

Polo Cup India



PRESS RELEASE

Parth Ghorpade wins 1st race in Round 5 of Volkswagen-JK Tyre Polo Cup India 2010 at Chennai

Polo Cup is back with bang in Chennai / Bollywood actress Gul Panag and Board Member Dr Hackenberg flags-off Race 1 of Round 5

Chennai, November 28, 2010 – Parth Ghorpade, the young driver from Kolhapur, today thrilled spectators to win the 1st race of Round 5 of the Volkswagen-JK Tyre Polo Cup India 2010 at the Irungattukottai Race Track, Chennai. The talented racer finished the 12-lap race in a total time of 00:25:13.138, covering a total distance of 44.4 kilometers. Close on his heels was Pune lad, Sahil Shelar, with a difference of 0.4 secs. Local hero, Vishnu Prasad, completed the top three. The race was flagged-off by Bollywood actor, Ms. Gul Panang, star of the upcoming movie, “Turning 30” and Dr. Ulrich Hackenberg, Member of the Board of Management, Volkswagen Passenger Cars Brand, with responsibility for Technical Development.

Dr. Ulrich Hackenberg, Member of the Board of Management, Volkswagen Passenger Cars Brand, with responsibility for Technical Development, said, “Being a Motorsports enthusiast this was indeed a very electrifying race for me to watch. The Polo Cup India is a great vehicle to showcase the next generation of racing talent that India has to offer.”

Winner, Parth Ghorpade (17 years old) commented on his win, “This was a very close race right from the start. Although I was on pole position, I faced tough competition from Sahil till the very end.”

Second placed Sahil Shelar (21 years old) expressed, “I had a great race today. Although I started at the third position, I was able to pass Vishnu at the 3rd corner and maintain my position till the end. I hope the fans enjoyed the race as much as I enjoyed driving.”

Position	Driver	Total Time
1.	Parth Ghorpade	00:25:13.138
2.	Sahil Shelar	00:25:13.619
3.	Vishnu Prasad	00:25:15.783
4.	Fahad Kutty	00:25:17.235
5.	Karthik Shankar	00:25:18.418
6.	Anthony George	00:25:20.660
7.	Sailesh Boliseti	00:25:28.252
8.	Gurniaz Mann	00:25:29.796
9.	*Dhruv Behl	00:25:31.226
10.	Imran Majid	00:25:40.620
11.	**Nikhil Kashyap	00:25:44.485

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12.	Alisha Abdulla	00:25:48.054
13.	Saurav Bandopadhyaya	00:25:59.883
14.	Oshan Kothadiya	00:26:00.295
15.	Shrivatsa Sinha	00:26:01.935
16.	**Sneha Sharma	00:27:14.555
17.	Prateek Dalal	00:25:31.734 (1 lap)
18.	Suraj Bhagat	00:19:30.023 (3 lap)
19.	Vikash Anand	DNS
20.	Munjal Savla	DNS
21.	Nawaz Bhathena	DNS

*Guest Driver

* Nikhil Kashyap and Sneha Sharma will replace Gokul Anand and Ameya Bafna

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 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.

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