

Polo Cup India



PRESS RELEASE

Sailesh Bolisetti maintains lead in Championship standings after 4 Rounds of Volkswagen-JK Tyre Polo Cup India 2010

Parth Ghorpade & Mohd Fahad Kutty enter the top 3 to challenge Bolisetti

Chennai, October 1, 2010 – After 3 rounds of the Polo Cup, the young drivers finally got the chance to race in Chennai. The Chennai race track and the rain definitely presented the drivers some challenges, but that didn't stop 22 year-old Sailesh Bolisetti from earning 271 points to maintain his lead in the Polo Cup championship standings. Parth Ghorpade, the young lad from Kolhapur, is close behind with 251 points, followed by Mohd Fahad Kutty with 207 points.

The 4th round of the Polo Cup India 2010 at the Irungattukottai Race Track in Chennai was witness to two thrilling races on Sunday. Sailesh Bolisetti, the young lad from Vizag, won the 1st race, making this his fourth win in the season so far. Pole winner, Vishnu Prasad, suffered an unexpected stop during the first race and wasn't able to compete for the rest races on Race day. Silent contender Parth Ghorpade displayed some extraordinary skills to expertly manoeuvre his Race Polo to win the 2nd race of the day.

Sunday was also a day of firsts for Vikash Anand, the youngest driver in the series, and Imran Majid. Both drivers got their first podium finishes. Vikash finished 2nd in the 1st race and Imran finished 3rd in the 2nd race of Round 4 of the Polo Cup.

Winning the Race 2 of Round 4, the 17-year old, Kolhapur racer, Parth Ghorpade has clinched his second win of the season moving up the rankings from 5th to 2nd position with a total of 251 points. A new entrant into the Top 3 is 22 year Mohd Fahad Kutty with a total of 207 points, moving up from the 9th position after Round 3.

Sahil Shelar and Vishnu Prasad complete the Top 5 with a total 194 and 177 points respectively.

The next race will held be at Irungattukottai Race Track, Chennai on 27th and 28th of November, 2010. Close championship standings along with the drivers' familiarity with the track are sure to make the fans stand up and cheer at the top of their lungs for their favourite drivers.

Please find below the latest Championship standings after Round 4 of Polo Cup India 2010, as well as the podium results from the 2 races:

Championship standings after Round 4 of Polo Cup India 2010

Position	Driver	City	Points
1	Sailesh Bolisetti	Chennai	271
2	Parth Ghorpade	Kolhapur	251
3	Mohd Fahad Kutty	Mumbai	207

4	Sahil Shelar	Pune	194
5	Vishnu Prasad	Chennai	177
6	Imran Majid	Mumbai	155
7	Vikash Anand	Chennai	149
8	Karthik Shankar	Hyderabad	146
9	Munjal Savla	Mumbai	139
10	Gurniaz Mann	Mumbai	137
11	Gokul Krishna	Chennai	136
12	Alisha Abdullah	Chennai	116
13	Anthony George	Kochin	111
14	Oshan Kothadiya	Pune	105
15	Samyak Shah	Mumbai	93
16	Prateek Dalal	Bahadurgarh	68
17	Saurav	Mumbai	57
	Bandopadhyaya		
18	Suraj Bhagat	Ahmednagar	42
19	Ameya Bafna	Mumbai	42
20	Saran Vikram	Chennai	31
21	Sneha Sharma	Mumbai	16
22	Jayprashant Venkat	Coimbatore	15
23	Shrivatsa Sinha	Pune	12

Podium Positions for Race 1 of Round 4

Position	Name	Total time
1.	Sailesh Boliseti	00:25:35.172
2.	Vikash Anand	00:25:35.536
3.	Parth Ghorpade	00:25:36.609

Podium Positions Race 2 of Round 4

Position	Name	Total time
4.	Parth Ghorpade	00:25:13.862
5.	Mohd Fahad Kutty	00:25:18.214
6.	Imran Majid	00:25:26.826

“Volkswagen is doing an amazing job of increasing the popularity of Indian motorsports. Its great to see the Polo, a car that is made of the Indian customer, perform so brilliantly in a racing environment. This truly shows the versatility of the Polo. We hope to contribute a lot more, in terms of safety features, for the Polo Cup in the coming years, and look forward to being a part of this trend setting event”, expressed **Olaf Goebel, Vice-President Development, Brose India.**

Thomas Dose, General Manager Assembly and Sebastian Lutz, General Manager Purchasing, BMW Plant Chennai, BMW India Pvt Ltd shared, “The Polo Cup is a great opportunity for Volkswagen to help young drivers enter the world of motorsports and at the same time build the Polo brand. This dynamic and exhilarating event is very exciting for us as spectators to be a part of and we are sure it will be very successful motorsport series.”

“Volkswagen has done a tremendous job of organising this event. The excitement in the air from the drivers and spectators makes this truly a one-of-a-kind event. We are thrilled to be a part of the Volkswagen Polo Cup India and are completely invested in the success of the series and the car”, added **Sandeep Kaul, DGM - Marketing, SKH Metals**.

Prithviraj Siddappa, Head of Motorsports, Volkswagen India said, “It feels good to have our first race in Chennai. The whole team has had a really tough weekend with the changing weather conditions. Hats-off to the mechanics for being quick with the tyre changes and getting the cars ready on time. I am looking forward to having many more successful Polo Cup races in Chennai.”

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.

About Volkswagen Motorsport

Volkswagen is committed to broad-scale motor sport and its activities include Dakar Rally, F3 Euro Series, German F3 Cup and 24-hours of Nuerburgring. The Volkswagen Cup races are successfully installed in the US, in South Africa, in China, and from 2010 onwards in India.

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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