



International

Volkswagen Motorsport Newsletter 15/2018

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FIA World Rallycross Championship (WRX)

Worthy of world champions: Victory for Kristoffersson, podium for Solberg

Undefeated en route to win number four of the season: It may have been a home race for Petter Solberg (N), but Johan Kristoffersson (S) must have felt more at home than in his own front room at round five of the FIA World Rallycross Championship (WRX) in Hell (N). At the wheel of the Volkswagen Polo R Supercar, the defending champion from the PSRX Volkswagen Sweden team won all of his qualifying heats, the semi-final and the final. In so doing, Kristoffersson became only the second driver in the history of the World Rallycross Championship to achieve this remarkable feat. Petter Solberg (N) made the best start from the back of the grid to take third place in the final, and to play a major role in ensuring that his PSRX team extended its lead in both competitions within the world championship.

Kristoffersson picked up the maximum points haul of 30 and now leads Sébastien Loeb (F, Peugeot) by 31 points. Solberg follows a further two points back. In the Team competition, PSRX Volkswagen Sweden now holds a 39-point lead over the Peugeot and Audi works teams. Round six of the season will take place from 30 June to 01 July in Höljes, Sweden – not only a legendary place of pilgrimage for Rallycross fans, but also the home round of the world championship for PSRX and Kristoffersson.

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

"An absolutely fantastic weekend! I felt right at home from the outset, in every single race and in all conditions. That is precisely what it takes to be successful in Rallycross."

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

"I worked extremely hard all weekend for this result. My tyres were already rather worn in the final. Despite that, I made a good start and then chaos broke out in front of me. My race was a clean one. I am very happy with the podium here at my home event in Norway."

More information: www.fiaworldrallycross.com



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Pikes Peak International Hill Climb

Positive second test in Colorado – Volkswagen I.D. R Pikes Peak takes its next step

Volkswagen has successfully completed another test with its pioneering, fully-electric racing car: The I.D. R Pikes Peak. The focus during the test on the legendary Pikes Peak, where the Volkswagen team will attempt to set a new record for electric cars on 24 June – with Romain Dumas (F) at the wheel – was on set-up work. Tests on parts of the 19.99-kilometre route of the hill climb took place from Friday to Saturday.

The latest tests saw the I.D. R Pikes Peak appear for the first time in its final outfit – featuring the significant shade of grey that is synonymous with the I.D. family and its future range of electric production vehicles. The 500-kW (680-hp) prototype will line up with the start number 94, which is also a direct reference to the production cars. The “I” and “D” are the ninth and fourth letters of the alphabet.

More information: www.ppihc.org and www.volkswagen-motorsport.com

TCR Germany

Two podiums for Max Kruse Racing – Benjamin Leuchter shines in Spielberg

Two third-place finishes in the “Bundesliga” of international TCR racing – Max Kruse (D) and the Max Kruse Racing team claimed two podium results in TCR Germany. Leuchter, who drives for the team owned by footballer Max Kruse (SV Werder Bremen), produced two strong races in the Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR in Spielberg (Austria). Meanwhile, seventh place in the opening race and fourth in race two was enough for Luca Engstler (D), in a Golf GTI TCR run by Liqui Moly Team Engstler, to stay in touch with the leaders in the overall standings. In Florian Thoma (CH), a third driver “powered by Volkswagen” twice made it into the top ten. Victories went to Niels Langeveld (NL, Audi) and Harald Proczyk (A, Opel)

After six of the season’s 14 races, Luca Engstler is currently the best-placed Volkswagen driver in third, 26 points behind championship leader Proczyk. Benjamin Leuchter is sixth. TCR Germany now takes a summer break of roughly two months before races seven and eight at the Nürburgring. The series returns to action in the Eifel Mountains from 03 to 05 August.

Benjamin Leuchter (D), Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR #10

“That is awesome, especially after the tough weekend in Most. The team did a fantastic job: it turned everything upside down in an attempt to find out what was wrong – and appears to have found it. I am really happy and delighted for the team. I think the boss is pleased too. Job done.”



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More information: www.tcr-germany.de

▪ **TCR Europe/TCR Benelux**

Maxime Potty (B) appears to have made a timely breakthrough with his first two podium finishes of the season at his home event in TCR Europe. Driving a Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR run by Comtoyou Racing, he finished runner-up in the opening race at the iconic Spa-Francorchamps circuit, before coming home third in race two. Victories went to Jean-Karl Vernay (F, Audi) and Kris Richard (CH, Hyundai). More information: europe.tcr-series.com

▪ **British Touring Car Championship (BTCC)**

Mike Bushell (GB) was the best Volkswagen representative in the British Touring Car Championship (BTCC) at Oulton Park. Bushell was 19th in race one, 15th in race two and eighth in race three. His team-mate Jake Hill (GB) also claimed a top-ten finish, following a battling performance that earned him ninth place in the Volkswagen CC in race three on Sunday evening. More information: www.btcc.net

▪ **Volkswagen Fun Cup UK**

Zoe Wenham, Ryan Burke and Guy Wenham claimed a narrow victory in the 4-hour race in the Volkswagen Fun Cup UK at Snetterton (Great Britain). The Apollo Motorsport trio came home just 2.5 seconds clear of Andrew Bicknell/Harry Mailer in second place and Henry Dawes/Chris Hart in third. More information: www.funcup.co.uk

Next up:

16.06.–17.06.2018, TCR Scandinavia, Anderstorp (S)

16.06.–17.06.2018, TCR Italy, Misano (I)

15.06.–16.06.2018, Volkswagen Polo Cup South Africa, East London (ZA)

15.06.–16.06.2018, Global Touring Cars South Africa, East London (ZA)

15.06.–17.06.2018, Volkswagen Racing Cup UK, Brands Hatch (GB)



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