauhaupé

Path: Zachary Vanier heads to Porsche Junior Shootout at Estoril/Images/img_3.jpg
Title: Janne Stiak (DEU), Porsche Carrera Cup Middle East, Porsche Motorsport Junior Shootout, 2025, Porsche AG
Subline: Janne Stiak

Path: Zachary Vanier heads to Porsche Junior Shootout at Estoril/Images/img_4.jpg
Title: William Martin (UK), Porsche Carrera Cup Great Britain, Porsche Motorsport Junior Shootout, 2025, Porsche AG
Subline: William Martin

Path: Zachary Vanier heads to Porsche Junior Shootout at Estoril/Images/img_5.jpg
Title: Enzo Trulli (ITA), Porsche Carrera Cup Asia, Porsche Motorsport Junior Shootout, 2025, Porsche AG
Subline: Enzo Trulli

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