



International

## Volkswagen Motorsport Newsletter 16/2017

- **GRC: Dominant display from Speed in Indianapolis**
  - **Double success: Morbidelli wins in Oschersleben with the Golf GTI TCR**
  - **STCC: One-two-three for the Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR in Falkenberg**
- 

Global Rallycross

### **Speed wins in Indianapolis, ahead of Foust**

Scott Speed (USA) dominated the fifth race weekend of the Global Rallycross Championship (GRC) in Indianapolis (USA). The American, driving for Andretti Autosport, won all of his heats, the semi-final and the final in his Volkswagen Beetle GRC. Team-mate Tanner Foust (USA), who still leads the Drivers' Championship after the Indianapolis weekend, also produced a strong display in the second Beetle GRC. He won one heat and the second semi-final. He then crossed the finish line in second place in the final, just behind Speed.

"Our car was fantastic all weekend," said Speed after his victory. "The team did a great job and it was incredible fun to drive on this track. That was our first outing at this circuit. The majority of the track is gravel, and the conditions were different in every race. I have never had as much fun driving as I did here – especially as it was the team's home race." Speed is now second in the championship with 463 points following his victory in Indianapolis, while Foust continues to lead the way on 488 points.

More information: [www.redbullglobalrallycross.com](http://www.redbullglobalrallycross.com)

---

TCR International Series

### **Morbidelli bags a brace of wins in the Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR**

Gianni Morbidelli (I) was the man of the weekend in the TCR International Series: the West Coast Racing driver, at the wheel of a 350-hp Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR, won both races at round seven of the season in Oschersleben (D). Morbidelli was in ominous form in Saturday's qualifying, landing his Golf GTI on pole position. The Italian then led from start to finish in the opening race on Sunday, producing a commanding drive to take his first win of the season. Daniel Lloyd (GB, Seat) was runner-up, ahead of Rob Huff (GB) of the Leopard Racing team – also in a Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR. Race two was a far closer affair: following a magnificent fightback, Morbidelli overtook his rival Mat'ò Homola (SK, Opel) with metres remaining to take the chequered flag. Homola was second, while third place went to another Volkswagen



**Volkswagen**

Golf GTI TCR driver, in the form of Jean-Karl Vernay (F) of the Leopard Racing team. This result was sufficient for Vernay to regain the lead in the championship.

"I cannot imagine a better day than today. I am delighted for the whole team, and am also rather proud of myself. It looks as though we have finally woken up, which gives us a big boost," said a delighted Morbidelli after his successful race weekend. The TCR International series now heads into its summer break, before returning to action from 1 to 3 September in Buriram (T).

More information: [www.tcr-series.com](http://www.tcr-series.com)

---

TCR Germany

### **Two podiums for Engstler in the Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR**

Lucas Engstler (D) was in formidable form at the third race weekend of TCR Germany: the rookie, at the wheel of a Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR, finished both races at Motorsport Arena Oschersleben on the podium. The 17-year-old finished third behind Moritz Oestreich (D, Honda) and Pascal Eberle (SUI, Seat) in race one. His team-mate in Liqui Moly junior Team Engstler, Florian Thoma (SUI), came home behind him in fourth place. Engstler and the Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR were in top form again on the Sunday, claiming another third place behind Niels Langeveld (NL) and Josh Files (GB). The young Volkswagen driver was the top rookie in both races, and was understandably delighted: "I am so happy to have finished on the podium twice this weekend. I'd like to say a big thank you to the whole team, which prepared my Golf GTI TCR perfectly for the races." Sebastian Steibel (D) from the Steibel Motorsport team finished 28<sup>th</sup> in his Golf GTI TCR in race one, and was followed over the line by Racing One's Kai Jordan (D). They then came home 18<sup>th</sup> (Jordan) and 27<sup>th</sup> (Steibel) in race two. The next TCR Germany race weekend takes place in a fortnight, from 21 to 23 July, in Zandvoort (NL).

More information: [www.adac-motorsport.de/adac-tcr-germany/de/](http://www.adac-motorsport.de/adac-tcr-germany/de/)

---

Volkswagen Fun Cup Europe

### **"Ickx Six" catch the eye at Spa-Francorchamps**

An iconic racing driver gracing an iconic venue: Jacky Ickx took part in the the Volkswagen Fun Cup Europe, which formed part of the programme for the 20<sup>th</sup> staging of the 25-hour race at Spa-Francorchamps. And the Belgian was not alone: he shared the driving duties at the wheel of the Fun Cup single-seater with his five children Larissa, Vanina, Romain, Clément and Joy. The "Ickx Six" finished 76<sup>th</sup> out of 119 cars. The exterior of the Volkswagen



**Volkswagen**

racing car also attracted plenty of attention: the car featured a midnight-blue livery, in recognition of the helmet design, with which the legendary racing driver twice finished runner-up in the Formula 1 world championship and won the 24 Hours of Le Mans on six occasions. The race was won by Team Allure, with its drivers Cédric Bollen, Guillaume Mondron, Sébastien Kluyskens and Fred Bouvy.

More information: [www.vwfuncup.eu](http://www.vwfuncup.eu)

---

Japanese Formula 3 Championship

### **Seventh win of the season: Volkswagen driver Takaboshi triumphs in Fuji**

Mitsunori Takaboshi (J) remains the dominant force in the Japanese Formula 3 Championship: the championship leader claimed his seventh victory of the season in the opening race of the sixth race weekend of the Japanese junior series in Fuji (J). The young driver from Volkswagen customer team B-MAX Racing also finished on the podium in race two, finishing runner-up behind Sho Tsuboi (J, Toyota). Takaboshi extended his lead in the overall standings. The next races in the Japanese Formula 3 Championship will take place from 28 to 30 July in Montegi (J).

More information: [www.j-formula3.com/e/](http://www.j-formula3.com/e/)

---

General Motorsport

### **Volkswagen Polo R WRC Owners Club visits Oschersleben**

A very special rendezvous at the Motorsport Arena in Oschersleben: Volkswagen invited members of the Polo R WRC Owners Club to meet in Oschersleben on Saturday as part of the support programme for the TCR weekend. The focus was on the road-going version of the car that won the World Rally Championship four years in a row. Over 50 limited edition "Polo R WRC Streets" put on a great show with a parade around the racetrack. They boasted roughly 11,000 hp in total as they wound their way around the 3.696-kilometre circuit. About 100 participants from Germany, the Netherlands and Luxembourg then had plenty of opportunity to exchange experiences. The fan club was formed at the end of 2014, since when it has grown to over 650 members. Limited to 2,500 models, the road-going version of the most successful rally car of all time has been available since 2013. The fan club assembled for its first national meeting in Wolfsburg last year. The "Polo R WRC Street" boasts impressive data: thanks to its 162 kW (220 hp) and a maximum torque of 350 Nm, the car accelerates from 0 to 100 km/h in just 6.4 seconds and has a top speed of 243 km/h.

---



**Volkswagen**

Swedish Touring Car Championship

### **One-two-three for the Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR in Falkenberg**

Triumphant outing for the Kristoffersson Motorsport team at round four of the Swedish Touring Car Championship (STCC) in Falkenberg (S): the Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR and the team run by the current leader in the FIA World Rallycross Championship, Johan Kristoffersson (S), finished first, second and third in the opening race. The Swede himself was runner-up in race one, behind team-mate Fredrik Blomsted (S) and ahead of the third Volkswagen driver, Fredrik Ekblom (S). Races two and three also saw a Golf GTI TCR driver take his place on the top step of the podium. Ekblom won race two, before Kristoffersson bid farewell to Falkenberg with victory in the final race. Round five of the Swedish Touring Car Championship takes place on 13<sup>th</sup> August in Gelleråsen (S).

More information: [www.stcc.se](http://www.stcc.se)

---

VLN Endurance Championship Nürburgring

### **Victory for Gülden and Leuchter in the Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR**

Three out of four: Andreas Gülden (D) and Benjamin Leuchter (D) claimed their third victory of the season in the TCR class in race four of the VLN Endurance Championship at the Nürburgring. The successful duo from the Mathilda Racing team laid the foundation for their win in qualifying, when they secured pole position. The two Germans, at the wheel of a 350-hp Golf GTI TCR, backed up their impressive qualifying performance with a commanding display in the four-hour race to take a victory that never really looked in danger. And there was more good news: 17<sup>th</sup> place overall made the Golf GTI TCR the best-placed front-wheel drive car in the four-hour race in the Eifel Mountains.

More information: [www.vln.de](http://www.vln.de)

---

#### **Next up:**

15/07–16/07/2017, TCR Benelux, Zolder (B)

14/07–16/07/2017, TCR Italy, Mugello (B)

15/07–16/07/2017, Endurance Championship, Autopolis (J)

15/07/2017, Engen Volkswagen Cup South Africa, Port Elizabeth (ZA)

15/07/2017, Global Touring Cars South Africa, Port Elizabeth (ZA)

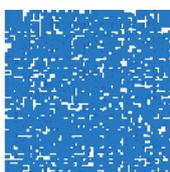


**Volkswagen**

For Media

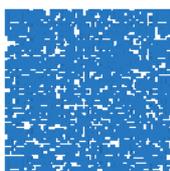
## **Service and Contact**

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



**Andre Dietzel**

Head of Communications and Marketing  
Mobile +49 175 7234689  
andre.dietzel@volkswagen-motorsport.com



**Ingo Roersch**

Communications  
Mobile +49 172 1499157  
ingo.roersch@volkswagen-motorsport.com



**Marc Hecht**

Communications  
Mobile +49 152 54528780  
marc.hecht@volkswagen-motorsport.com

**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](http://www.volkswagen-motorsport.com) (public website/media database)
- [www.facebook.com/VolkswagenMotorsport](https://www.facebook.com/VolkswagenMotorsport) (Facebook page)
- [www.twitter.com/VolkswagenRally](https://www.twitter.com/VolkswagenRally) (Twitter channel)
- [www.youtube.com/VolkswagenRally](https://www.youtube.com/VolkswagenRally) (YouTube channel)