

## **North America Celebrates Iconic Car Brand with the 60th Anniversary Mini Race at Portland International Raceway**

*America's largest annual All British Field Meet (Sept. 6-8) features two days of historic racing, 700 British vehicles on display, plus a Salute to Mini's 60th Anniversary*

February 12, 2019 (FPRC) -- PORTLAND, Ore. - The iconic British-made Mini, one of the world's most successful automobiles, is this year's featured show car marque and race group at Oregon's Portland International Raceway September 6-8, 2019.

The British Motor Corporation produced the world famous Mini from 1959 to 2000 with over 5.4 million sold. BMW then purchased the rights and began production of a new MINI model from 2001 to the present.

The Mini has won numerous awards including "Car of the Century" from Autocar magazine in 1995, "Number One Classic Car of All Time" from Classic & Sports Car magazine in 1996, and "European Car of the Century" in a 1999 worldwide poll. The original Mini placed second for "Global Car of the Century" in the same poll just behind the Model T Ford.

The 60th Anniversary Mini Race is held in conjunction with the Columbia River Classic and is sanctioned by the Society of Vintage Racing Enthusiasts (SOVREN), a non-profit racing organization dedicated to the restoration, preservation, and competition of pre-war, vintage and historic racing automobiles since 1985.

"Mini's have been racing at PIR since the early 1960s," explained Event Chairman Eric Newland. "What better way to celebrate 60 years of the popular Mini than at PIR in conjunction with America's largest All British Field Meet and an expert group of vintage racers in SOVREN?"

The celebration kicks off with the Friday Welcome Party, followed by the Saturday car show, guided walking tours, BBQ, Giant Slalom competition, People's Choice balloting, a live music performance, Arts, Crafts & Photo Contest, Scavenger Hunt for children, Best in Show awards, and a Land Rover Adventure Ride. Sunday's activities include a Rallye, swap meet and more fun on the PIR track in the Giant Slalom.

Event Sponsors are JET Motors, Seven Mini Parts, and Mini Mania. Spectator admission is \$10 each day Saturday and Sunday. The official race website is: <http://abfm-pdx.com/2019/MiniRace>.

Classic race-prepared Minis and Mini-powered variants from 1959-2000 with a log book issued by a recognized Vintage Racing organization, SCCA, or FIA are invited to participate for trophies in one of four official classes.

"PIR is an excellent Mini track, with an extensive history going back to the very beginnings of closed course competition in the Pacific Northwest," said Newland. Racers will enjoy a single event exemption from SOVREN car eligibility requirements for this event. Drivers must hold a valid VMC, SCCA, or FIA competition license and medical to participate.

For Mini racers, Early Bird Registration ends August 23, 2019. Early Bird price \$425; Regular price \$525; and after September 3rd \$575. Entry fee, car classes, and registration is available now by visiting:

<https://www.motorsportreg.com/events/2019-sovren-columbia-river-classic-portland-intl-raceway-151538>

For more information about the 60th Anniversary Mini Race contact Event Chair Eric Newland, Phone: (503) 502-1991 (PST).

**Contact Information**

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