



International

Volkswagen Motorsport Newsletter 04/2018

- **“Balance of Performance”:** Promising test outings for the Golf GTI TCR in Spain
- **Former world rally champion Solberg claims class victory at historic Rally Sweden**
- **STCC:** New team-mate in the Golf GTI TCR for Rallycross champion Kristoffersson

Volkswagen in Customer Sport

Golf GTI TCR takes part in “Balance of Performance” tests in Valencia

As preparations continue for the new season in the global TCR series, the Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR completed a series of successful tests in Spain. The purpose of these tests was to bring the various TCR racing cars in line with a standard performance level – the “Balance of Performance”. Under the watchful eyes of the technical commissioners, the engine performance and exact dimensions of the cars of various different manufacturers were put through their paces at the 4.005-kilometre Circuit Ricardo Tormo, on the outskirts of Valencia. The tests also included centre of gravity measurements.

Daniel Lloyd (GB) and Gianni Morbidelli (I) were the official test drivers for the TCR organisation. The goal was to achieve the best possible comparison between the test drives. Volkswagen test driver Dieter Depping (D) also completed 50 laps, after which he gave a positive appraisal of the 350-hp, production-based Golf GTI TCR. “We are happy with the tests. For us, the priority was to drive comparable laps with various set-ups,” said Depping. “The Golf GTI TCR was very good to drive, really neutral.” The results of the tests and the classification of the Golf GTI TCR are expected mid-March.

More information: www.tcr-series.com

Rally Sweden 2018

Petter Solberg thrills fans at Swedish rally classic

Petter Solberg (N) took victory at the Rally Sweden in class 9 of the competition for vintage rally cars. Solberg was driving alongside his wife Pernilla, who served as co-driver to the 2003 world rally champion. The husband and wife team finished second overall out of the historic cars on the Swedish stages. Solberg had swapped his Volkswagen Polo GTI Supercar, with which he usually starts in the FIA World Rallycross Championship (WRX), for a vintage Ford



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Escort in Sweden. "We had a fun weekend," said the 2014 and 2015 WRX champion. "We are happy with the result, and it was fantastic to see all the fans out on the stages."

Solberg's PSRX team-mate Johan Kristoffersson (S) was also in action in Sweden. The reigning world Rallycross champion with Volkswagen finished sixth in the WRC2 class in a Skoda Fabia R5. "I am really happy with our weekend," said Kristoffersson. "I did not intend to fight for positions. The main goal was to finish the rally and to develop my skills for the WRX joker laps. Finishing sixth in our class with two stage wins is fantastic."

More information: www.wrc.com

Scandinavian TCR series

Kristoffersson to line up with a new team-mate in the Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR

World Rallycross champion Johan Kristoffersson (S) will start alongside Hugo Nerman (S) in this year's Scandinavian TCR series (STCC). The Swedish duo will go in pursuit of the title in the Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR in early May. The STCC calendar features six race weekends in total. Kristoffersson won six races in 2017 and ultimately finished fourth in the Drivers' Championship. However, he was unable to attend three race weekends, as they clashed with rounds of the World Rallycross Championship, in which Kristoffersson drives a Volkswagen Polo GTI Supercar. His new team-mate at Kristoffersson Motorsport, Hugo Nerman, will be making his debut in a TCR car, having won the Formula STCC championship in autumn 2017.

More information: www.stcc.se

Next up:

23.02.-24.02.2018

TCR Middle East, Bahrain (BRN)



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