

Beat: Sports

NASCAR-CHIP GANASSI RACING LUANCHES GLOBAL RALLYCROSS TEAM

BRIAN DEEGAN AND STEVE ARPIN AS DRIVERS

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USPA NEWS - Chip Ganassi Racing Teams has launched a two-car program in the burgeoning Global Rallycross series. Ganassi, who has emerged as one of the most diverse and successful owners in motorsports the last 25 years, announced the project Wednesday.

Action star Brian Deegan and GRC regular Steve Arpin as drivers. Ganassi's teams campaign Chevrolets in NASCAR and IndyCar, but will utilize Fords like their TUDOR United SportsCar program beginning with the May 31 opener in Tampa, Fla., because of Ford's performance history in the series, said Ganassi president Steve Lauletta. "Make no mistake about it," Ganassi said, "we are in this series to win, both on and off the race track."

Global Rallycross contests two divisions "" Super Cars and GRC Lites "" over a 12-race schedule that includes a stop at Daytona International Speedway and two races in Barbados.

Ford, Volkswagen, Subaru and Chevrolet are official partners of the series, supplying 600-horsepower production models of their compact sports cars that are retrofitted with chassis, engine and safety upgrades to enable acceleration to 60 mph in 1.9 seconds and the durability to endure 70-foot jumps and courses over various types of terrain.

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