



# RACING TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE:

A REVIEW OF THE DISCLOSED SUSTAINABILITY CREDENTIALS OF 105 GLOBAL 2- AND 4-WHEELED MOTORSPORT CHAMPIONSHIPS

EDITION MARCH 2023



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## INTRODUCTION

Motorsport enjoys a global reputation for setting the standard when it comes to innovation and excellence, and in recent years has been turning in greater degrees towards using these principles to accelerate the integration of sustainability across the industry. A great deal has already been achieved – from the FIA calculating Formula 1's carbon footprint for the first time all the way back in 2009, to the early stages of development of the FIA Environmental Accreditation in 2011, and the establishment of the FIA Environment and Sustainability Commission in 2019. The FIM meanwhile, has been championing sustainability even longer, publishing its first Environmental Code in 1994, almost three decades ago.

Despite this, there is a significant distance to cover; knowledge gaps remain at every level, measurement of progress is seldom transparent or consistent, and each year we edge closer towards the catastrophic consequences of unchallenged climate change. The Sustainable Championships Index™ has been designed to shine a light on best practice where it's already in action, encourage greater degrees of disclosure to facilitate learning, and challenge the industry to excel in its efforts towards supporting a sustainable future as it does in so many others.

Where motorsport was once considered part of the sustainability 'problem', the results of this second edition of the SChI™ shows that the industry is now working hard to be a driving force for change, with a continuously increasing number of two- and four-wheeled championships embracing sustainability. We look forward to seeing these figures continue in their ascent in the coming years, setting a global example for other sports to follow.

### PROFESSOR PAOLO TATICCHI

Professor in Strategy and Sustainability, UCL School of Management

## FOREWORD

The ultimate role sport can play in tackling the climate and biodiversity crises is engaging and influencing fans and society at large towards positive behaviour change. With the growing number of motorsport fans globally, vast new opportunities are being created in this sphere. Motorsport is transitioning towards a sustainable future; and whilst improvements must continue, the sport has a unique platform for accelerating and promoting innovations that can be scaled across society. From electrification, sustainable fuels and energy efficiency; motorsport both invests in the technologies and helps socialise the idea of their use.

It is a pleasure to share my thoughts for the release of Sustainable Championships Index™ 2023. Sport has an unparalleled power to drive change, but individual sports organisations don't always have the resource internally to understand if their contribution in a crucial area such as sustainability is in line with their sport more broadly. As allies and advocates for sustainability within sport, it's less about the ranking and more about understanding and sharing the challenges and dynamics at play in regard to what, in this case Championships, are doing or not doing and why – to help move the needle on progress. From our work doing this across top-flight football teams with our Sport Positive Leagues, we have been made aware of the positive impacts the publications since 2018 have engendered, catalysing substantive organisational behaviour change. I know the Sustainable Championships Index™ has that influence too, and the information enclosed in this document is an important tool to share this knowledge with you, the reader, to continue to strive for excellence and secure the long-term future of the sport you love. Happy reading!

### CLAIRE POOLE

CEO and Founder, Sport Positive

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The sheer size and magnitude of sports' global following makes it a powerful vehicle to drive awareness and inspire action on sustainability. As fans become increasingly aware of the threats of climate change and social issues, a strong movement towards more sustainable practices is underway. More than ever, sports organisations, teams, and athletes from different fields of play are leveraging their platforms to take action and drive awareness around global issues that matter most to them.

According to a 2020 report by Nielsen<sup>1</sup>, more than 730 million fans watch motorsport, making it one of the top 10 most-followed sports in the world. Whilst progress is being made to address growing environmental and social issues, many are looking to the motorsport industry to do more and use their power to educate and inspire behavioural change among fans. As sustainability breaks into the industry, the need for a self-regulated, comparable, and standardised rating that guarantees fairness and methodological consistencies with other industries has grown. This was seen recently, as four-time Formula One World Champion Sebastian Vettel, known for his environmental activism, called for an independent evaluation of sustainability performance in motorsport.

The Sustainable Motorsport Index™ (SMI™) was established in 2020 by independent agency Enovation Consulting, Dr. Cristiana Pace, and Prof. Paolo Taticchi, Professor of Corporate Governance at UCL School of Management, to fairly assess the sustainability credentials of stakeholders in the motorsport industry. Through a proprietary algorithm, and a data analysis-driven process, the family of indices reviews and reports on public disclosures made by key motorsport organisations in relation to their sustainability credentials.

This is the second edition of the Sustainable Championships Index™ (SChI™), an annual review of the environmental, social, and governance performance of global two- and four- wheel motorsport championships.

The SChI™ uses a comprehensive research-based approach to assess and report on the sustainability performance of 105 championships, shedding light on notable improvements made over the past year. The methodology is in line with models and guidelines promoted by the UN, OECD, and EU guidelines, and assesses 25 sustainability performance criteria across six broad areas of sustainability (certifications; accreditations & awards; environmental performance; social performance; engagement & partnerships; sustainability approach). Whilst it is important for individual motorsport stakeholders to make change, it is in the interest of the industry to communicate progress and share best practice, which is why the Index methodology relies strictly on publicly disclosed data collected between August and November 2022.

The findings in this year's Sustainable Championships Index™ report confirm that momentum is growing year on year. Leading the pack are the ABB FIA Formula E Championship and FIA Formula One World Championship in first and second position respectively, maintaining their positions from the inaugural ranking in 2022. The FIM World Championship Grand Prix (Moto GP) ties with Extreme E in third place, with the latter having moved up from fourth place since last year. All four leading championships improved their scores since this paper's first edition.

The SChI™ ranking divides championships' sustainability performance into five categories: high, medium-high, medium, medium-low and low. The findings show that out of the 105 championships analysed, one appeared in the high sustainability performance category (one in 2022); three championships placed in the medium-high tier (two in 2022); five were in the medium tier (five in 2022); 28 appeared in the medium-low tier (compared to 26 in 2022); and 68 have not yet engaged with sustainability in any meaningful way or have not disclosed their efforts (versus 72 in 2022). The findings also show that out of these 68 championships, 42 have made a start on sustainability.

Overall, the results of this year's study clearly indicate that progress is being made across global two- and four-wheeled championships, with more stakeholders demonstrating a commitment to improve and disclose their own sustainability practices – thereby elevating the performance and efforts of the industry.

Source:  
<sup>1</sup><https://nielsen.com/insights/news/2020/how-the-worlds-biggest-sports-properties-engaged-fans-in-2020/>, accessed in November 2022

# TOP PERFORMERS

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ABB FIA FORMULA E WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

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FIA FORMULA ONE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

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FIM WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP GRAND PRIX (MOTO GP)

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EXTREME E

# KEY FIGURES

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**25**

Criteria used to assess the sustainability performance of championships, based on guidelines and models promoted by the UN, EU, and OECD.

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**ESG**

*(Environmental, Social, and Governance)* is the framework used to create the Sustainable Championships Index™.

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**105**

International championships (two and four wheels).

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**4** OUT OF THE TOP **4**

reported on their sustainability progress and have published a carbon footprint assessment.

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**3** OUT OF THE TOP **4**

Championships have published Sustainability Reports and have joined the UNFCCC Sports for Climate Action Framework.

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**5**

demonstrate a medium to high sustainability performance.

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**42** OUT OF **68**

from the bottom tier have made a start on their sustainability journey.

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# BACKGROUND

## SUSTAIN THE DRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE

With millions of fans across the world watching and attending international motorsport events annually, motorsport championships hold an influential position in the global sustainability race. Not only can they have a significant positive environmental, social, and economic impact across their own operations, championships can also influence their wider ecosystem, including their suppliers, promoters, hosts, and fans. Noting the significant role that the wider sport industry can play in amplifying the importance of sustainability, Dr. Allen Hershkowitz, founder of Sport and Sustainability International (SandSI) said: **“25% of the world’s population follows science. More than 70% follows sport. Basically, if you want to change the world, you’ve got to go where the world is.”**

Underscoring this point, athletes who leverage their platforms for good are driving significant awareness and media value for the issues they care about. A 2021 Nielsen Fan Insights report<sup>2</sup> stated that in 2020, 95% of athletes with more than 5 million followers on Instagram shared purpose-driven content on social media, generating \$314 million worth of media value for these causes.

In motorsport, examples of various stakeholders championing global issues are often overshadowed by the role the sport plays in contributing to global challenges, including climate change. Whilst the sport is considered part of the problem, it has also been an active part of the solution. Since its inception more than a century ago, motorsport has been contributing to global sustainable development by leveraging the technology and innovation expertise within its ranks, delivering green technology solutions, and applying knowledge gained within the industry to areas that reach far beyond the racetrack. A report published by the Fédération Internationale de l’Automobile (FIA) in 2020 sheds light on the many contributions of motorsport to health, safety, and the environment. In the foreword of the FIA’s report, former FIA president Jean Todt stated: **“Motorsport has always participated in the progress of society, particularly in terms of technology and innovation to improve health and safety as well as to protect our environment.”**<sup>3</sup>

The United Nations recognises sport’s potential to drive awareness of global issues and to spur behavioural change. With the launch of the UNFCCC Sports for Climate Action Framework in 2018, the intergovernmental organisation asked sports stakeholders to **“display climate leadership by engaging together in the climate neutrality journey”** and **“incentivize climate action beyond the sports sector”**.<sup>4</sup>

Source:

<sup>2</sup><https://nielsen.com/sports-fans-are-looking-to-sports-leagues-and-athletes-to-support-social-causes/>, accessed in November 2022.

<sup>3</sup><https://www.fia.com/multimedia/publication/report-contribution-motor-sport-health-safety-and-environment>, accessed in November 2022.

<sup>4</sup><https://unfccc.int/climate-action/sectoral-engagement/sports-for-climate-action>, accessed in November 2022.

Amplifying the urgency with which this action is needed, the 2022 UN Climate Change Conference COP27 delivered a clear message: **The time to act is now.**

For the motorsport industry to ignite meaningful actions and change, it is crucial to understand the actions organisations are already taking to support sustainability, while at the same time highlighting potential areas of improvement. To ensure that sport can have the desired impact to influence change, it is equally important to communicate the progress that is being made, allowing for best practice to be shared along the way.

It is for this reason that the Index is strictly assessed on publicly disclosed data on the part of entities reviewed. If information or initiatives were not disclosed during the assessment period (22nd of August to 6th of November 2022), they are not captured as part of this review.

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Source:

<sup>2</sup><https://nielsen.com/sports-fans-are-looking-to-sports-leagues-and-athletes-to-support-social-causes/>, accessed in November 2022.

<sup>3</sup><https://www.fia.com/multimedia/publication/report-contribution-motor-sport-health-safety-and-environment>, accessed in November 2022.

<sup>4</sup><https://unfccc.int/climate-action/sectoral-engagement/sports-for-climate-action>, accessed in November 2022.

# STUDY AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

The Sustainable Motorsport Index™ aims to provide a comprehensive and robust analysis of how stakeholders of different categories (circuits and championships) are performing in relation to sustainability. The goal of the Sustainable Championships Index™, is to promote industry best practice and encourage motorsport championships to develop sustainability-focused initiatives within their organisations, while also engaging their wider ecosystems. All Sustainable Motorsport Index™ reports are published annually. This is the second edition of the Sustainable Championships Index™, with the first published in 2022.

In line with the first edition of the SChI™, this second study applies a comprehensive research-based approach, assessing and reporting on the sustainability performance of 105 motorsport championships globally, representing both four and two wheels. Only championships which were in full operation in 2022 were assessed (the full list is presented in Appendix 1).

Importantly, championships' sustainability performance is assessed entirely on information which was publicly available during the data collection period of 28th of August to 6th of November 2022. This aligns the SChI™ with reports and standards set by the wider industry. The approach taken allows for an independent review process that differentiates the SChI™, and the wider family of SMI™ papers, from existing sustainability indices in the sports industry, which are often based on voluntary surveys.

The Sustainable Championships Index™ methodology was developed by Dr. Cristiana Pace, CEO and founder of Enovation Consulting, in collaboration with academic expert Professor Paolo Taticchi of UCL School of Management. The methodology was established to focus on and address the specific needs and opportunities within the motorsport industry, as well as to provide unbiased oversight and input on corporate sustainability. It is based on 25 sustainability performance criteria across six broad areas of sustainability, covering the whole environmental, social, and governance (ESG) framework, and provides a holistic understanding of stakeholders' sustainability performance.

The six areas investigated are in line with the first edition of this study, including: certifications, accreditations & awards, environmental performance, social performance, engagement & partnerships, and sustainability approach. Each criterion is then divided into sub-criteria and weighed individually, with allocated values assessed by an academic panel using a proprietary algorithm. This approach reflects reputable standards from industries outside of motorsport, while taking into account the specific requirements of the motorsport industry.



**Table 1:**

Criteria used to assess the sustainability performance of championships and to build the Sustainable Championships Index™.

**CERTIFICATIONS****1. ISO 14001**

Sets out the criteria for an environmental management system that an organisation can use to enhance environmental performance.

**2. OHSAS 18001 OR ISO 45001**

Sets out the criteria for an occupational health and safety management system that an organisation can use to protect employees and visitors from work-related accidents and diseases.

**3. ISO 20121**

Sets out the criteria for a sustainable event management system that an organisation can use to manage events and control their social, economic, and environmental impact.

**4. ISO 9001, LEED, BREEAM or PEARLS (FOR HEADQUARTERS)**

Sets out the criteria for a quality management system that an organisation can use to demonstrate the ability to consistently provide products and services that meet customer and regulatory requirements. LEED, BREEAM, and PEARLS set the criteria for the design and maintenance of healthy, highly efficient and cost-saving green buildings.

**5. ISO 26000**

Provides guidance to those who recognise that respect for society and environment is a critical success factor. Application of ISO 26000 applies to businesses and organisations committed to operating in a socially responsible way.

**6. Carbon Footprint Assessment or Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP)**

Tracking, measuring, and disclosing an organisation's carbon emission activities using a carbon calculator or as part of the CDP, a not-for-profit organisation that works with organisations to measure and disclose their activities.

**ACCREDITATIONS AND AWARDS****7. FIA Environmental Accreditation and/or FIM Environmental Awards**

The FIA Environmental Accreditation programme helps to measure and improve the environmental performance of championships.

The FIM Environmental Award recognises the efforts made by organisers, federations, circuits, championships, and teams to develop sustainable initiatives and events that minimise the environmental impact and leave a positive legacy for the local communities.

**8. Other Industry Awards**

Industry recognised awards that acknowledge and award organisations for their sustainability impact and activities (e.g., EDIE, SportsPro Awards).

**ENVIRONMENTAL CRITERIA****9. Waste Management and Circular Economy Initiatives**

The adoption of sustainable waste management practices and the development of circular economy initiatives.

**10. Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency**

Procurement of green energy and/or on-site production of renewable energy. Use of LED lighting systems and other high efficiency equipment.

**11. Efficient Use of Natural Resources**

Adequate use of natural resources (e.g., water, wood, metals) and actions to protect biodiversity.

**12. Transportation and Mobility**

Actions to improve mobility to/from the championship, reduce emissions generated by transportation, and use of transportation options with a lower carbon footprint.

**13. Climate Change Projects**

Projects focused on addressing climate change.

**Table 1:**

Criteria used to assess the sustainability performance of championships and to build the Sustainable Championships Index™.

**SOCIAL CRITERIA****14. Accessibility**

Actions being taken to actively provide industry access opportunities to groups currently underrepresented in motorsport.

**15. Philanthropy**

Donations and fundraising events to support not-for-profit organisations and charitable causes.

**16. Community Events at Races**

Organisation of initiatives and events aimed at supporting the communities adjacent to the championships.

**17. Other Campaigns**

Recognises initiatives such as SDG focused campaigns and initiatives (e.g., Health/Covid-19 response etc.).

**18. Actions to Counteract Foodwaste**

Adoption of initiatives to collect surplus and combat food waste.

**ENGAGEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS****19. Partnerships for Sustainability**

Recognises SDG focused partnerships (e.g., local charities, not-for-profits).

**20. Employee/Stakeholder Engagement**

Recognises initiatives that engage and involve employees and stakeholders in SDG focused activities, as well as activities that focus on employee well-being and inclusion.

**21. Impact on Local Economic Development**

Active measurement of the Championship's impact on the local economy (e.g., on employment, tourism, local suppliers) and commitment to have a positive impact.

**SUSTAINABILITY APPROACH****22. Quality and Quantity of Social and Environmental Sustainability Policies and/or Ethics Code and/or UNFCCC Commitments**

Formal documents or webpages that disclose the commitment and behaviour of the organisation through environmental, social, and ethical standards. This could include the explicit reference to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, the UN Global Compact, and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

**23. Engagement demonstrated through Activism, Events, and Sustainability Initiatives (not necessarily at races)**

Events and initiatives hosted by the Championship focused on sustainability.

**24. Sustainability Reporting**

Disclosure of sustainable business policies and practices through websites and sustainability reports.

**25. Sustainability Strategy**

Disclosure of a clear, ambitious, and comprehensive sustainability strategy that includes SMART objectives.

Using the methodology outlined, points were awarded based on the quantitative data collected to recognise the efforts championships have made across the 25 indicators listed in Table 1 for a total of 100 points available, with absolute points then normalised over the score of the top ranking championship. The Sustainable Championships Index™ therefore ranges from 0 to 100 (highest level of sustainability performance).

Based on the scores achieved, the 105 championships assessed were grouped into five categories of sustainability performance (normalising the performance data over the score of the leader).

**Table 2:**  
Categories of sustainability performance associated with the Sustainable Championships Index™.



HIGH SchI™ SCORE

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MEDIUM - HIGH SchI™ SCORE

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MEDIUM SchI™ SCORE

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MEDIUM - LOW SchI™ SCORE

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LOW SchI™ SCORE

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# THE SUSTAINABILITY PERFORMANCE OF MOTORSPORT CHAMPIONSHIPS

## THE BIG PICTURE

As pressures from governments, industry, and society are mounting on organisations to improve their ESG practices, momentum across motorsport championships is growing year on year. As the findings in this report show, more motorsport stakeholders are introducing sustainability best practice into their operations and publicly reporting on their progress.

Whilst some of the 105 championships reviewed are yet to engage with sustainability in a meaningful way, and there is clear room for improvement in several areas, the dial is moving in the right direction. This can be credited to two main factors: the regulatory requirements by governing bodies, such as the FIA's mandatory Environmental Accreditation programme, and increasing pressure from the public.

As seen in Figure 1, across the five sustainable performance categories (which range from high to low), out of the 105 championships analysed, one appeared in the high category (versus one in 2022); three championships placed in the medium-high tier (versus two in 2022); five were in the medium tier (same as in 2022); 28 appeared in the medium-low tier (compared to 26 in 2022); and 68 have not yet engaged with sustainability in any meaningful way (versus 72 in 2022). See the full list of championships by performance category in Figure 1.

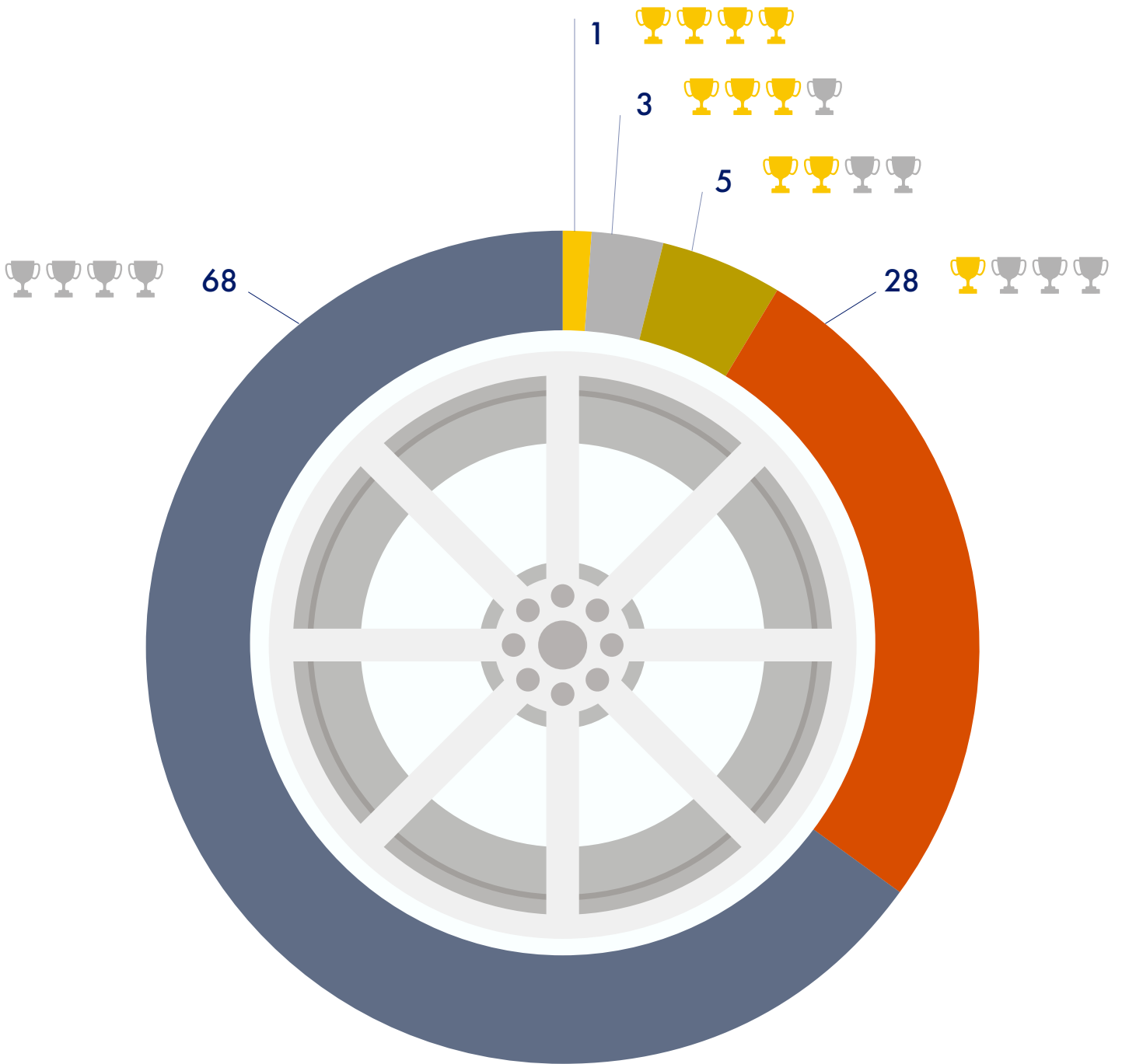
The number of championships placing in the lowest tier (implying no significant engagement with sustainability) decreased by three, demonstrating the positive trajectory seen at all levels of the industry as more organisations begin their sustainability journey.

At the top of the leader board, the championships scoring highest in the SChI™ ranking once again showcase the benefits of taking a holistic approach to sustainability, enveloping clear strategy, quantifiable targets, action plans, and transparent disclosure. The leading championships have set out to address issues across each of the environmental, social, and economic areas reviewed, and have also effectively communicated and disclosed their progress and credentials along the way. Committed to excellence, the leading championships are also doing what is expected of leaders in the sport – setting the pace for others to follow.

It is important to emphasise that the SChI™ ranking considers publicly disclosed information accessible during the data review period between August and November 2022 only.

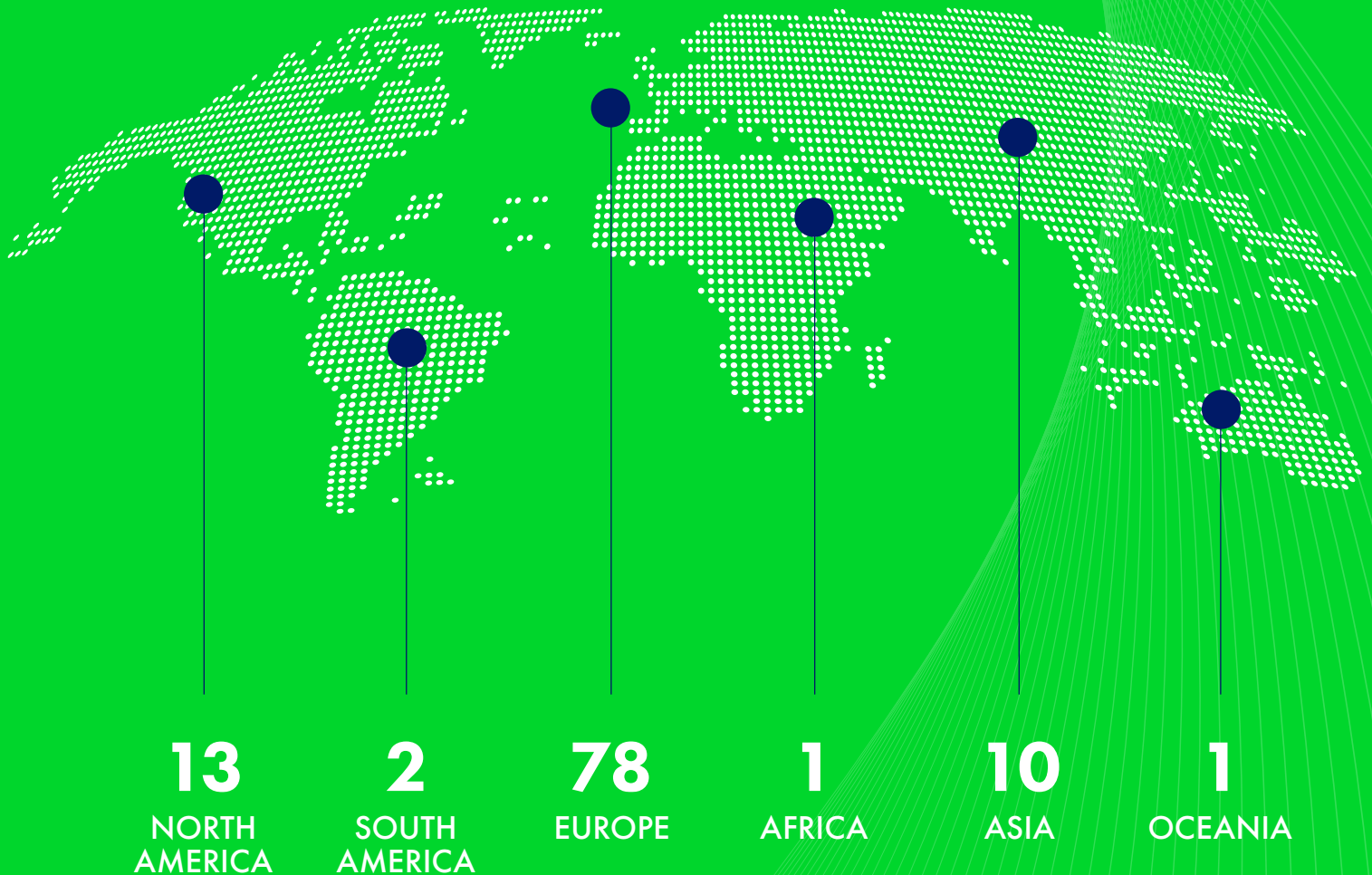
Figure 1 shows the number of championships that appeared in each of the sustainability performance categories used for this assessment (see sustainability performance categories listed in Table 2).

**Figure 1:**  
Of the 105 championships analysed, one falls in the highest sustainability category and 68 fall in the lowest tier, an improvement versus last year's ranking, which saw 72 championships in the bottom tier.



# GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

OF CHAMPIONSHIPS BASED ON  
THE LOCATION OF HEADQUARTERS



# CERTIFICATIONS

Internationally recognised certifications provide a standardised means to acknowledge efforts made by organisations that adopt and adhere to sustainability and quality control practices. They play an important role in an organisation’s sustainability journey, confirming that actions undertaken meet industry standards.

While this category remains important, as the wider motorsport industry progresses on its sustainability journey these certifications become more a matter of compliance than an indication of proactive steps being taken by championships. For the certifications category, the SChI™ looked at disclosure of certifications, carbon footprint calculations, and assessments. This category takes into consideration certifications that are achieved by championships directly (e.g., ISO 20121), as well as certifications that are achieved by promoters organising events on behalf of a championship organisation (e.g., ISO 14001), and an organisation’s carbon emissions disclosure or CDP.

The findings showed that of the 105 championships analysed in this report, three earned relevant certifications in recognition of the sustainability of their event practices (up from two last year) and 10 either tracked and measured carbon emissions using a carbon calculator or disclosed their environmental impact through the Carbon Disclosure Project, doubling the number of championships that met this criteria last year (up from five last year), (see Figure 2).

**Figure 2:**  
A total of three out of all championships reviewed earned ISO certifications (compared to two last year) and 10 championships disclosed information about tracking and measuring their carbon emissions activity (versus five in the previous iteration).



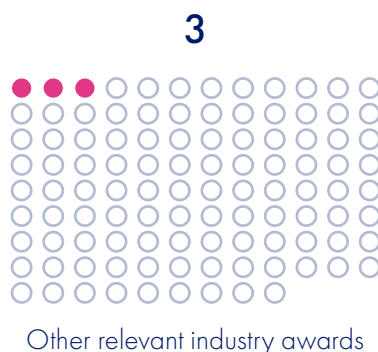
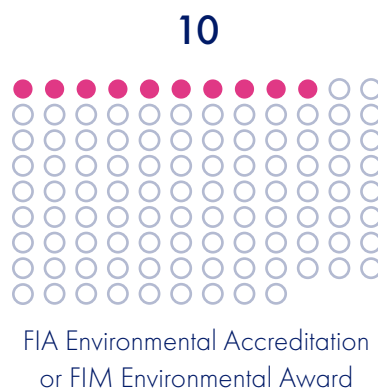
## ACCREDITATIONS AND AWARDS

Recognition from the industry, in the form of awards and accreditations, is another key indicator for measuring sustainable performance and leadership across an organisation. This report considered the environmental accreditations and awards issued by the FIA and the FIM, namely the FIA Environmental Accreditation and the FIM Environmental Award, as well as other relevant industry awards. The results of this study showed that, overall, 10 championships earned an accreditation or award issued by the FIA or FIM (see Figure 3), compared to seven in the previous edition. A substantial increase on this figure is to be expected in the near future, due to the FIA making their 3-Star Environmental Accreditation a requirement for all FIA World Championships from 2025, and all FIA sanctioned championships from 2030.

The findings also show that three championships were recognised for their sustainability efforts with other relevant industry awards (see Figure 3). Industry recognition earned by the championships assessed in this study includes the Motorsport UK Environmental Sustainability Award, the Sports Business Sustainability Award, and the Business Intelligence Group Sustainability Award. The findings highlight there is an opportunity for more championships to gain greater recognition for their sustainability efforts, both through improved disclosure and through proactive submission to relevant awards, within the sports industry as well as across other sectors.

### Figure 3:

A total of 10 championships achieved the FIA Environmental Accreditation or the FIM Environmental Award (2022: seven), and three championships overall earned other relevant industry awards in sustainability (2022: three).





## ENVIRONMENTAL CRITERIA

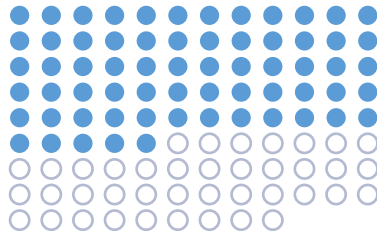
The environmental criteria considered in this study assess a championship’s approach to minimising the environmental impact of their operations and practices, looking specifically at the areas of: waste management and circular economy, renewable energy and energy efficiency, efficient use of natural resources, transportation and mobility, and climate change projects.

Of the 105 championships reviewed, more than half achieved a high score in relation to three of the five environmental criteria outlined, namely waste management, transport and mobility and efficient use of natural resources. The environmental criteria results revealed that the top four championships all showed strong performances, with each one scoring highly across all five areas.

Overall, the findings in this category show that championships are performing relatively well in the area of environmental sustainability, aligning with the emphasis placed on the environment by both the FIA and FIM.

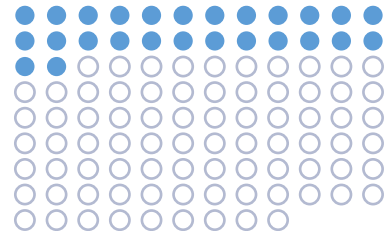
**Figure 4:** More than half of the championships reviewed achieved a high score relation to three of the five environmental criteria set out in this study.

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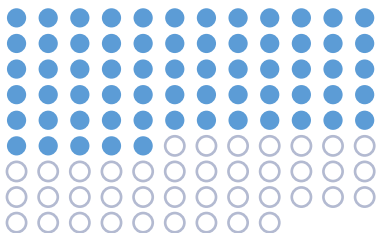
Waste management and circular economy initiatives

26



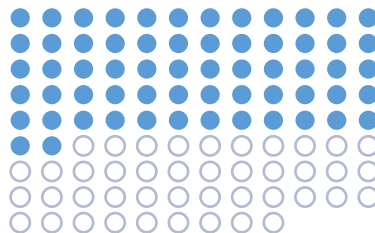
Renewable energy and energy efficiency

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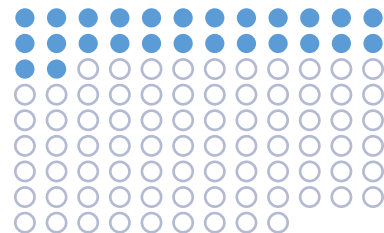
Use of natural resources

62



Transport and mobility

27



Climate change projects

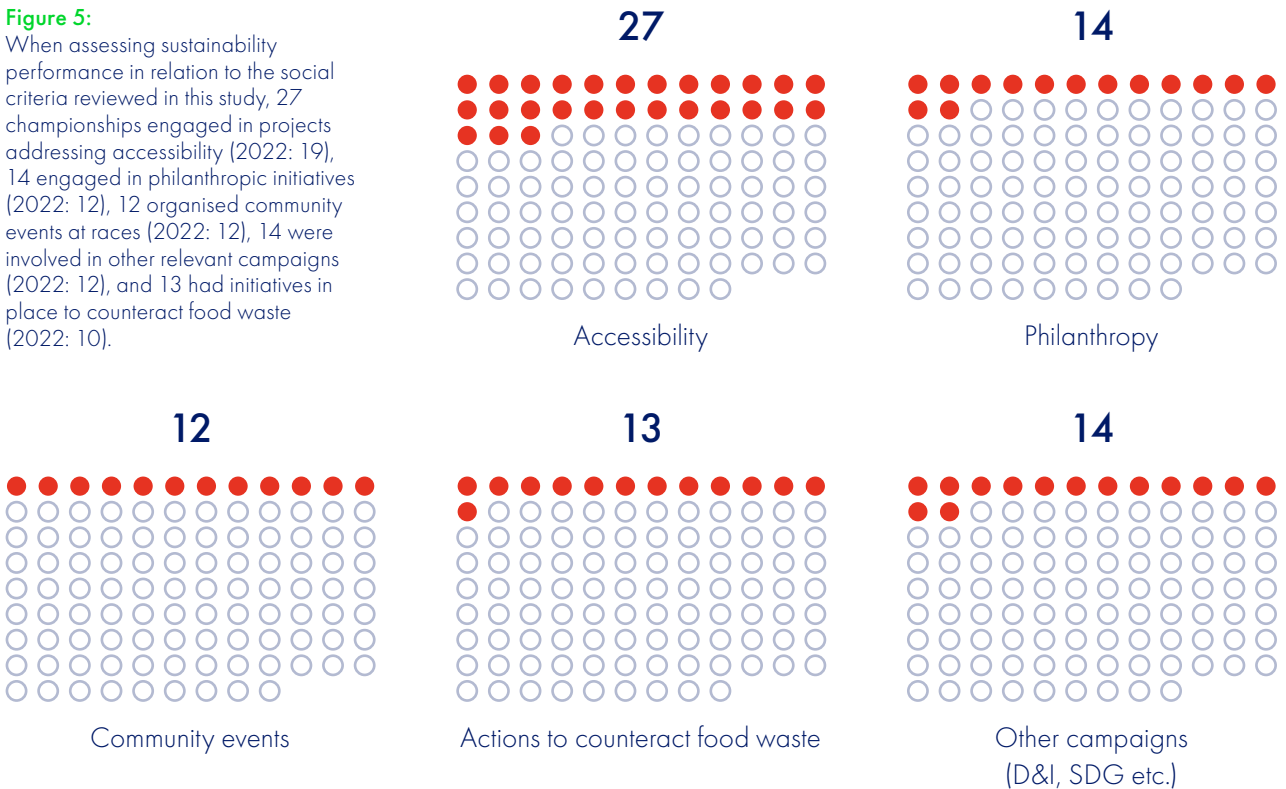
## SOCIAL CRITERIA

Motorsport championships can have a positive impact on both the communities they visit at race locations, and on their broader community of fans and other stakeholders. In terms of social sustainability, this takes place mainly through engagement and accessibility initiatives at events, as well as through philanthropic programmes. Social initiatives are often organised in partnership with local community groups and event organisers. Programmes dedicated to the reduction of food waste at events, educating community members about the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals, or campaigns focused on diversity and inclusion are just a few notable examples of programmes that championships are spearheading in the communities they visit.

This study looked at the performance of all 105 championships reviewed in relation to five key social criteria identified (see Figure 5). As was the case in this paper’s previous edition, the social criterion that received the highest level of engagement relates to the accessibility of the championship, with 27 championships engaged in projects addressing this topic (see Figure 5). The area that saw the least amount of engagement was community events at races, for which the findings showed only 12 championships undertook these programmes. (see Figure 5).

Overall, while some progress has been made compared to the previous year of this study, the results show that there is still ample room for improvement.

**Figure 5:** When assessing sustainability performance in relation to the social criteria reviewed in this study, 27 championships engaged in projects addressing accessibility (2022: 19), 14 engaged in philanthropic initiatives (2022: 12), 12 organised community events at races (2022: 12), 14 were involved in other relevant campaigns (2022: 12), and 13 had initiatives in place to counteract food waste (2022: 10).



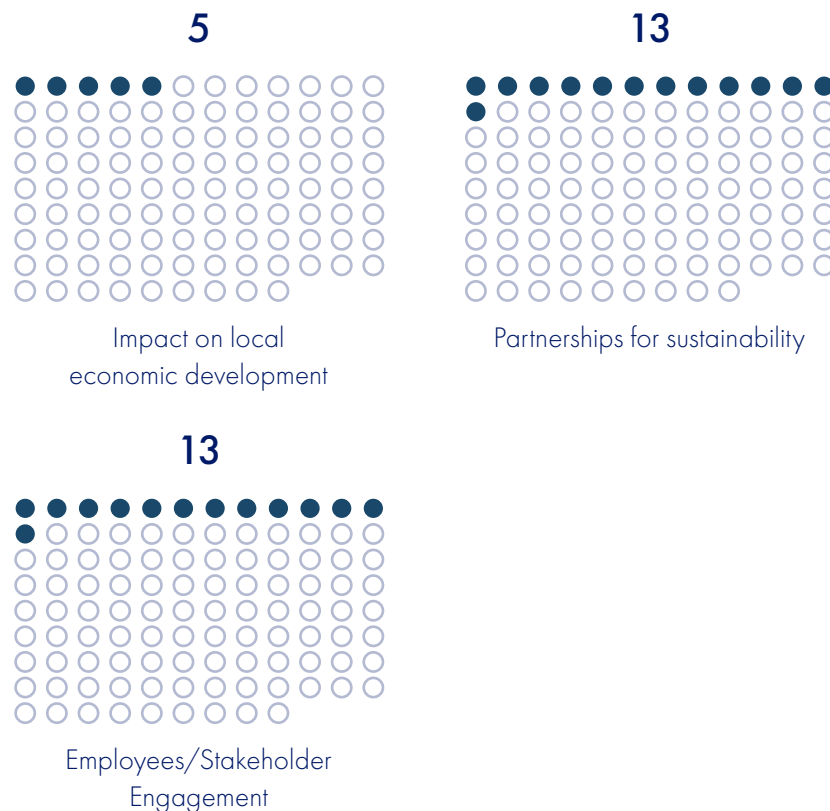
## ENGAGEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

A 2021 report on motorsport’s global contribution to economy and community development by the FIA stipulates that “motor sport stimulates economic activity across a range of sectors, including advanced manufacturing & engineering, traditional manufacturing and the services sector”.<sup>5</sup> Championships, with their large and dedicated fan-base can deliver significant positive value to race location communities and the wider ecosystem and industry. The engagement and partnerships category measures a championship’s performance based on three key indicators: impact on local economic development, partnerships for sustainability, and employees/stakeholder engagement.

This category scored partnerships that championships have formed to accelerate sustainability within the sport and beyond. In terms of local economic development, the scoring considered whether championships had measured and disclosed the contribution and value their initiatives created for local communities at race locations. The scoring also considered whether organisations had taken steps to embed sustainability into their culture by engaging employees and other key stakeholders on their sustainability approach.

As illustrated in Figure 6, on the metric that measures a championship’s performance of their sustainable engagement and partnership activities, five championships achieved a high score in relation to their disclosed impact on local and economic development (compared to five in the previous year), 13 were engaged in sustainability focused partnerships (compared to 12 in the previous year), and 13 had initiatives in place that focused on engaging employees and stakeholders (compared to 12 in the previous year). The findings illustrate that over the last year progress has been made as more championships are forging purpose-driven partnerships and initiatives with stakeholders.

**Figure 6:**  
Of the 105 championships assessed, five performed well in relation to their impact on local and economic development (seeing no improvement over the previous edition), 13 formed sustainability focused partnerships (compared to 12 in the previous year), and 13 engaged their employees and stakeholders (compared to 12 in the previous year).



Source:  
<sup>5</sup><https://www.fia.com/multimedia/publication/report-global-contribution-motor-sport-economy-and-community-development>, accessed in November 2022

## SUSTAINABILITY APPROACH

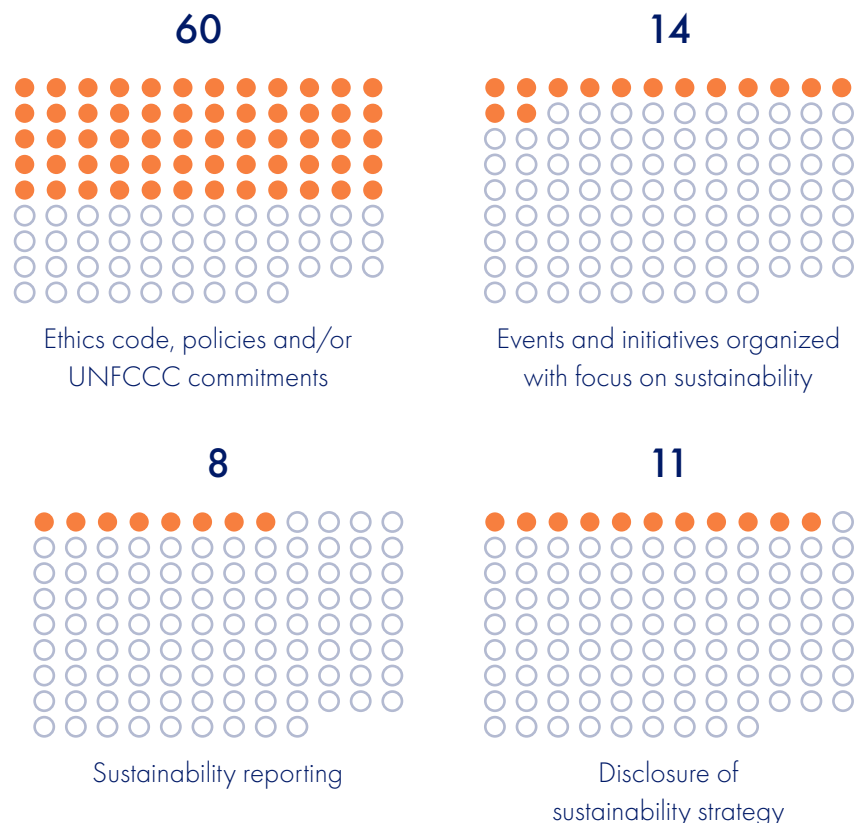
The formalisation of sustainability approaches can be a powerful tool in taking an organisation's purpose-driven initiatives to the next level, ensuring that progress is reported on and targets and objectives are clearly defined for the future. This heightened level of transparency allows the industry to hold organisations accountable and can drive actionable change. Setting S.M.A.R.T. (specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and time-bound) targets, as part of a data-driven sustainability strategy, enables organisations to align their goals with internationally recognised frameworks and guidelines, both from within and outside of the industry.

This report considered four indicators within the sustainability and engagement category (see Figure 7): UNFCCC Sports for Climate Action Framework and Race to Zero commitments and/or policy documents pertaining to social and environmental policies; events and initiatives organised with a focus on sustainability; publicly disclosed documents reporting on progress towards goals across the ESG spectrum; and sustainability strategies.

More than half of the championships reviewed (60) achieved a high score in relation to their ethics code & policies and/or UNFCCC commitments (2022: 60). This is partly due to the initiatives having gained traction in recent years, and partly due to the FIM having set out guidelines requiring FIM-sanctioned championships to adhere by policies set out by the governing body for two-wheeled motorsport. Far fewer had organised events and initiatives with a focus on sustainability (14, 2022: 11) or disclosed targets and objectives in the form of a sustainability strategy (11, 2022: 11). Notably, the number of championships transparently reporting on sustainability progress increased by six, reaching eight in 2023. While this increase in reporting is a positive step, many of these frameworks are mostly based on qualitative rather than quantitative data.

### Figure 7:

More than half of the 105 championships reviewed scored a performance level high enough in relation to their sustainability related policies and/or UNFCCC commitments. 14 championships demonstrated they are engaging in sustainability focused events (2022: 11); 11 had published targets and objectives in the form of a strategy (2022: 11) and eight transparently reported on their sustainability progress (2022: two).



## A LOOK AT TODAY'S LEADING SUSTAINABLE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Following a comprehensive review of 105 two- and four-wheeled championships worldwide, there were four leaders who stood out from the rest. The championship with the highest score for the second consecutive year was ABB FIA Formula E, followed by FIA Formula One World Championship, which finished in second place for the second year in a row. Completing the leaderboard are two championships tying for third place: Extreme E and the FIM World Championship Grand Prix (MotoGP).

Although the positions held by this year's Index leaders are almost identical to those from 2022, all four championships improved on their 2022 scores, showing that they remain laser-focused and ambitious when it comes to sustainability.

Finishing in the top spot, the ABB FIA Formula E Championship has invested in technological innovation and best practice sharing over the past 12 months, i.e., with the introduction of a new sustainability forum entitled "Change. Accelerated. Live.". What is especially noteworthy about ABB Formula E's result is its holistic approach to sustainability, which has enabled the championship to earn points in 21 of the 25 performance indicators assessed.

Finishing runner-up for the second consecutive year, the FIA Formula One World Championship improved its scoring in three main areas: stakeholder engagement, sustainability partnerships, and reporting. Formula One has also taken a holistic approach to sustainability, having earned points in 19 out of the 25 areas, with the lowest performance being in the area of certifications.

The FIM World Championship Grand Prix (Moto GP) finds itself among the leading championships for the second consecutive year, having improved across several areas including certifications, environmental criteria, and sustainability approach. The championship's progress can largely be attributed to increased disclosure through promoter Dorna's inaugural sustainability report.

After placing fourth in last year's ranking, this year Extreme E advances into a shared third place. Having now completed its second season, the electric off-road series published its first sustainability report in 2022, also outlining its key strategic objectives. The championship further improved on its environmental sustainability credentials and claimed several relevant industry awards, earning it a space among the leading sustainable championships.

Notably, all leaders share one thing in common – they are four of only eight championships out of the 105 reviewed to have published documents reporting on their sustainability progress, underlining the importance of transparent disclosure.

The next section of this report highlights best-practice approaches from the leading championships, with the aim to inspire those who are just starting their sustainability journey. The examples shared also provide benchmarks that other championships can use to measure their own sustainability performance.

**Figure 8:**  
 Profiles of today's sustainability  
 leaders' performance in the various  
 dimensions measured across the  
 25 indicators.



## EXAMPLES OF SUSTAINABILITY APPROACHES OF LEADING MOTORSPORT CHAMPIONSHIPS



### ABB FIA FORMULA E WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP (85/100)

Built on a foundation of sustainability, ABB FIA Formula E demonstrated an impressive performance for the second consecutive year, securing itself a place once again at the top of the SChI™'s leaderboard.

The championship's approach to leveraging motorsport's platform to accelerate and amplify the global sustainability race, combined with its tangible actions to reduce emissions, purpose-driven initiatives in local communities, and transparent reporting is what has earned ABB FIA Formula E the top spot in this 2023 Sustainable Championships Index™.

ABB FIA Formula E's sustainability approach is extensive, with the championship making sure to deliver on targets and objectives across all areas of the ESG framework. This past year saw the all-electric single seater racing series launch several high impact initiatives aimed at delivering on its vision to "accelerate change towards an electric future, one race and one city at a time".<sup>6</sup>

Notably, the London E-Prix, which took place in July 2022, saw the launch of the inaugural "Change. Accelerated. Live" summit. The single day event saw experts from across motorsport, sustainability, politics, education and more come together to discuss "how tech leaders and global decision makers are utilising the unique power of motorsport to pioneer sustainable innovation and contribute towards sustainable human progress."<sup>7</sup>

Committed to making a positive impact that reaches beyond the motorsport, automotive or sustainability industries, in March 2022, ABB FIA Formula E hosted a talking panel at Austin's famous South by Southwest® festival. The session, which featured a number of championship representatives as well as a spokesperson for ABB and American-Swedish driver Oliver Askew, focused on the speakers' powerful "role in Formula E's unique brand of dramatic, wheel-to-wheel high-speed racing – proving that high-performance motorsport and sustainability can powerfully co-exist."<sup>8</sup> Additionally, in July 2022, the championship, in collaboration with its charity partner UNICEF, introduced a purpose-driven campaign entitled "Take A Breath". Launched with a short film starring actor and UNICEF ambassador Tom Hiddleston,<sup>9</sup> the campaign aimed to highlight "the impact that air pollution has on children", to raise awareness and drive action to improve it.

In launching the campaign, ABB FIA Formula E's Head of Sustainability, Julia Pallé, remarked on the links between air pollution and the championship's wider mission: **"Formula E was founded to drive e-mobility development and reduce emissions, and impactful partnerships and campaigns sit at the heart of our work in delivering sustainable change. As the first global sporting organisation to partner with UNICEF, we are helping create a cleaner, safer and more sustainable environment where children and future generations can thrive."**<sup>10</sup>

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SUSTAINABILITY PERFORMANCE OF ABB FIA FORMULA E WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

#### CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND INNOVATION:

- > Damaged chassis collected from cars as early as Season 1 have been given a second life in the form of non-woven products such as fabrics and thermoplastics.

#### OUTREACH:

- > Launched the Change. Accelerated. Live. Summit, exploring pioneering innovation in sustainability, technology, and e-mobility solutions. Also hosted the first-ever motorsport- and sustainability-focused session at SXSW®, the annual festival and conference event for the creative industries in Austin, Texas.

#### PURPOSE-DRIVEN CAMPAIGNING:

- > In collaboration with UNICEF, introduced a campaign entitled "Take A Breath", highlighting the impact that air pollution has on children.

Source:

<sup>6</sup><https://www.fiaformulae.com/en/discover/sustainability>, accessed in November 2022.

<sup>7</sup><https://www.fiaformulae.com/en/change-accelerated-live>, accessed in November 2022.

<sup>8</sup><https://schedule.sxsw.com/2022/events/PP1141118>, accessed in November 2022.

<sup>9</sup><https://www.fiaformulae.com/en/news/2022/july/unicef-take-a-breath-1>, accessed in November 2022.

<sup>10</sup>Note: Another notable sustainability-related piece of news to come out of ABB FIA Formula E in 2022 was the introduction of the Gen 3 car, which sees additional sustainability-focused features introduced into the car, including using recycled carbon fibre from retired Gen 2 cars for its bodywork construction. This announcement has not yet been taken into account in scoring and will be considered once the car is introduced into the championship in Season 9.

## EXAMPLES OF SUSTAINABILITY APPROACHES OF LEADING MOTORSPORT CHAMPIONSHIPS



### FIA FORMULA ONE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP (67/100)

For the second consecutive year, the FIA Formula One World Championship places second overall in this ranking, having shown an impressive sustainability performance and delivering on targets and objectives set out in the championship's 2019 Sustainability Strategy.<sup>11</sup>

While Formula One demonstrated a strong performance and earned a higher score versus the year prior, the championship fell just short of earning enough points to place it in the high sustainability performance category, finishing instead with a medium-high score for a second time. By focusing on improving its performance in key areas, namely around certifications and accreditations, the championship is on track to reach the top performance category in the future.

Formula One's sustainability achievements cover the majority of criteria assessed in this report, with the championship showing its greatest progress in the areas of Stakeholder Engagement and Partnerships over the past year. Having set the goal of delivering fully sustainable events by 2025, Formula One has been working with its host venue partners to ensure that sustainability measures are implemented at Grand Prix events throughout the year, delivering guidelines and amplifying actions through purpose-driven external communication. Notable achievements include the example of 99% of fans in general admission using public transport or walking to reach the 2022 Dutch GP at Zandvoort.

Contributing to SDG 17 "Partnership for the Goals" which highlights that purpose-driven partnerships are a key part of achieving maximum impact for sustainability initiatives, in 2022, Formula One partnered with Santander, introducing the Santander X Global Challenge | Countdown to Zero.<sup>12</sup>

The challenge is part of a multi-year collaboration between Formula One and the Spanish multinational financial services company that aims to support and recognise innovative new businesses who are helping improve sustainability across the automotive industry. Winners in the inaugural year included a company aiming to decarbonise construction, a low-cost ride-sharing app and a company producing onsite renewable hydrogen for SMEs (small-to-medium sized enterprises).

Another key area of improvement for Formula One this past year was in Sustainability Reporting. In February 2022, the championship published an ESG Briefing Note<sup>13</sup> that reported on progress made on the targets and objectives set out in the championship's 2019 Sustainability Strategy.<sup>14</sup>

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SUSTAINABILITY PERFORMANCE OF FIA FORMULA ONE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP:

#### TRANSPARENCY:

- > Published an ESG Briefing Note, reporting on Formula One's progress towards goals set out in the championship's sustainability strategy.

#### EVENTS:

- > Actively engages with host venues to ensure that sustainable measures are implemented during events, with initiatives due to take place then shared publicly and widely. Data on sustainability-relevant indicators is subsequently gathered post-event.

#### PURPOSE DRIVEN PARTNERSHIPS:

- > Is involved in purpose-driven partnership projects such as the Santander X Global Challenge, a collaborative initiative established to find innovative and sustainable solutions for the automotive industry.

Source:

<sup>11</sup> <https://corp.formula1.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Environmental-sustainability-Corp-website-vFINAL.pdf>, accessed in November 2022.

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.santander.com/en/press-room/press-releases/2022/10/santander-and-formula-1-announce-winners-of-santander-x-global-challenge-countdown-to-zero>, accessed in November 2022.

<sup>13</sup> <https://corp.formula1.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/F1-ESG-Briefing-Note-February-2022-vF.pdf>, accessed in November 2022.

<sup>14</sup> Note: One of the most notable sustainability-related pieces of news to come out of Formula One since the publication of the 2021 Sustainable Championships Index™ was the upcoming 2026 introduction of 100% sustainable fuel into the championship, with an aim to have this fuel be usable by most road cars around the world. This announcement has not yet been taken into account in scoring, and will be considered once the fuel has been introduced into the championship.



## EXAMPLES OF SUSTAINABILITY APPROACHES OF LEADING MOTORSPORT CHAMPIONSHIPS



**EXTREME E** (58/100)



Extreme E secured its position among the leading sustainable championships in 2023, having been lauded as a notable mention in the SChI™'s first iteration. After finishing in fourth place overall in the 2022 SChI™, the FIA sanctioned Extreme E championship this year tied with MotoGP for third place.

Founded in 2018 and part of the wider ABB FIA Formula E family, the all-electric off-road championship was launched with an ambitious foundation built on sustainability. A signatory of the UNFCCC Sports for Climate Action Framework, it is the championship's goal to have "the lowest carbon footprint in international motorsport".<sup>15</sup>

Key improvements this past year came in the area of transparency and reporting, with the championship having published its Season One Sustainability Report in February 2022.<sup>16</sup> Covering initiatives across the ESG spectrum, the report also outlines Extreme E's Season One carbon footprint, measuring Scope 1, Scope 2, and partial Scope 3 emissions. Emissions were offset through a UN-certified third-party provider, allowing the championship to claim carbon neutrality.

Extreme E has committed to quantify carbon savings from fan engagement through the utilisation of the "Count Us In" challenge, allowing fans to pledge environmental actions. According to numbers published by the championship, the challenge "inspired 1,231 Extreme E fans to make 3,207 pledges".<sup>17</sup>

In the 2022 edition of the SChI™, Extreme E earned points in the area of accessibility for introducing gender-balanced driver pairings. In this year's ranking, the championship further improved its score by collaborating with the FIA Girls on Track UK initiative, inviting 40 young girls from the area surrounding the Jurassic X-Prix site in Dorset, UK, to visit the site and participate in STEM-related activities. The initiative also gave the girls an opportunity to the visit behind-the-scenes paddock area, where they were invited to meet with some of the female drivers.<sup>18</sup>

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SUSTAINABILITY PERFORMANCE OF EXTREME E:

#### LEGACY PROJECTS:

- > Since Season 1, Extreme E has been supporting several legacy projects in locations across the world, focussing on issues such as the protection of endangered species and natural habitats, forest security and maintenance, and climate education.

#### REPORTING:

- > Following the completion of its first season, Extreme E published its first Sustainability Report in February 2022.

#### FAN ENGAGEMENT:

- > The championship is committed to quantifying carbon savings from fan engagement by asking fans to pledge environmental actions in the "Count Us In" challenge.

Source:

<sup>15</sup> [https://www.extreme-e.com/en/news/487\\_Extreme-E-reveals-Season-1-Sustainability-Report-and-carbon-footprint](https://www.extreme-e.com/en/news/487_Extreme-E-reveals-Season-1-Sustainability-Report-and-carbon-footprint), accessed in November 2022.

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.extreme-e.com/sustainability/report.pdf>.

<sup>17</sup> [https://www.extreme-e.com/en/news/487\\_Extreme-E-reveals-Season-1-Sustainability-Report-and-carbon-footprint](https://www.extreme-e.com/en/news/487_Extreme-E-reveals-Season-1-Sustainability-Report-and-carbon-footprint), accessed in November 2022.

<sup>18</sup> Note: Extreme E also displays best practice in the areas of i.e., freight, with all championship equipment transported to race locations by boat (the St. Helena), however it is important to note that the championship only offers 5 races per season (with two races in the 2022 calendar having taken place in the same location). This also makes sustainability impact with stakeholders, local communities and promoters limited as compared to other leading championships.

## EXAMPLES OF SUSTAINABILITY APPROACHES OF LEADING MOTORSPORT CHAMPIONSHIPS



### FIM WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP GRAND PRIX (MOTO GP) (58/100)



The FIM World Championship Grand Prix, also known as Moto GP, is again commended as a top performer in the rankings, having improved on its sustainability performance over the past year.

Notable improvements for the two-wheel championship were seen in the areas of reporting and certification, with commercial rights holder Dorna Sports having made great strides in the impactful communication of its sustainability initiatives.

In October 2022, the organisation announced the achievement of ISO 20121 certification for the sustainable event management system implemented by the organisers of the FIM MotoGP World Championship.<sup>19</sup> The certification, which is awarded after the completion of a third-party audit, provides a framework for improving and maintaining the economic, environmental, and social impact of events, certifying current standards as well as defining a plan for continuous improvement going forward.

Earlier in 2022, Dorna launched a new website, showcasing various purpose-driven initiatives carried out by MotoGP. Under the umbrella of "Racing Together: Making a Difference", the website outlines how the championship is working across a number of social and environmental initiatives to further sustainability worldwide through the powerful medium of sport: "Racing together represents the values, efforts and collective drive of our sport and the people it touches all over the globe."<sup>20</sup> Initiatives outlined include the championship's "Two Wheels for Life" charity, plans to introduce zero carbon fuels into the championship in 2024, and the "K.I.S.S.: Keep it Shiny and Sustainable" initiative, first introduced in 2013.

Improving on its transparency and reporting score, Dorna Sports further published its first annual ESG report, disclosing relevant information across all three areas of the ESG framework, including an initial carbon footprint conducted at the organisation's headquarters.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SUSTAINABILITY PERFORMANCE OF FIM WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP GRAND PRIX (MOTO GP)

#### REPORTING:

- > Rights' holder Dorna Sports published its first annual ESG report, reporting on initiatives throughout 2021.

#### CERTIFICATION:

- > In September 2022, Dorna Sports obtained ISO 20121 certification for its sustainable event management system as the organiser of the FIM MotoGP World Championship.

#### COMMUNICATION:

- > Early 2022 saw the launch of the "Racing Together: Making a Difference" website, showcasing the purpose-driven work MotoGP is doing across a number of social and environmental initiatives.

Source:

<sup>19</sup> <https://www.motogp.com/en/news/2022/09/18/dorna-sports-obtains-international-iso-20121-certification/436136>, accessed in November 2022.

<sup>20</sup> <https://racingtogether.motogp.com/makingadifference/>, accessed in November 2022.

## MOST IMPROVED

### FIM ENEL MOTOE WORLD CUP

Promoted by Dorna Sports and supported by title sponsor EnelX, the FIM Enel MotoE World Cup held its inaugural season in 2019, aiming “to take [an] alternative vision of racing onto the track”<sup>21</sup> by creating a “high octane yet zero emissions motorsport” rooted in “cutting edge technology”. Placing 9th overall in this year’s ranking, the all-electric motorbike championship improved its overall score by 13 points, bringing it to a total of 37 points in the SChI™ ranking. This improvement is credit mainly to promoter Dorna Sport’s increased disclosure through the publication of its first annual ESG report, publishing information on purpose-driven initiatives such as actions to counteract food waste and initial carbon emissions reporting for the organisation’s headquarters, as well as the introduction of 46% recycled materials in all MotoE rear tyres in 2022.<sup>22</sup>

## OTHER NOTABLE PERFORMANCES AND MENTIONS

### FIA ETCR (ETOURING CAR WORLD CUP) (EUROPE)

Placing 8th overall, the eTouring Car World Cup became an FIA-sanctioned championship in 2022, making it the first all-electric touring car competition at world level. Aside from climate change focused initiatives such as the commitment to planting a tree for every kilometre driven at its six events over the course of the 2022 season, the championship’s “#TransitionInMotion” CSR programme also consists of various social initiatives. During the 2022 season,<sup>23</sup> a key initiative was introduced in support of Racing Pride, “a movement developed to positively promote LGBTQ+ inclusivity within the motorsport industry and among its technological and commercial partners”,<sup>24</sup> as well as the “We Move Budapest” campaign, which aims to “promot[e] physical activity, [a] healthy lifestyle, intercultural understanding, active citizenship and participation through sport-based non-formal education”.<sup>25</sup>

### GOODYEAR FIA EUROPEAN TRUCK RACING CHAMPIONSHIP (EUROPE)

The Goodyear FIA European Truck Racing Championship (Goodyear FIA ETRC), which was ranked in 16th position overall, outlined its ambition to become Net-Zero by 2038 in its 2021 Sustainability Roadmap. In 2021, the Goodyear FIA ETRC’s promoter, ETRA Promotion GmbH, became a signatory of the UNFCCC Sports for Climate Action Framework. In the same year, the championship made the switch to HVO (hydrotreated vegetable oil) biofuel for all trucks, and in 2022, it introduced bio-LNG (liquefied natural gas) to power the championship’s pace truck. Furthermore, the Goodyear FIA ETRC has introduced an initiative called the “Innovation Camp” into the paddock, a platform for manufacturers to “showcase their sustainable developments and present alternatively powered trucks at our events, to help increase the acceptance of new technologies in the industry and amongst truck drivers”.<sup>26</sup>

Source:

<sup>21</sup> <https://www.motogp.com/en/news/2018/02/06/fim-enel-motoe-world-cup-a-new-class-of-competition/249159>, accessed in November 2022.

<sup>22</sup> Note: The FIM MotoE World Cup gained World Championship status starting in 2023. As the data collection period for this iteration of the SChI™ ended in November and as not to create confusion, the author of this paper refers to it by its 2022 name for the purposes of this iteration.

<sup>23</sup> <https://www.fia-etcr.com/fia-etcr-to-plant-a-tree-for-every-kilometre-completed-in-2022/>, accessed in November 2022.

<sup>24</sup> <https://racingpride.com/>, accessed in November 2022.

<sup>25</sup> <https://www.wemovebudapest.com/>, accessed in November 2022.

<sup>26</sup> <https://www.goodyearfiaetrc.com/news/innovation-camp-truck-talk>, accessed in November 2022.

## OTHER NOTABLE PERFORMANCES AND MENTIONS

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Below is a selection of notable mentions for championships in the early stages of improving their sustainability credentials but who have started to demonstrate commitment with specific projects and initiatives.

### FIA/FIM WORLD RALLY-RAID CHAMPIONSHIP

The FIA- and FIM-sanctioned World Rally-Raid Championship (W2RC) is organised by global promoter A.S.O., with the world-famous Dakar rally serving as its flagship event. In 2021, the W2RC introduced its “Dakar Future” energy transition programme, which saw the introduction of the H2 Racing Truck, the world’s first 100% hydrogen powered racing truck. In addition, rally organisers have been funding an anti-deforestation programme in the Amazon since 2009, offsetting emissions generated at the Dakar Rally. In terms of social sustainability, the World Rally-Raid Championship has been engaging with humanitarian projects across the globe, including a partnership with “Help Center”, a non-profit organisation based in Saudi Arabia that cares for children and young people with physical and learning disabilities. The programme also ensures those with disabilities have access to races.

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### NTT INDYCAR SERIES (USA)

Improving on its performance over the past year, Indycar, in partnership with tire supplier Firestone, introduced a new race tire that is partially composed of a natural rubber derived from the guayule shrub, also known as parthenium argentatum. The desert shrub, which is native to the north-central plateau of Mexico and areas of Texas, is widely considered a more sustainable alternative to traditional sources of rubber. The championship further announced that starting with the 2022 Chevrolet Detroit Grand Prix in June, all NTT Indycar Series cars would be transported by trucks fuelled by renewable diesel.

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### INTERNATIONAL MOTOR SPORTS ASSOCIATION (IMSA) (USA)

In 2021, IMSA introduced its Diverse Driver Scholarship, looking to enable drivers from a variety of backgrounds to participate in an IMSA-sanctioned series. In addition to having achieved outstanding race results previously, candidates for the scholarship are asked to present “a compelling strategy” to compete in a full season of either the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship, the IMSA Michelin Pilot Challenge or the IMSA Prototype Challenge. Benefits of the scholarship include a full season’s entry fee, as well as another 50% for the following season, bringing its value to more than \$250,000, making the championship vastly more accessible for a more diverse group of candidates.

# CONCLUSION

## MOVEMENT TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Speaking at the inaugural Laureus Sports Awards in 2000, former South African president Nelson Mandela said: **“Sport has the power to change the world. It has the power to unite people in a way that little else does.”**<sup>27</sup> With an immense following of engaged fans from around the world, motorsport holds an influential position in the global push for a more sustainable future for people and planet.

True to Mandela’s vision, motorsport has an opportunity and potential to be an active contributor to the global sustainability race by harnessing its global audience, its drive for technological innovation, and not least of all, its pursuit of excellence. Through industry-wide collaboration, championships have the ability to share best practice and to elevate the collective sustainability performance of the sector.

This study aims to accelerate action on sustainability through motorsport by showcasing best practice from across the industry as well as highlighting areas for improvement. By aligning this ranking with other industries, such as the financial industry, and assessing publicly disclosed information only, the Sustainable Championships Index™ strives to promote transparent disclosure of sustainability credentials and provide an independent review of the purpose-driven work being done by motorsport championships across the world.

Leading the way for the industry for the second consecutive year of this study, ABB FIA Formula E finished at the top of the leader board, followed by FIA Formula One World Championship and FIM World Championship Grand Prix (Moto GP). Having placed fourth in 2022, Extreme E this year joins the leading championships, tying with Moto GP in third place.

The findings show that the leaders continue to set the pace for the industry by adopting a holistic approach to sustainability, engaging with their stakeholders and disclosing their activities clearly. A notable example of this is seen with all four leading championships having published documents reporting on progress towards their sustainability targets and objectives. In addition to sharing best practice by those leading the way, this paper also aims to emphasise that there is no single right approach to sustainability. Rather, it is the combined efforts of the entire motorsport ecosystem working together, sharing best practice, and raising the standard that will ensure the industry is on the right track.

There are clear signs of progress being made across the 105 global motorsport championships reviewed, with an increasing number of championships making strides to not only improve their sustainability performance – but to also effectively communicate their efforts. And while more than half of the championships still appear in the bottom tier, the data reviewed shows movement across all tiers, indicating a shift towards meaningful action. Although the industry is making progress, the findings also show that in many cases championships’ approach to objective-setting and reporting is qualitative, rather than quantitative.

As the industry shifts towards more sustainable practices, it is important to caution that without a foundation of quantitative data to support efforts being made or reported on, championships could be putting themselves at risk of greenwashing.

The overarching message delivered at the 2022 UN Climate Conference COP27 was that the time to act is now; and at the current pace of development it is unlikely that the global community will reach the targets necessary to achieve the momentous goal of keeping global warming to a maximum of 1.5°C. There is still hope, however, but this will require decisive and persistent action on sustainability by all stakeholders, across all sectors. Within the parameters of this report, action is needed not only by those at the top of the leaderboard – but perhaps more importantly – by those who have not yet begun their journeys of sustainable transformation.

Although sustainability is still considered a relatively new topic in motorsport by many, thanks to initiatives such as the Sustainable Motorsport Index™, awareness is growing. And as the findings in this study show – so is action. Furthermore, with key stakeholders such as the FIA making their Three-Star Environmental Accreditation a requirement for all FIA World Championships from 2025, and all FIA-sanctioned championships from 2030, there is reason to believe that more championships will come forward with plans, targets and objectives in the coming years. Similarly, FIM continues to push for increased sustainable practices among its sanctioned two-wheel championships, a move that will also lead to improved sustainability performances over time.

Lastly, as pressures from industry, governments and the public continue to grow, transparent disclosure of sustainability credentials on the part of all organisations and sectors, motorsport championships included, will become increasingly important. While other sustainability indices in the industry rank stakeholders based on voluntary surveys, the SMI™'s approach of considering only publicly disclosed information will encourage stakeholders to apply the same zest of innovation, creativity, and competition to their sustainability performance and its communication as they do to any other race.<sup>28</sup>

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Source:

<sup>27</sup> <https://www.globalgoals.org/news/sport-for-development-and-peace/>, accessed in November 2022

<sup>28</sup> The third edition of this report, updating the Sustainability Championships Index™, will be published by early 2024. As explained in the methodology, the Index will only consider data that is publicly disclosed.

## THE SUSTAINABLE MOTORSPORT INDEX™

Created in 2020 by Enovation Consulting, Dr. Cristiana Pace, and Prof. Paolo Taticchi, Professor of Corporate Governance at the UCL School of Management, the Sustainable Motorsport Index (SMI™) is the first independent, self-regulated ranking with a standard methodology based on a proprietary algorithm, assessing the disclosed sustainability of stakeholders in the motorsport industry.

The Sustainable Motorsport Index offers a comparable and standardised evaluation of disclosed ESG credentials of circuits (SCI™) and Championships (SchI™), following guidelines and models promoted by the UN, EU, and the OECD.

To ensure robustness and avoid the possibility of bias, the ranking of the championship is generated by the proprietary algorithm and validated by an independent academic committee.

The SMI™ is an unsolicited rating, the aim of which is to provide the industry with a self-funded, public, and freely available stakeholder indices benchmark to advance the future of sustainability best practice in the motorsport industry, underpinned by its foundational motto: 'if you cannot measure it, you cannot improve it'.

### For further information:

[sustainablemotorsportindex.com](https://sustainablemotorsportindex.com)



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## ABOUT THE AUTHORS

**Enovation Consulting** is a leading independent purpose-driven sustainability and strategic management agency driving the sustainability movement forward in sport. Founded in 2018 by motorsport engineer and sustainability expert Dr. Cristiana Pace, Enovation Consulting works with sport stakeholders to provide a sustainable, strategic long-term approach to building value for companies, people, and planet. Creativity, innovation, research, and data-based solutions are the driving forces behind Enovation Consulting's approach to working with clients, with the aim to empower organisations with the knowledge they need to integrate sustainability into their short, medium and long-term business strategies.

Enovation Consulting runs two not-for-profit initiatives, the Sustainable Motorsport Index™, which measures the global sustainability performance of motorsport stakeholders, and Thursday for the Future, an initiative that gives the next generation access to the sport.

**Paolo Taticchi** is Professor in Strategy and Sustainability & School Deputy Director (MBA, Global Engagement, Executive Education) at UCL School of Management. Highly active in executive education, Paolo has trained thousands of managers and executives of Fortune Global 500 companies; and is a sought-after speaker regularly invited to give keynote talks at world-class academic, governmental and industry events. Paolo's research on corporate sustainability and performance measurement is internationally recognized. Paolo's last book is titled "Corporate Sustainability in Practice" and was published in January 2021. Outside of the academy, Paolo has significant consultancy experience in the fields of strategy, education, and sustainability.

He has worked in this capacity for firms of various sizes, and in a range of different industries. Today, he advises (or serves in the advisory board) influential organisations and is one of the scientific advisors of the Ministry for the Ecological Transition in Italy. He has received numerous awards for the impact of his work. His projects, quotes and opinions have been featured over 350 times in international media outlets. In 2021, Paolo was indicated by Italian's leading business daily Sole 24 Ore as the most influential Italian under the age of 40.

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# APPENDICES

## Appendix 1:

List of all surveyed championships and their nationality in alphabetical order

CHAMPIONSHIP NAME	NATIONALITY
FIA African Rally Championship	Africa
FIA NACAM Rally Championship	Americas
Asian Le Mans Series	Asia
FIA Asia-Pacific Rally Championship	Asia
FIA ASO Dakar (World Rally-Raid Championship)	Asia
FIA Middle East Rally Championship	Asia
FIM ASO Dakar (World Rally-Raid Championship)	Asia
FIM Bajas Veterans' Trophy	Asia
FIM Bajas World Cup	Asia
FIM Cross-Country Rallies World Championship	Asia
FIM Junior Bajas World Cup	Asia
FIM Women's Bajas World Cup	Asia
Repco Supercars Championship	Australia
FIM Red Bull MotoGP Rookies Cup	Europe
Women's European Cup	Europe
FIA Masters Historic Sports Car Championship	Europe
CIK-FIA Karting World Championship	Europe
Deutsche Tourenwagen Masters (DTM)	Europe
Drift Masters European Championship	Europe
Euro NASCAR Pro (NASCAR WHELEN EURO SERIES)	Europe
EuroNASCAR 2 (NASCAR WHELEN EURO SERIES)	Europe
European Le Mans Series	Europe
Ferrari Challenge Trofeo Pirelli Europe	Europe
FIA ETCR	Europe
FIA European Autocross Championship	Europe
FIA European Cup for Cross Country Bajas	Europe
FIA European Drag Racing Championship	Europe
FIA European Hill Climb Road Racing Championship	Europe
FIA European Hillclimb Championship	Europe
FIA European Historic Rally Championship	Europe
FIA European Rally Championship	Europe
FIA European Rally Trophy	Europe
FIA European Rallycross Championship	Europe

CHAMPIONSHIP NAME	NATIONALITY
FIA Formula 2 Championship	Europe
FIA Formula 3 Championship	Europe
FIA Historic Hill Climb Championship	Europe
FIA International Hill Climb Cup	Europe
FIA Karting European Championship	Europe
FIA Masters Historic Formula One Championship	Europe
FIA World Endurance Championship	Europe
FIA World Rally Championship	Europe
FIA World Rallycross Championship	Europe
FIA World Touring Car Cup	Europe
FIM Cross Country Rallies World Cup	Europe
FIM Cross Country Rallies World Cup - SSV	Europe
FIM E-Bike Enduro World Cup	Europe
FIM Endurance World Championship	Europe
FIM Enduro Open World Cup	Europe
FIM Enduro World Championship	Europe
FIM Enel MotoE World Cup	Europe
FIM Europe Junior e-Motocross Championship	Europe
FIM Flat Track World Championship	Europe
FIM Hard Enduro World Championship	Europe
FIM Ice Speedway World Championship	Europe
FIM Junior Enduro World Championship	Europe
FIM Junior Motocross World Championship	Europe
FIM Junior World Championship	Europe
FIM Long Track World Championship	Europe
FIM MiniGP World Series	Europe
FIM Quads Bajas World Cup	Europe
FIM S1GP SuperMoto World Championship	Europe
FIM Sidecar Motocross World Championship	Europe
FIM Sidecar World Championship	Europe





























































































































CHAMPIONSHIP NAME	NATIONALITY
FIM Speedway Grand Prix World Championship	Europe
FIM Speedway of Nations	Europe
FIM Speedway Under 21 World Championship	Europe
FIM Speedway Youth World Championship	Europe
FIM SSV Bajas World Cup	Europe
FIM Superbike World Championship	Europe
FIM SuperEnduro World Championship	Europe
FIM Supersport 300 World Championship	Europe
FIM Trial E-Cup	Europe
FIM WMX Motocross World Championship	Europe
FIM Women's Enduro World Championship	Europe
FIM Women's Motocross World Championship	Europe
FIM World Championship Grand Prix (Moto GP)	Europe
FIM X-Trial World Championship	Europe
FIM Youth Enduro World Championship	Europe
Formula Regional European Championship	Europe
Goodyear FIA European Truck Racing Championship	Europe
GT4 European Series	Europe
Hertz FIM Trial World Championship	Europe
Hertz FIM Trial2 World Championship	Europe
Hertz FIM Women's Trial World Championship	Europe
Porsche Mobil 1 Supercup	Europe
R-GT Cup	Europe
FIA World Cup for Cross Country Bajas	Europe/Asia
Indy NXT	North America
Ferrari Challenge Trofeo Pirelli North America	North America
Formula Regional Americas Championship	North America
IMSA Mazda MX-5 Cup	North America
IMSA Michelin Pilot Challenge	North America
IMSA Prototype Challenge	North America
IMSA Weathertech SportsCar Championship	North America

CHAMPIONSHIP NAME	NATIONALITY
Intercontinental GT Challenge by Pirelli	North America
Monster Energy AMA Supercross, FIM World Championship	North America
NASCAR Camping World Truck Series	North America
NASCAR Cup Series	North America
NASCAR Xfinity Series	North America
NTT Indycar Series	North America
FIA Codasur Rally Championship	South America
ABB FIA Formula E World Championship	United Kingdom
Extreme E	United Kingdom
FIA Formula One World Championship	United Kingdom
W Series	United Kingdom





## Appendix 2:

SChI™ performance data normalised over the score of the leader; within respective categories of performance (listing order does not represent ranking)

CHAMPIONSHIP NAME	CATEGORY OF PERFORMANCE	
ABB FIA Formula E World Championship		 Corresponds to a LOW SChI™ SCORE
FIA Formula One World Championship		 Corresponds to a MEDIUM - LOW SChI™ SCORE
FIM World Championship Grand Prix (Moto GP)		 Corresponds to a MEDIUM - HIGH SChI™ SCORE
Extreme E		 Corresponds to a HIGH SChI™ SCORE
FIA European Rally Championship		
FIA World Touring Car Cup		
FIA ETCR		
NASCAR Cup Series		
NASCAR Xfinity Series		
Ferrari Challenge Trofeo Pirelli Europe		
FIA ASO Dakar (World Rally-Raid Championship)		
FIA World Rally Championship		
FIM ASO Dakar (World Rally-Raid Championship)		
FIM E-Bike Enduro World Cup		
FIM Endurance World Championship		
FIM Enduro World Championship		
FIM Junior Enduro World Championship		
FIM Junior Motocross World Championship		
FIM Junior World Championship		
FIM Enel MotoE World Cup		
FIM Red Bull MotoGP Rookies Cup		
FIM Speedway Grand Prix World Championship		
FIM Speedway Youth World Championship		
FIM Superbike World Championship		
FIM WMX Motocross World Championship		
FIM Women's Enduro World Championship		
FIM Women's Motocross World Championship		
FIM Women's Bajas World Cup		
Goodyear FIA European Truck Racing Championship		
GT4 European Series		
Hertz FIM Trial World Championship		
Hertz FIM Women's Trial World Championship		

CHAMPIONSHIP NAME	CATEGORY OF PERFORMANCE
IMSA Weathertech Sportscar Championship	   
Intercontinental GT Challenge by Pirelli	   
Monster Energy AMA Supercross, FIM World Championship	   
NASCAR Camping World Truck Series	   
W Series	   
Asian Le Mans Series	   
CIK-FIA Karting World Championship	   
Deutsche Tourenwagen Masters (DTM)	   
Drift Masters European Championship	   
EuroNASCAR 2 (NASCAR WHELEN EURO SERIES)	   
EuroNASCAR Pro (NASCAR WHELEN EURO SERIES)	   
European Le Mans Series	   
Ferrari Challenge Trofeo Pirelli North America	   
FIA African Rally Championship	   
FIA Asia-Pacific Rally Championship	   
FIA Codasur Rally Championship	   
FIA European Autocross Championship	   
FIA European Cup for Cross Country Bajas	   
FIA European Drag Racing Championship	   
FIA European Hill Climb Road Racing Championship	   
FIA European Hillclimb Championship	   
FIA European Historic Rally Championship	   
FIA European Rally Trophy	   
FIA European Rallycross Championship	   
FIA Formula 2 Championship	   
FIA Formula 3 Championship	   
FIA Historic Hill Climb Championship	   
FIA International Hill Climb Cup	   
FIA Karting European Championship	   
FIA Masters Historic Formula One Championship	   
FIA Masters Historic Sports Car Championship	   

CHAMPIONSHIP NAME	CATEGORY OF PERFORMANCE
FIA Middle East Rally Championship	
FIA NACAM Rally Championship	
FIA World Cup for Cross Country Bajas	
FIA World Endurance Championship	
FIA World Rallycross Championship	
FIM Bajas Veterans' Trophy	
FIM Bajas World Cup	
FIM Cross Country Rallies World Cup	
FIM Cross Country Rallies World Cup - SSV	
FIM Cross-Country Rallies World Championship	
FIM Enduro Open World Cup	
FIM Europe Junior e-Motocross Championship	
FIM Flat Track World Championship	
FIM Hard Enduro World Championship	
FIM Ice Speedway World Championship	
FIM Junior Bajas World Cup	
FIM Long Track World Championship	
FIM MiniGP World Series	
FIM Quads Bajas World Cup	
FIM S1GP SuperMoto World Championship	
FIM Sidecar Motocross World Championship	
FIM Sidecar World Championship	
FIM Speedway of Nations	
FIM Speedway Under 21 World Championship	
FIM SSV Bajas World Cup	
FIM SuperEnduro World Championship	
FIM Supersport 300 World Championship	
FIM Trial E-Cup	
FIM X-Trial World Championship	
FIM Youth Enduro World Championship	
Formula Regional Americas Championship	

CHAMPIONSHIP NAME	CATEGORY OF PERFORMANCE
Formula Regional European Championship	
Hertz FIM Trial2 World Championship	
IMSA Mazda MX-5 Cup	
IMSA Michelin Pilot Challenge	
IMSA Prototype Challenge	
Indy NXT	
NTT Indycar Series	
Porsche Mobil 1 Supercup	
R-GT Cup	
Repco Supercars Championship	
Women's European Cup	



### Appendix 3:

List of all surveyed championships with number of rounds/races in 2022 and seasons in operation.

CHAMPIONSHIP NAME		NUMBER OF ROUNDS OR RACES	SEASONS IN OPERATION
ABB FIA Formula E World Championship	Races	16	8
Asian Le Mans Series	Races	4	10
CIK-FIA Karting World Championship	Races	7	58
Deutsche Tourenwagen Masters (DTM)	Races	8	22
Drift Masters European Championship	Races	6	5
EuroNASCAR 2 (NASCAR WHELEN EURO SERIES)	Races	10	13
EuroNASCAR Pro (NASCAR WHELEN EURO SERIES)	Races	12	13
European Le Mans Series	Races	6	19
Extreme E	Races	5	2
Ferrari Challenge Trofeo Pirelli Europe	Races	7	29
Ferrari Challenge Trofeo Pirelli North America	Races	6	28
FIA African Rally Championship	Races	6	42
FIA Asia-Pacific Rally Championship	Races	6	35
FIA ASO Dakar (World Rally-Raid Championship)	Rounds	12	44
FIA Codasur Rally Championship	Races	6	25
FIA ETCR	Rounds	6	2
FIA European Autocross Championship	Races	10	41
FIA European Cup for Cross Country Bajas	Races	5	4
FIA European Drag Racing Championship	Rounds	6	25
FIA European Hill Climb Road Racing Championship	Rounds	6	65
FIA European Hillclimb Championship	Races	9	65
FIA European Historic Rally Championship	Races	9	69
FIA European Rally Championship	Races	8	70
FIA European Rally Trophy	Races	28	9
FIA European Rallycross Championship	Races	7	47
FIA Formula 2 Championship	Races	14	5
FIA Formula 3 Championship	Races	9	4
FIA Formula One World Championship	Races	22	73
FIA Historic Hill Climb Championship	Rounds	5	92
FIA International Hill Climb Cup	Races	4	22
FIA International Hill Climb Cup	Rounds	8	58

CHAMPIONSHIP NAME		NUMBER OF ROUNDS OR RACES	SEASONS IN OPERATION
FIA Masters Historic Formula One Championship	Races	10	10
FIA Masters Historic Sports Car Championship	Races	7	51
FIA Middle East Rally Championship	Races	5	38
FIA NACAM Rally Championship	Races	6	15
FIA World Cup for Cross Country Bajas	Races	8	20
FIA World Endurance Championship	Races	6	10
FIA World Rally Championship	Races	13	50
FIA World Rallycross Championship	Races	12	9
FIA World Touring Car Cup	Races	18	5
FIM ASO Dakar (World Rally-Raid Championship)	Rounds	12	44
FIM Bajas Veterans' Trophy	Races	10	3
FIM Bajas World Cup	Races	10	11
FIM Cross Country Rallies World Cup	Rounds	5	22
FIM Cross Country Rallies World Cup - SSV	Rounds	5	19
FIM Cross-Country Rallies World Championship	Rounds	5	22
FIM E-Bike Enduro World Championship	Races	7	32
FIM Endurance World Championship	Races	4	43
FIM Enduro Open World Cup	Races	14	4
FIM Enduro World Championship	Rounds	8	33
FIM Enel MotoE World Cup	Races	14	4
FIM Europe Junior e-Motocross Championship	Races	10	2
FIM Flat Track World Championship	Rounds	5	3
FIM Hard Enduro World Championship	Rounds	9	2
FIM Ice Speedway World Championship	Races	4	28
FIM Junior Bajas World Cup	Rounds	10	11
FIM Junior Enduro World Championship	Rounds	4	17
FIM Junior Motocross World Championship	Races	1	15
FIM Junior World Championship	Races	8	9
FIM Long Track World Championship	Rounds	6	52
FIM MiniGP World Series	Races	8	2

CHAMPIONSHIP NAME		NUMBER OF ROUNDS OR RACES	SEASONS IN OPERATION
FIM Quads Bajas World Cup	Rounds	10	11
FIM Red Bull MotoGP Rookies Cup	Races	14	16
FIM S1GP SuperMoto World Championship	Rounds	7	9
FIM Sidecar Motocross World Championship	Races	8	42
FIM Sidecar World Championship	Races	8	73
FIM Speedway Grand Prix World Championship	Races	10	28
FIM Speedway of Nations	Races	4	5
FIM Speedway Under 21 World Championship	Rounds	3	33
FIM Speedway Youth World Championship	Rounds	1	13
FIM SSV Bajas World Cup	Rounds	10	3
FIM Superbike World Championship	Races	12	34
FIM SuperEnduro World Championship	Rounds	5	14
FIM Supersport 300 World Championship	Races	16	6
FIM Trial E-Cup	Races	3	45
FIM WMX Motocross World Championship	Races	20	66
FIM Women's Bajas World Cup	Rounds	10	3
FIM Women's Enduro World Championship	Rounds	4	2
FIM Women's Motocross World Championship	Races	10	17
FIM World Championship Grand Prix (Moto GP)	Races	20	20
FIM X-Trial World Championship	Races	6	29
FIM Youth Enduro World Championship	Rounds	4	17
Formula Regional Americas Championship	Races	18	5
Formula Regional European Championship	Races	10	4
Goodyear FIA European Truck Racing Championship	Races	8	37
GT4 European Series	Races	6	15
Hertz FIM Trial World Championship	Races	2	5
Hertz FIM Trial2 World Championship	Races	4	22
Hertz FIM Women's Trial World Championship	Races	4	22
IMSA Mazda MX-5 Cup	Races	7	18
IMSA Michelin Pilot Challenge	Races	11	9
IMSA Prototype Challenge	Races	5	17
IMSA Weathertech Sportscar Championship	Races	13	52

CHAMPIONSHIP NAME		NUMBER OF ROUNDS OR RACES	SEASONS IN OPERATION
Indy NXT	Races	14	36
Intercontinental GT Challenge by Pirelli	Races	4	8
Monster Energy AMA Supercross, FIM World Championship	Races	17	49
NASCAR Camping World Truck Series	Races	23	28
NASCAR Cup Series	Races	36	74
NASCAR Xfinity Series	Races	33	41
NTT Indycar Series	Races	17	27
Porsche Mobil 1 Supercup	Races	8	30
R-GT Cup	Races	5	8
Repsol Supercars Championship	Rounds	13	62
W Series	Races	6	4
Women's European Cup	Races	6	2



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