



International

Volkswagen Motorsport Newsletter 13/2018

- **WRX: Win number three of the season for Volkswagen and Kristoffersson in Silverstone**
- **ARX: Foust and Speed take one-two at inaugural round of Americas Rallycross Series**
- **WTCR: Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR Concept¹ unveiled in Zandvoort**

FIA World Rallycross Championship (WRX)

Strike three: Johan Kristoffersson wins in Silverstone with the Polo R Supercar

Johan Kristoffersson (S) won a dramatic fourth round of the FIA World Rallycross Championship (WRX) to claim victory number three of the season. The reigning world champion won the qualifying and the semi-final, before converting pole position into another victory in the final. However, what may sound like a stroll in the park was actually far from it: In the semi-final, Kristoffersson collided with his team-mate from PSRX Volkswagen Sweden, Petter Solberg (N) at the start – with far-reaching consequences. Kristoffersson took out the tyre wall in turn one, while Solberg suffered a puncture on his rear-right tyre. When the semi-final was started for a second time, Kristoffersson raced to victory in his lightly damaged Volkswagen Polo R Supercar. Solberg, meanwhile, was forced to retire midway through the 'semi' with a damaged powertrain following the earlier collision. In the final, Kristoffersson took an early lead and fought hard to hang on for the win.

Kristoffersson has now extended his overall lead by five points to 14, ahead of Sébastien Loeb (F, Peugeot). Solberg is fourth in the championship, 25 points behind his team-mate. PSRX Volkswagen Sweden continues to top the Team competition – 22 points clear of EKS Audi Sport. Round five of the WRX season takes place in a fortnight's time (09–10 June 2018) in Hell (Norway).

Johan Kristoffersson (S), Volkswagen Polo R Supercar #1

"Awesome. I started the day in sixth place this morning, then picked up two wins in the heats to qualify in first place. The semi-final was tough and everything went very quickly – I have to pay a big compliment to the guys, who put the car back on the grid in excellent condition. I had to produce my best laps of the weekend in the final, in order to stay out in front. And I just about managed to do so."

More information: www.fiaworldrallycross.com



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Americas Rallycross (ARX)

One-two at premiere: Foust and Speed dominate ARX opener in Silverstone

A one-two in the final, victory in both semi-finals, and first and second place in qualifying: Tanner Foust (USA) and Scott Speed (USA) dominated round one of the new Americas Rallycross Series (ARX). At the wheel of a Volkswagen Beetle, run by the Volkswagen Andretti Rallycross team, they made a dream start to the new era of American Rallycross in Silverstone (Great Britain). The season consists of a further three events in North America.

Tanner Foust (USA), Volkswagen Beetle #34

"It is obviously fantastic to win the first race in the ARX. You needed to show a lot of discipline in Silverstone, in order to survive the fierce battles on the gravel here, which was as though it had been polished. Big compliment to my team – the car was like new in every race."

Scott Speed (USA), Volkswagen Beetle #41

"We saw a lot of fantastic racing in the final – always hard, but fair and always with enough space and respect for each other. That is exactly why I love our sport. A magnificent weekend to kick off the ARX season."

More information: www.arxrallycross.com

FIA World Touring Car Cup (WTCR)

Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR Concept¹ unveiled in Zandvoort

The Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR Concept – the first production car derived in accordance with TCR regulations from the motorsport model – was officially unveiled in the paddock during the fourth round of the FIA World Touring Car Cup (WTCR) in Zandvoort (Netherlands). The concept car received much praise, including from Mercello Lotti, the mastermind behind the concept of the TCR racing series.

"The Volkswagen Group has always been our strongest supporter in establishing the TCR concept," said Lotti. "The Golf GTI TCR Concept is the latest result of this cooperation. We are proud that Volkswagen has selected its most sporty and successful production car for this concept."

Sven Smeets, Volkswagen Motorsport Director: "The TCR series has rapidly developed into a global success story, with more than 20 spin-offs. After the Golf GTI TCR was voted the series' 'Model of the Year' several times, the road-going version is the logical progression. We



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are very pleased with the close partnership with the TCR, and I am certain that the 290-hp Golf GTI TCR Concept will be superbly received by the fans."

More information: www.tcr-series.com

▪ **TCR Portugal**

Armando Parente (P) started the 2018 season of the TCR Portugal series with victory in race one and fifth place in race two in Braga (Portugal). This was the first win in Portugal's national TCR series for Parente, at the wheel of a Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR run by the Novadriver team. More information: www.racingweekend.pt

▪ **Japanese Formula 3 Championship**

Yu Kanamaru (J, Dallara-Volkswagen) was the most successful driver "powered by Volkswagen" in races three and four of this season's Japanese Formula 3 Championship. The B-Max Racing driver finished sixth in the opening race in Sugo (Japan), followed by eighth place in race two. The races were both won by Sho Tsuboi (J, Dallara-Toyota). More information: www.j-formula3.com

▪ **Touring Car Endurance Series**

The Holmgaard Racing team finished fourth with its Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR at the 12 Hours of Imola in the Touring Car Endurance Series. Magnus and Jonas Holmgaard (DK), Roy Edland (N) and Jens Mølgaard (DK) were the best of the rest, behind three Seat Cupra TCRs. More information: www.24hseries.com

▪ **World Challenge**

Bryan Ortiz from Puerto Rico claimed a podium finish with the Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR in the World Challenge. The Copeland Motorsports driver finished third in race two at the "Grand Prix of Lime Rock". Michal Hurczyn (USA), Mason Filippi (USA) and Ortiz narrowly missed out on podium finishes in the first of the two 40-minute races, occupying positions four to six. Victories went to Ryan Eversley (USA, Honda) and Michael Lewis (USA, Hyundai). More information: www.world-challenge.com

▪ **Volkswagen Fun Cup Europe**

DRM Motorsport Autograph and Jac Motors are the winners of the two three-hour races in Zandvoort (Netherlands) in the Volkswagen Fun Cup Europe. Both endurance races were typically close affairs: While Jac Motors came home second in race one, just 3.195 seconds behind the winners, they bounced back to win race two with a lead of 1.146 seconds. More information: www.vwfuncup.eu



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▪ **Volkswagen Racing Cup UK**

Volkswagen Scirocco driver Martin Depper (GB) was the big winner in races five and six of the Volkswagen Racing Cup UK in Snetterton – with victory in race two and third place in the opening race. In doing so, he climbed the overall championship standings. More information: www.vvracingcup.co.uk

Next up:

01.06.–03.06.2018, TCR Asia, Buriram (T)

01.06.–03.06.2018, TCR Thailand, Buriram (T)

01.06.–03.06.2018, Super Taikyu, Fuji (J)

01.06.–03.06.2018, TCR Russia, Bogorodsk (RUS)

01.06.–03.06.2018, TCR UK, Brands Hatch (GB)

01.06.–03.06.2018, FIA Formula 3 European Championship, Budapest (H)

01.06.–03.06.2018, Chinese Touring Car Championship (CTCC), Guangdong (CHN)

¹ The vehicle is in the trial phase and is not yet on sale; it is therefore not subject to Directive 1999/94 EC. All technical details on the new Golf GTI TCR are predicted values as at May 2018.



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