



International

Volkswagen Motorsport Newsletter 14/2017

- **Save the date: Jacky Ickx and his five children at the 25 hours of Spa**
- **VLN: Podium for the Golf GTI TCR at the Nürburgring**
- **Two third places: Takaboshi maintains overall lead in Japanese Formula 3**

Volkswagen Fun Cup Europe

"Ickx-Six": Jacky Ickx at 25-hour race in Spa

Strong squad in the Volkswagen Fun Cup Europe: It's not just Le Mans winner Jacky Ickx (B) who will be at the season highlight, the 25-hour race in Spa-Francorchamps (B). The Belgian motorsport legend is making the endurance race from 6 to 9 July a family affair; his five children Larissa, Vanina, Romain, Clément and Joy will also be in the cockpit of the 130 hp Fun Cup Beetle. The Ickx family's car is painted in a striking midnight blue – reflecting Jacky Ickx' helmet design, with which he was Formula 1 runner-up twice and won the 24 Hours of Le Mans six times. Two oversized "X" symbols on the side doors will ensure that the spectators at the Ardennes racetrack won't miss the Fun Cup racer of the "Ickx Six". Tom Boonen (B) will also contest the race. The former racing cyclist, 2005 road world champion, has been invited by the Belgian VW club to take it in turns at the wheel of a car with the experienced racing drivers Anthony Kumpen (B) and Bert Longin (B), as well as the journalist Ruben Van Gucht (B).

Jacky Ickx (B)

"The Volkswagen Fun Cup has been around for 20 years – and has been the stuff of dreams since then. And I became interested in racing in the Fun Cup in that time. It's not going to be easy for me. But I can't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to take on this great challenge together with my children. It will be a great experience for them."

More information: www.funcup.eu



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VLN Endurance Championship Nürburgring

Golf GTI TCR of Mathilda Racing on the podium for the third time in a row

Mathilda Racing celebrated success at the third event of the VLN Endurance Championship Nürburgring with third and fourth place. In qualifying, Andreas Gülden (D), Benjamin Leuchter (D) and Constantin Kletzer (A) once again demonstrated the potential of the 350 hp Golf GTI TCR from Wolfsburg – with pole position in the TCR class and starting position 29 of 144 classified entrants. However, they were slightly unlucky in the race: Damage to the wheel bearing caused starting driver Leuchter to make an early pit stop after 20 minutes in the four-hour race at the Nürburgring-Nordschleife (D). The trio fought their way back into the front-runners, but a time penalty for speeding while the yellow flags were out meant they had to make do with third place. The second Golf of the Mathilda team from Cologne, with drivers Michael Paatz (D), Lutz Marc Rühl (D) and Dennis Wüsthoff (D), finished fourth in the TCR class; the win went to Benedikt Gentgen and Marcel Willert (D/D, SEAT).

More information: www.vln.de

Austrian Rally Championship

Schneebergland Rally: Baumschlager retires in the Polo R WRC after accident

Minor cause, major effect: Raimund Baumschlager (A) retired early from the Schneebergland Rally, the fourth event of the Austrian Rally Championship, after an accident. An error in the pace notes saw his Volkswagen Polo R WRC come off the track at high speed and overturn on the second of a total of eight special stages. Baumschlager and his co-driver Pirmin Winklhofer (D) remained unscathed. The win went to Niki Mayr-Melnhof/Poldi Welsersheimb (A/A, Ford).

More information: www.rallye-oem.at

Japanese Formula 3 Championship

Two third places: Volkswagen driver Takaboshi maintains overall lead

Mitsunori Takaboshi (J) brought home two podiums on the fifth race weekend of the Japanese Formula 3 Championship. The junior driver of Volkswagen customer team B-MAX Racing finished third twice in Suzuka (J) – in the first race he was behind Ritomo Miyata (J, Toyota) and winner Sho Tsuboi (J, Toyota); in the second race he was behind Alex Palou (E, ThreeBond Tomei) and repeat winner Tsuboi. This sees Takaboshi (89 points) remain overall leader in the drivers' standings; with an advantage of 15 points over second-placed Palou. The next races will be held in Fuji (J) from 7 to 9 July.



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More information: www.j-formula3.com/e/

Next up:

30/06–02/07/2017, FIA World Rallycross Championship, Höljes (S)

30/06–02/07/2017, FIA European Rallycross Championship, Höljes (S)

01/07–02/07/2017, FIA Formula 3 European Championship, Norisring (D)

01/07–02/07/2017, TCR Asia, Chonburi (T)

01/07/2017, GTI Challenge South Africa, Killarney International Raceway (ZA)



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