

PRESS RELEASE

Rahil Noorani new Championship leader of JK Tyre Volkswagen Polo R Cup 2011

- Pune lad Oshan Kothadiya, crosses the chequered flag first during Race 1 of Polo R Cup
- Angad Singh Matharoo from Chandigarh gets his first ever podium after starting from 14th position in race 2

Chennai, September 21, 2011 – This weekend Chennai witnessed one of the most exciting rounds so far of the JK Tyre Volkswagen Polo R Cup 2011. Oshan Kothadiya from Pune and Rahil Noorani from Mumbai emerged as the winners of Race 1 and Race 2 respectively. Tables have turned in favour of the Mumbai lad as he now leads the championship standings with 235 points. Vishnu Prasad, who was leading until Round 3, had a rather rough weekend with penalties from stewards resulting in his losing his leadership position to Rahil. He has a total of 228 points followed by Goa driver, Avdumber Hede with 225 points, who has lost one position as well. The top 3 drivers are followed by Oshan Kothadia, Alisha Abdullah and Mihir Dharkar with 206, 154 and 153 points respectively.

In race 1, Oshan won his first ever Polo R Cup race as he led from start to finish. The Pune lad overtook pole sitter Munjal Savla around the outside of the first corner to lead and never looked back. He was closely followed by Munjal who finished second. The final position on the podium was claimed by Rahil. Mihir Dharkar and Angad Singh Matharoo got a 20 second penalty for jump start at the start of the race. The penalty cost Mihir a position on the podium due to which Rahil got the final podium position.

Race 2 began with a lot of action in which Oshan ended up losing his car in an accident which was followed by the safety car being called in. Vishnu, Rahil and Sourav Bandyopadhyay quickly capitalised on this situation and took the lead. Despite Vishnu crossing the checkered flag first, Rahil was declared the winner as Vishnu Prasad was given a 30 second penalty as per steward's decision for violation of the flag and SC procedure. This is Rahil's second win and fourth podium in this season. Sourav was given a penalty similar to Vishnu and this resulted in Angad Singh Matharoo moving up to second position in his first ever podium finish. The Chandigarh lad had started the race from 14th position and worked his way up through the race. Promising contender for this year's championship, Avdumber Hede, was subsequently moved to third on podium for race 2.

The Championship standings after Round 4 of JK Tyre Volkswagen Polo R Cup 2011, as well as the podium results from the 2 races:

SR NO	DRIVER NAME	ROUND 1 - RACE 1	ROUND 1 - RACE 2	ROUND 2 - RACE 1	ROUND 2 - RACE 2	ROUND 3 - RACE 1	ROUND 3 - RACE 2	ROUND 4 - RACE 2	ROUND 4 - RACE 2	TOTAL
1	Rahil Noorani	17	3	30	15	40	30	40	60	235
2	Vishnu Prasad	30	30	20	30	60	EX	32	26	228
3	Avdumber Hede	15	16	16	12	32	60	34	40	225
4	Oshan Kothadiya	16	15	17	24	34	40	60	DNF	206
5	Alisha Abdullah	13	20	3	16	28	28	16	30	154
6	Mihir Dharkar	24	24	15	14	24	10	24	18	153
7	Munjal Savla	14	17	7	8	22	26	48	DNF	142
8	Vidit Jain	5	5	6	10	26	34	30	20	136
9	Abhinav Aditya Agarwal	11	13	13	11	10	14	26	34	132
10	Ajay Kini	DNP	DNP	24	20	48	32	DNP	DNP	124
11	Angad Singh Matharoo	8	4	4	3	18	24	14	48	123
12	Sourav Bandyopadhyay	10	8	DNF	6	20	22	28	22	116
13	Prateek Dalal	DNF	DNF	11	17	30	48	DNP	DNP	106
14	Aditya Pawar	9	12	5	4	8	20	20	28	106
15	Achintya Mehrotra	7	11	10	9	16	18	12	16	99
16	Swamathia Rayen	4	6	8	DNF	12	16	18	32	96
17	Lawrence Taur	DNF	7	9	7	DNP	DNP	22	24	69
18	Donovan Vaz	6	10	14	5	14	12	6	DNS	67
19	Saif Mir	20	14	12	13	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	59
20	Uzair Ansari	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	10	14	24
21	Abhisekh Jaiswal	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	8	12	20
22	Sayed Shaikh	12	9	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	21

DNF: Did Not Finish

DNP: Did Not Participate

EX: Excluded from the race

Podium Positions for Race 1 of Round 4

Position	Car Number	Driver	City	Total Time
	14	Oshan Kothadiya	Pune	00:20:51.892
	6	Munjal Savla	Mumbai	00:20:53.825
	20	Rahil Noorani	Mumbai	00:20:59.083

Podium Positions for Race 2 of Round 4

Position	Car Number	Driver	City	Total Time
1.	20	Rahil Noorani	Mumbai	00:22:10.664
2.	21	Angad Singh Matharoo	Chandigarh	00:22:23.162
3.	2	Avdumber Hede	Goa	00:22: 25.280

Thanks to its proven concept of promoting young talent abroad, the Polo Cup enjoys the reputation of being an ideal stepping stone to enter professional racing. Building on its success with the debut Polo Cup India last year, Volkswagen Motorsport will continue to make Polo R Cup the premier touring car championship in the country.

Motor sports enthusiasts interested in getting further information can log on to the website, www.polocup.in. This website displays information about the format of Polo R Cup, race updates and driver profiles. Follow Polo R Cup on www.facebook.com/vwpolocupIndia.

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. In 1983, the second-generation Polo followed as the cup vehicle – initially using the 88-hp normally aspirated engine version and, from 1986, the 112-hp compressor engine. 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.

The commitment encompasses the internationally renowned Dakar Rally. Diesel and bio natural gas powered as eco-conscious alternatives to conventional spark ignition engines and clever downsizing are the core elements of this strategy. Volkswagen is already in the process of putting the aims of eco-conscious motorsport of the future into action. Bio natural gas engines in the Scirocco R-Cup and at the Nürburgring 24 Hours have already proved that eco-consciousness and top-calibre racing. Volkswagen consistently banks on production-based technology and the conservation of resources. In an overall assessment of racing operations and logistics for the Scirocco R-Cup Volkswagen has achieved a reduction of CO₂ emissions by 80 per cent.

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