

Polo Cup India



PRESS RELEASE

Karthik Shankar wins 2nd race in Round 2 of Volkswagen-JK Tyre Polo Cup India 2010 at Coimbatore

Coimbatore, July 18, 2010 – Karthik Shankar, the 24-year old commercial pilot from Hyderabad, today won the 2nd race in Round 2 of the Volkswagen-JK Tyre Polo Cup India 2010 at the Kari Motor Speedway in Coimbatore. Mohammed Fahad Kutty had finished the race in 1st position. However, he received a 30 second penalty for overtaking during the formation lap that resulted in him moving to 13th position. In the end it was a nail-biting finish as Vishnu Prasad finished on Karthik Shankar's tail after the duo battled for the last 5 laps.

The 2nd race started as a reverse grid based on the results of the 1st race. Despite this, Karthik Shankar who started from 6th position on the grid to went on to win the race. He completed the race in 26:00.310. He was followed closely by Vishnu Prasad, the winner from the 1st race of Round 2 and by Parth Ghorpade from Kolhapur.

Karthik Shankar pulled-off some brilliant overtaking manoeuvres to get past Imran Majid and Alisha Abdullah. 17-year old Vishnu Prasad practically tail-gated Karthik Shankar in the last 5 laps of the race and proved to be a formidable challenger for the top position in the race. The reverse grid also proved to be a boon for Parth Ghorpade who started in 4th position and ended the race in 3rd position to round off the top 3 podium honours.

Sailesh Bolisetti, who started 5th on grid and was quickly, working his way up the grid had a disappointing finish to his race as he spun out on the 6th lap after a close battle with Imran Majid.

A delighted Karthik expressed, "I had a clean start, but struggled with some under steer in the beginning of the race which cost me some time. Vishnu gave me a tough fight right to the end of the race but I was optimistic about my chances after the first race, I guess Lady Luck worked in my favor. Big thank you to the Volkswagen team for making this happen."

Second placed Vishnu said, "It was a tough race right from the start. I always knew I had a good car but had to make sure that I was always pushing. I was able to gain two positions in C1, catching up with Karthik. Although it is unfortunate I wasn't able to pass Karthik, I had a great time racing today."

Third placed Parth commented, "Although I had a bad start and lost a few positions in the beginning, I managed to fend off the pack to find a place on the podium. This is a good ending to a tough weekend for me. Now I will look forward to the next race."

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There were a host of dignitaries present for Round 2 of the Volkswagen-JK Tyre Polo Cup in India. This included Mr. K K Swamy, Vice-President and Managing Director, Volkswagen India Private Limited; Mr. Sashikumar, Chief Executive Officer Ramani Cars Private Limited, Volkswagen Dealer Coimbatore and Mr. Rick Bond, Managing Director, Lear Corporation, Sponsor of Volkswagen-JK Tyre Polo Cup India 2010.

Below are the results and the lap times from second race of Round 2 of the Volkswagen-JK Tyre Polo Cup India 2010.

Position	Car No	Name	Total time	Best Lap time
1.	19	Karthik Shankar	00:26:00.310	1:17:021
2.	6	Vishnu Prasad	00:26:00.512	1:16:597
3.	21	Parth Ghorpade	00:26:05.601	1:16:918
4.	7	Imran Majid	00:26:25.097	1:18:159
5.	5	Mohd Fahad Kutty	00:26:00.310	1:16:938
6.	8	Gurniaz Mann	00:26:25.315	1:17:679
7.	2	Gokul Krishna	00:26:25.837	1:17:594
8.	18	Sahil Shelar	00:26:26.557	1:17:962
9.	10	Antony George	00:26:00.310	1:17:429
10.	14	Oshan Milind Kothdiya	00:26:27.330	1:18:076
11.	9	Samyak Shah	00:26:29.226	1:17:978
12.	3	Alisha Abdullah	00:26:31.000	1:17:704
13.	4	Munjral Rajendra Savla	00:26:31.590	1:17:949
14.	11	Jai Prashant Venkat	00:26:33.769	1:17:929
15.	1	G Vikas Anand	00:26:33.971	1:17:374
16.	22	Bertran G Dsouza	00:26:35.207	1:17:844
17.	17	Sourav Bandopadhyay	00:26:43.507	1:18:872
DNF	12	Sailesh Bolisetti	00:08:00.237	1:17:348

Motor sports enthusiasts interested in getting further information can log on to the website, www.polocup.in. This website will display information about the format of The Polo Cup India, race updates and driver profiles.

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About Volkswagen Motorsport

Volkswagen is committed to broad-scale motor sport as in internationally staged cross-country rally racing programmes in countries including Germany, Europe and the United States apart from other countries in Asia and has a long tradition of promoting young talent. Following the legendary Formula V as of 1966 the brand, in 1976, sponsored a one-make touring car cup for the first time. Among others, the Scirocco Cup produced drivers like the subsequent Formula 1 racer Manfred Winkelhock. In 1977 the first-generation Golf GTI replaced the Scirocco as the cup vehicle and remained the popular competition car for a generation of young racers up to 1982. At the relaunch in 1998, Volkswagen presented the Lupo, which offered top-class sport at fair prices, as well as the Volkswagen New Beetle Cup.

The year of 1998 stands for an all-new concept in the world of racing. To this day, this new concept featuring centrally fielded vehicles and car swapping among the drivers guarantees maximum equality of opportunity. In 2004 the 150-hp Polo replaced the small Lupo as the cup vehicle and the concept was subjected to further refinement. The Polo Cup's success story is closely linked to the DTM-Deutsche Tourenwagen Meisterschaft. The premier league of touring car racing has evolved into a real crowd-puller and is envisaged as a concrete career goal by many junior racers.

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PHOTO CAPTIONS

Photo 1 – Winners of Race 2 of round 2 of Polo Cup India 2010 on the Winners' podium. From left to right: Vishnu Prasad, 1st Runner-up, Karthik Shankar, Winner, Parth Ghorpade, and 2nd Runner-up.

Photo 2 – Mr. K K Swamy, Vice-President and Managing Director of Volkswagen India presenting prizes to the winners of Race 1 of Round 2 of Polo Cup India 2010

Photo 3 – Karthik Shankar crossing the finish line during Race 2 of Round 2 of Polo Cup India 2010 with Vishnu Prasad close behind.

Photo 4- Action on the track during 2ND Race of Round 2 of Polo Cup India 2010