

CLASSIC DRIVER

Le Mans Classic 2004 - preliminary entries revealed



The first Le Mans Classic was regarded as one of the highlights of 2002 as an event for classic car enthusiasts all over the world. While representative cars from fifty years of the world's most famous 24-Hour race were on-track, a host of classics, from all the famous marques, could be seen in in-field displays and visitors could browse trade stands for models, books and automobilia. In 2004 the race has been brought forward to July and the organisers, Peter Auto, have just announced the first entries.



Held in September, the 2002 inaugural event drew a total of 30,000 spectators to watch over 300 racing cars and 1000 drivers re-enact the battles of the past. For 2004 the organisers have extended the cut-off date to 1978, added a sixth grid and reduced the laps required per grid to three - a measure designed to give drivers more track time and prevent some of the problems in 2002 that meant later races being reduced to just one lap. The meeting will be spread over three days with the familiar 24 Hour circuit closing to public traffic on the Friday night - rather than Saturday morning as in 2002. This will give competitors more practice time (a complaint from 2002) leading to greater car reliability and a safer racing environment.

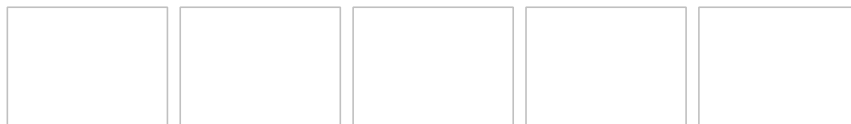


For those unfamiliar with the format it can be summarised thus; the maximum 366 car entry (+72 reserves) is divided up into six grids (or 'plateaux') by date, with the object of completing 3 races per grid within a 24-hour period starting at 16.00 on Saturday and finishing 16.00 Sunday. In 2002 the oldest cars (Grid 1, cars from 1923 to 1939) started the event, then Grid 2 (1946 to 1956) and so on until 18 individual races have been completed.

In addition to the racing, Owners Clubs are actively encouraged to put on displays - the meeting is supported by the FFVE and the FIVA federations - a large range of trade stands will be available, and there will also be an auction of classic cars and automobilia.

The dates for the 2004 event are 23/24/25 July.

Further information can be obtained from - www.lemansclassic.com



The first entries have been announced by the organisers as follows - as the entry form did not include a deadline, some room will be left until the end of Retromobile (13 - 22 February) where the Le Mans Classic will have a stand -

Grid 1 1923 - 1929

Driver(s)	Nationality	Car
EMMERLING	D	RILEY Brooklands 1928
SWETE/SCHUMACHER	GB/GB	TALBOT GB 90 1930
KNÖCHLEIN	D	BMW 328 1938
BROOKS	USA	BUGATTI 37 A 1927
ZIMMER	NL	TALBOT 105 1931
ASHMEAD	GB	ASTON MARTIN LM 4 1930
BUTLER/WALFORD	USA/GB	MG Magnette K3 1934
BARRS/GUYATT	GB/GB	STUZ Blackhawk 1929
HONEGGER/BURT	USA/USA	INVICTA S 1931
ACKLAM/CLARKE	GB/GB	MORGAN 4-4 1938
HOLMAN/HOLMAN/REED	USA/USA/USA	STUTZ Blackhawk 1928
HINE/BARNES	GB/GB	LAGONDA LG 45 1937
SADELER/BURNETT/RUSTON/BURNETT	GB/GB/GB/GB	TALBOT 105 1935
BURNETT/MORRIS/BURNETT	GB/GB/GB	TALBOT 105 1934
FREEMAN/BÜSST	GB/GB	ASTON MARTIN Speed Model 1936
PEROU	F	DELAGE DE 1923
ELLIOT PYLE/EVANS	GB/GB	LEA FRANCIS 1930
du BOUCHERON/du BOUCHERON/ du BOUCHERON	B/F/F	THEO SCHNEIDER 25 SP 1928
DA COSTA GOMES	P	AMILCAR G 36 1936
SAGE	F	DELAHAYE 135 S 1935

Grid 2 1946 - 1956

Driver(s)	Nationality	Car
FLATT/FLATT	GB/GB	ASTON MARTIN DB 2/4 1953
ROUET/BARDINON	F/F	ALLARD J2X 1952
ZWEIFLER	D	MASERATI 200 S 1955
PINELLI	F	LOTUS IX 1955
WALFORD/BUTLER	GB/USA	ALLARD J2R 1953
BESSADE/LAURENT/MAGNIN	F/F/F	GORDINI T24S 1953
DAVIES/FITZGERALD	GB/GB	LOTUS XI 1956
BURANI	I	FERRARI 750 Monza 1954
ROGERS	GB	AUSTIN HEALEY 100 1956
ARNOLD	GB	AC ACE 1955
VANANTY/BLANPAIN	CH/B	AUSTIN HEALEY 100 1955
TOMASETTI/PERROUD	I/F	MASERATI 150 S 1955
HADFIELD	GB	JAGUAR Type C 1952
SELLYEI	USA	JAGUAR Type D 1955
BIEKENS/FAWE	NL/B	FERRARI 500 1955
JAQUES	GB	JAGUAR XK 120 1951
ELOY/ELOY	F/F	AUSTIN HEALEY 100 1953
DELIGNY/DELIGNY/DELIGNY	F/F/F	PANHARD Monopole 1956
SPADINI/BLANPAIN/LANGER	CH/B/AUT	JAGUAR XK 140 1955
RUCHETON/RUCHETON/RUCHETON	F/F/F	DB Sport 1945
LANCKSWEERT	B	FERRARI 375 Plus 1954
LAING	GB	ASTON MARTIN DB2 1952
FLOOD	GB	AUSTIN HEALEY 100 1954
MIDY/CARON	F/F	FERRARI 121 LM 1955
CRIPPA	I	FERRARI 340 MM 1953
KAHN	F	ALLARD J2 1950

Grid 3 1957 - 1961

Driver(s)	Nationality	Car
HAQUETTE	F	FERRARI 250 GT 1960
WHALE/GUEST	GB/GB	JAGUAR Type E 1961
BATT/FLOYD	GB/GB	JAGUAR Type E 1961
FRANKE/SALEWSKI	D/D	ALFA ROMEO Zagato 1959
PENILLARD/ROCHER	F/F	PORSCHE 356 Coupé 1958
WANTY	B	LOTUS XI 1958
THORNTON/GARRETT	GB/GB	ASTON MARTIN DB4 GT 1960
CHARAGIONI/DROULISCOS	GR/GR	LOTUS Elite 1961
MAHMOUD	GB	ASTON MARTIN DB 4 GT 1960
THOULOUE/GRAVIER	F/F	LOTUS XI 1958
DUDLEY	USA	FERRARI 250 GT TdF 1958
THALMAN	USA	PORSCHE 356 A GT 1959
PATERSON ACKLAM	GB	LOTUS XI 1957
SADELEER	CH	FERRARI 250 GT 1960
LA HAYE JOUSSELIN	F	ASTON MARTIN DB4 GT 1961
CANE	F	LOTUS XI 1959
RICKETTS/SEWELL	GB/GB	LOTUS Elite 1961
BURT/HONEGGER	USA/USA	LOTUS XI 1958
CARON	F	AUSTIN HEALEY 3000 1961
PEROU	F	AUSTIN HEALEY 3000 1961
PASOLD/ROCHAT	GB/CH	AUSTIN HEALEY 3000 1961
GREEN/DAGGITT/PHILLIPS	ZA/ZA/ZA	M.G A "Twin Cam" 1960

Grid 4 1962 - 1965

Driver(s)	Nationality	Car
HANDS	GB	LOTUS Elan 26R GT 1964
BESSADE/LAURENT/MAGNIN	F/F/F	CD PANHARD LM 64 1964
NAHUM/THUNER	TR/CH	FORD Shelby 350 GT R 1965
HOOPER/WOOD	GB/GB	TVR Grantura MK III 1963
WANTY	B	ALFA ROMEO Giulia T21 1964
GOLD	USA	PORSCHE 904/6 1964
BELLM	GB	FORD GT 40 1965
FOUAN	F	JAGUAR Type E 1962
DEVIS	B	AC COBRA MK II 4,7L 1963
THOULOUE/GRAVIER	F/F	ALFA ROMEO TZ 1965
COTTERET/REICHER	F/F	RENE BONNET Djet II CRB/ 1L 1963
LAIDLAW	GB	PORSCHE 904/6 1965
MERLIN	F	LOTUS Elan 1964
MORICEAU	F	LOTUS Elan 1964
d'ANSEMBOURG	B	BIZZARRINI A3/C 1965
BRATKE/LOUISODER	D/D	FORD Shelby 350 GT 1965
HUBIN/LERICHE	F/F	FORD Shelby 350 GT 1965
NEWHEY	GB	FORD GT 40 1965
BENDALL	GB	AC Shelby Cobra 1962
GUTZWILLER/BÜRGIN/SALVADORI	CH/CH/CH	ALFA ROMEO Giulietta SZ 1962
NOBLET	F	FERRARI 275 GTB 1965

Grid 5 1966 - 1971

Driver(s)	Nationality	Car
GOODMAN	USA	CHEVROLET Corvette 1969

MERIAN/DEGAND	B/F	LIGIER JS 1 1969
NAHUM/THUNER	TR/CH	FORD GT 40 1968
LUCO	F	PORSCHE 908/3 1968
STEUER/de MIGUEL/CORTES/ORJUELA	COL/E/COL/E	FORD Mustang 1966
SCHACHTSCHNEIDER	D	PORSCHE 914/6 GT 1969
DEVIS	B	ALFA ROMEO Tipo 33/2B 1968
ROCHER	F	PORSCHE 906 1966
MERLIN	F	LOLA T70 MKIIIB 1969
LAWRENCE/SZYKOWSKI BALDWIN	GB/F/GB	DEEP SANDERSON 302 1968
LAWRENCE/MORGAN/BALDWIN	GB/GB/GB	DEEP SANDERSON 301 1962
COLL/CRUVELIER	F/F	PORSCHE 911 1966
BARBOT/BAKER	P/GB	LOLA T70 MKIIIB 1969

Grid 6 1972 - 1978

Driver(s)	Nationality	Car
TITFORD/RAVEN	GB/GB	FORD Capri 2600 RS 1972
BESSADE/LAURENT/MAGNIN	F/F/F	MATRA MS 670 1972
LUCO	F	PORSCHE 936 1978
MORTIER	B	BMW 3.0 CSL 1977
KNAPFIEL	GB	FERRARI 365 GTB/4 Comp 1973
LECOURT	F	PORSCHE 911 RSR 2.8 1973
THEVENET	F	PORSCHE 911 RS 1974

Editor's note; I greatly enjoyed the Le Mans Classic 2002 and can thoroughly recomend a visit in 2004. We are indebted to Classic Driver's regular contributing photographer Alexander Davidis for permission to use his 2002 shots. He has produced a short ['art-film' DVD of the event](#), and examples of other work that has been featured on Classic Driver include -

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