

International Best Young Driver Contest

General:

The International Best Young Driver Contest is an initiative to raise awareness on road safety among young drivers and to put forward the message that young drivers can drive responsibly, safely and they can set a good example to both their peers and adults. The contest tests drivers' skills not only behind the wheel, but real-life circumstances when faced with road accidents or injuries.

The contest was first introduced nationally by AMZS (Slovenia) in 2017 and was rapidly followed by UAB (Bulgaria) and PZM (Poland) in 2018. Since 2019, three best drivers of each country are sent to compete at the International Best Young Driver Contest.

Every year, in January, Clubs are invited to express their interest in running a national contest and participating to the international final.

Clubs who participate will sign an agreement with FIA Region I to define their commitment and responsibility.

The International Best Young Driver Contest consists of two different steps:

1. National contest:

Each Club organizes its own national contest which can consist of:

- a digital prequalification with theoretical questions
- a practical national final.

2. International final:

Each Club can send one team, consisting of maximum 2 finalists (male and female if possible) to take part in the international final which will be organised and hosted by one participating Club in collaboration with FIA Region I.

Members of the teams must be at least 18 years old and be holder of valid driving licence for category B. Maximum ages of the team members are 26 years.

National Contest

Clubs will organise their national 'best young driver contests' targeted at 18–26-year-old novice drivers.

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ROAD SAFETY
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Participants who win the national contest and participate in the international final in previous year cannot again take part in national contest.

All national competitions should be concluded at the latest by 15 September. For the Clubs whose travel to the host country of the final event in Europe requires an entry visa, the date of the national event should be planned in such a way that give largely sufficient time for visa application and approval.

Each Club should design the content and plans their own national prequalification and final contest.

The national prequalification can be online competitions with multiple questions. They should aim to test participants theoretical and driving skills in different exercises.

The national best young driver contest (final) must be a physical event where contestants compete in several practical stations, safe driving manoeuvres etc, and if possible first aid.

Tasks for national final:

Here are some examples of what other Clubs have done in the past:

- Dynamic slalom course on asphalt
- Snow-covered slide surface in the “in-field” of the racetrack
- Providing first aid
- Driving through bend
- Attach and drive a trailer
- Driving on slippery surface
- Spare wheel change
- Luggage loading

Clubs can work with NGOs, state authorities, partner up with local and international corporate sponsors – as such helping the Clubs in their institutional relations and building local partnerships for road safety.

International final

The final common “International Final” event usually will take place in the first weekend of October.

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A Technical Committee will be formed and will be responsible to establish the rules and create the content of the international contest. The finalists will join a special challenge that will be a mix of practical tasks.

The Host Club will oversee the International final event's implementation, in cooperation and with inputs from FIA Region I, the Technical Committee and other participating Clubs.

An example of agenda for this event:

Day 0:

- Arrival of FIA Region I team and Technical Committee. Setup with Technical Committee and preparation.

Day 1:

- Arrival of participants
- Opening evening event with reception
- Challenge presentation

Day 2:

- International final event
- Social/cultural activity for participants (if any)
- Final ceremony

Day 3:

- Departure of FIA Region I, teams, Technical Committee.

Tasks for International Final

In a handbook, the Technical Committee will define and adjust the content and exercises of the stations. The handbook will be sent to Clubs in the beginning of September.

Task are divided into two parts:

- part one: driving skills
- part two: first aid, tyre change, etc

At each task the Host Club and Technical Committee should arrange to have at least 1 instructor and one person to assist.

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If necessary, first-aid task can be done in cooperation with Red Cross or other competent organisations (they should prepare the task and will be responsible to count the results for this task).

Depending on the number of competitors, each task should last at least 1 minute long. If a task lasts approx. 20 sec, each competitor should do it 3 times and result will be the either the average or the total sum of 3 runs. In such case, the task can be executed with different cars (f.e. one run with automatic transmission and one run with manual).

There is a list of tasks that should be used for the International Contest. Final list must be defined and confirmed by the Technical Committee by the end of April each year. Tasks can be adapted to available facility offered by Host Club.

Finance

FIA Region I will allocate a fixed amount to contribute to the organisation of the national contest and to send finalist(s) to the international event. Each Club participating will receive the same amount of money for the organization of their national contests, the travel, and accommodations of their finalists to the international final.

Media

FIA Region I will regularly update and promote the national and international events using posts, articles, photos, video clips, on its member and public website and social media tools.

Each Club participating, including the host, should report on national and international events preparation and progress to be featured on FIA Region I medial tools.

If possible, Clubs are encouraged to:

- have a project web site/FB/Instagram
- cooperate with national radio/television/newspapers (media sponsor)
- cooperate with influencers (if possible)
- communicate press release to all media
- organise press conference before the start of the contest
- respect the branding of International Best Young Driver and Road Safety Grand Programme.