



International

Volkswagen Motorsport Newsletter 05/2018

- **WRX: Kristoffersson, Solberg and the Polo R Supercar in the spotlight at Silverstone**
- **Season-opener in Asia – Volkswagen celebrates two TCR series wins in Sepang**
- **Golf GTI TCR with two historic triumphs at series debut in Great Britain**

FIA World Rallycross Championship (WRX)

Ready for title defence – positive test drives for the Polo R Supercar in Silverstone

First the spotlight, then rallycross action: the Volkswagen Polo R Supercar for the 2018 season in the FIA World Rallycross Championship (WRX) is ready to take on the title defence mission. After the team presentation from PSRX Volkswagen Sweden in the Wolfsburg Autostadt, the 570 HP powerhouse made its first appearance before a global public in Silverstone, Great Britain. Right after the official presentation for all WRX teams, Solberg (N) and defending champion Johan Kristoffersson (S) used two days of test drives in dry and wet weather last Monday and Tuesday to put their supercar through its paces on the brand-new rallycross course at the historic Silverstone circuit. The conclusion: after a rigorous test programme, the champions from 2014 and 2015 (Solberg) and 2017 (Kristoffersson) are confidently approaching the new season, which starts on 14th to 15th April in Barcelona, Spain, and features a total of twelve races.

At the end of testing in Silverstone, which took place in mixed weather conditions, Kristoffersson had recorded the fifth-best time, with Solberg eighth.

Petter Solberg (N), Volkswagen Polo R Supercar #11

“Things are looking really good as we have made some important progress with the car. We have worked on various areas, such as chassis set-up. And I think we have made positive progress. Silverstone provided us with useful data and we have plenty of good ideas for the first race in Barcelona. Once we get there, we will really be able to see what pace everyone is at.”

More information: www.fiaworldrallycross.com and www.psrxvw.com



Volkswagen

TCR UK

Golf GTI TCR triumphs twice at TCR UK debut in Silverstone

Successful debut for the Golf GTI TCR in Great Britain: Daniel Lloyd can look back at his achievement in claiming the first pole position and the first two race wins in the history of the newly-created TCR UK series over the Easter weekend. "Powered by Volkswagen", the 26-year-old driver from the Swedish WestCoast Racing team came out on top in a rainy qualifying session and then recorded a commanding victory from pole position in the first race on Easter Sunday. In the second race, taking the second-fastest times from the qualifying session and reversing the top ten to set the grid, Lloyd needed just five of the scheduled 30 minutes to work his way up from ninth position to the lead – thanks to a remarkably irresistible opening phase that saw him overtake six competitors through the first four turns - and then finished around five seconds ahead of his WestCoast Racing team-mate Andreas Bäckman (S) to claim the win.

The next round of the TCR UK, on 12th and 13th May, will feature the next two races – at another historic British circuit: Knockhill.

Daniel Lloyd (GB), Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR #23

"It feels awesome, I'm really over the moon with that. It was a tough race, as it always is at Silverstone, and it was a long one too. The start is decisive here and it is important to look after the tyres because the degradation is big here. And in the second race, I think I drove the best first lap of my career. Thanks to the team for giving me this chance just before the start of the season."

More information: www.tcruk.co.uk

TCR Asia

Volkswagen celebrates two wins to start the season with Engstler Motorsport in Sepang

Two races, two wins and two additional podiums – at the TCR Asia season-opener in Sepang, Malaysia, Engstler Motorsport made a perfect start "powered by Volkswagen" to the new touring car season in Asia. Victory in the first race went to Luca Engstler (D) and Mitchell Cheah (MAL) followed suit in the second. In both races, the other young driver at the wheel of a Golf GTI TCR competing for the team from the Allgäu region also made it to the podium. The 20-year-old Cheah completed a Volkswagen one-two in the first race, which was dominated by the Engstler Motorsport team that had claimed the top three positions in qualifying. Engstler, just 18 years of age, finished the eventful second race in third place. Race-winner Cheah had started from ninth and benefited from various incidents before



Volkswagen

overtaking the remaining cars after a restart to take the lead. After contact in the opening phase of the race, Engstler also had to battle his way up from ninth and was rewarded with a third-place finish.

The third and fourth races of the TCR Asia season will take place at the second event of the series in Buriram, Thailand, from 1st to 3rd June.

Luca Engstler (D), Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR #8

"Pole position and a win at the first races in the TCR Asia series! I must thank my team-mate Mitchell Cheah, as he gave me a few good tips for the circuit in Sepang during the track inspection on Thursday."

More information: www.asia.tcr-series.com

▪ **Super Taikyu Japan**

In the Japanese Super Taikyu endurance championship, the only Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR to register for competition celebrated second place in the TCR category at the season-opening race. Philippe Devesa (F) and Shiroso Tokuyama (J) from the Racingline Performance team finished the 5-hour race at the Suzuka Grand Prix circuit in second place. More information: www.supertaikyu.com

▪ **Volkswagen Fun Cups Europe and France**

The Allure 1 team claimed victory in the 8-hour race held jointly for the Volkswagen Fun Cup Europe and the Volkswagen Fun Cup France in Spa-Francorchamps, Belgium, with the four Belgian drivers Guillaume Mondron, Cédric Bollen, Sébastien Kluyskens and Gilles Debrus at the wheel – just 1.615 seconds ahead of second place and a further 24.169 seconds ahead of the team in third position. The Easter Sunday race was the season-opener for the European championship. More information: www.vwfuncup.eu and www.funcup.net

Next up:

06/04–08/04/2018, World Touring Car Cup (WTCR), Marrakesh (MA)

07/04–08/04/2018, British Touring Car Championship (BTCC), Brands Hatch (GB)

07/04/2018, Volkswagen Fun Cup Great Britain, Oulton Park (GB)



Volkswagen

For Media

Service and Contact

Volkswagen Motorsport GmbH
Communications
Ikarusallee 7a
D-30179 Hannover
Tel/ +49 511 67494-0



www.volkswagen-motorsport.com – Volkswagen’s media database offers:

- Latest media information on the entire motorsport commitment
- High-resolution photos
- Opportunity to download TV footage
- Sending of media information in language of your choice (German/English)

Links

- www.volkswagen-motorsport.com (public website/media database)
- www.facebook.com/VolkswagenMotorsport (Facebook page)
- www.twitter.com/VolkswagenMS (Twitter channel)
- www.instagram.com/VolkswagenMotorsport (Instagram channel)