

Motorsport Information



Volkswagen

International

Volkswagen Motorsport Newsletter 09/2017

Swedish Touring Car Championship

GTI times three – Historic treble for Kristoffersson

First in the Polo GTI, now in the Golf: Johan Kristoffersson (S) backed up his first win of the season in the FIA World Rallycross Championship (WRX) with a historic treble in the Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR in the Swedish Touring Car Championship (STCC). His team-mate at Kristoffersson Motorsport, Fredrik Ekblom, also enjoyed a successful weekend at the Alastaro Circuit in Finland: the Swede has finished on the podium in all six races so far this season, and the resulting haul of points sees him lead the Drivers' Championship, ahead of Robert Dahlgren (S, SEAT). Fredrik Blomsted (S) also continued his promising start to the season, claiming two podium finishes in Finland. "Historically, that is the best weekend we have ever had," said team principal Tommy Kristoffersson (S). "The whole team did an outstanding job, and showed the great potential it has for the rest of the season." Kristoffersson's outfit is currently top of the team standings with 228 points, ahead of PWR Racing SEAT (172). The third round of the season will take place on 17 June.

Global Rallycross

Speed finishes third to defend his overall lead in the GRC

Defending champion Scott Speed (USA) finished third at the second event of the season in the Global Rallycross Championship (GRC) in Louisville (USA). Speed's team-mate at Volkswagen Andretti Rallycross, Tanner Foust (USA), narrowly missed out on a podium result in fourth place. Speed and Foust, who started the final from pole and second on the grid, both won two individual races and demonstrated the potential of the 560-hp Volkswagen Beetle GRC with a win each in their respective semi-finals. The final on the 1.13-kilometre track in Louisville was won by Sebastian Eriksson (S, Honda), followed by Steve Arpin (CDN, Ford). "It was great fun here, and I am very happy for Sebastian Eriksson," said Speed. "We did not give too many points away this weekend." The two Volkswagen Andretti Rallycross drivers remain at the top of the overall standings. Speed leads the championship with 150 points, ahead of Foust (140). Rallycross returns on 3 and 4 June, when the GRC elite assemble in Thompson (USA) for a double-header.



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FIA Formula 3 European Championship **Volkswagen driver Eriksson wins in Pau**

Team Motopark's Joel Eriksson (S) claimed his third victory of the season in Pau (F). The Volkswagen driver has now won at least one race at each of the three race weekends so far in this year's FIA Formula 3 European Championship, and continues to lead the championship. Volkswagen man Lando Norris (GB, Team Carlin) finished runner-up twice. Eriksson crossed the line ahead of Norris to take victory in the opening race. Norris was second again in race two, and was then forced to retire with a broken suspension while leading the third and final race. The man of the weekend was Maximilian Günther (D). The Mercedes driver won races two and three. The two Volkswagen drivers remain tied at the top of the overall standings: Eriksson and Norris lead the championship with 139 points, ahead of Günther (137). The fourth race weekend of the Formula 3 European Championship will take place at the Hungaroring (H) from 17 to 18 June.

TCR Benelux

Zandvoort: Mondron and Altoè victorious in the Golf GTI TCR

A successful race weekend for the Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR in Zandvoort (NL): Volkswagen claimed two wins and a further two podium finishes in TCR Benelux. Guillaume Mondron (B, Delahaye Racing Team) set the ball rolling with victory number one in the first race, a qualifying race. His team-mate Giacomo Altoè (I) was second in the opening sprint race. Altoè then went one better with victory in the second sprint. Mathieu Detry (B, WRT), also at the wheel of a Golf GTI TCR, ended that race in third place. Mondron took over in the cockpit of the Delahaye Racing Team Golf GTI TCR in races three and four, and narrowly missed out on adding another two podium results, finishing fourth and fifth. The drivers in the 350-hp touring car from Wolfsburg remain the dominant force in TCR Benelux: Mondron tops the table with 159 points, followed by team-mate Altoè in second place with 114 points.

Nürburgring 24 Hours

Black gold in the "Green Hell": Golf GTI ready for the endurance classic

Volkswagen customer team Mathilda Racing has put the finishing touches to its preparations for the 24-hour race at the Nürburgring. The Cologne-based team will run two Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR at this weekend's (25-28 May) VLN endurance classic. At the wheel of the 350-hp touring car, sporting the number 175 and a striking black and gold livery in the "Green Hell", will be the two regular drivers Andreas Gūlden (D) and Benjamin Leuchter (D), as well as Constantin Kletzer (A) and Dennis Wūsthoff (D). The second Golf GTI TCR, the number 174 car, will be driven by Josef Kocsis (D), Knut Kluge (D), Charlie BH Kang (ROK) and team



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principal Michael Paatz (D). The team is one of the favourites to take victory in the TCR class, having won its class in both of the opening VLN races.

Engen Volkswagen Cup South Africa

Robertson and Kruger triumph in East London

Devin Robertson (ZA) and Jeffrey Kruger (ZA) each won races at the third race weekend of the Engen Volkswagen Cup South Africa in East London (ZA). Kruger came home just ahead of Matt Shorter (ZA) and Shaun La Réservée (ZA) to take victory in race one at the circuit on the shores of the Indian Ocean. Kruger and Robertson were then embroiled in a thrilling battle for the win in race two. Robertson eventually crossed the finish line just 0.4 seconds ahead of Kruger. Third place went to Chris Shorter (ZA). Zwartkops (ZA) hosts the next races on 16 and 17 June.

Global Touring Cars South Africa

Podium finishes for Volkswagen drivers Masters and Bland

The Golf GTI remains successful in the GTC 2 class of Global Touring Cars South Africa. Trevor Bland (ZA) finished on the podium in both races at round three in London (ZA). The TB Racing driver was runner-up in his class in the opening race, before coming home third in race two. Keagan Masters (ZA) finished runner-up in the second race to score valuable points in the GTC 2 championship. Mini driver Bradley Liebenberg (ZA) won twice to move to the top of the overall standings, ahead of Bland and Masters. The two Volkswagen Jetta drivers Daniel Rowe and Mathew Hodges (both ZA) were fourth and fifth in the GTC class in race one. Hodges then came home fifth in the second race, while Rowe was given sixth place after receiving a penalty. The series now moves to the Zwartkops Raceway in Pretoria (ZA) on 17 June.

British Touring Car Championship

Top-ten results for Hill and Epps at Oulton Park

Volkswagen drivers Jake Hill (GB, TAG Racing) and Michael Epps (GB, Autoaid/RCIB Insurance Racing) claimed five top-ten results in their Volkswagen CC in the British Touring Car Championship. The best result of the weekend at Oulton Park (GB) was eighth place for Epps in race three. In the championship, Epps (39 points) is now 15th out of 32 drivers. Hill is 17th on 32 points. The next races will take place at Croft (GB) on 10 and 11 June.



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Up next:

- 26/05–28/05/2017, FIA World Rallycross Championship, Lydden Hill (GB)
- 26/05–28/05/2017, FIA European Rallycross Championship, Lydden Hill (GB)
- 25/05–28/05/2017, Nürburgring 24 Hours, Nürburgring (D)
- 26/05–28/05/2017, Japanese Formula 3 Championship, Okayama (J)
- 27/05/2017, VAG Trophy, Snetterton (GB)
- 27/05–28/05/2017, Volkswagen Fun Cup Belgium, Zandvoort (NL)
- 27/05–28/05/2017, Volkswagen Racing Cup UK, Snetterton (GB)



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