

PRESS RELEASE

Volkswagen to kick start Polo R Cup 2011 with the season opener in Coimbatore

- 1st Round of JK Tyre Volkswagen Polo R Cup 2011 to be flagged-off at Kari Motor Speedway in Coimbatore
- Volkswagen R GmbH associates as a co-sponsor for the series in India

Coimbatore, June 16, 2011 –The first round of the JK Tyre Volkswagen Polo R Cup 2011 will be flagged-off at the Kari Motor Speedway in Coimbatore on June 19, 2011. The young Polo R Cup drivers will fight for the early lead during this fuel-injected race weekend. The weekend is sure to be action packed with an interesting mix of experienced and rookie drivers in the season opener of this one-make touring car series.

“R” is a synonym for dynamic and sportiness at Volkswagen - on the road as well as on race tracks. The specialists at the Volkswagen R GmbH develop the high-end sports cars Golf R and Scirocco R and in addition the sporty R-Line design packages for many different Volkswagen models. To demonstrate the core feature sportiness, the Volkswagen R GmbH has become a partner for several race series around the world.

As of season 2011 the brand name "R" will be introduced to the growing market in India with the Polo R-Cup title sponsoring. The Head of the Volkswagen R GmbH, Ulrich Riestenpatt gt. Richter expressed, “We are looking forward to an entertaining and exciting race season. The partnership with the Polo R Cup is an important step to make Volkswagen fans in India aware of the power that "R" stands for at Volkswagen. Our intention is to build a sporty image for Volkswagen in India and the Polo R Cup is the perfect fit.”

“We are very excited to kick start the season. The response for the selection process was fantastic and so was the enthusiasm of the young drivers during the fitness camp we conducted last month. It feels great that in one year Volkswagen Motorsport has been able to cement its place in Indian Motorsports and that we have churned out talent in India like Sailesh Boliseti who is now participating in Scirocco R-Cup hosted by Volkswagen Motorsport”, said Prithviraj Siddappa, Head of Volkswagen Motorsport India.

The 20 young drivers, aged 16 to 24, will meet on track in the all revved up 2011 Race Polo cars, as part of the JK Tyre National Racing Championship 2011.

Sr. No	First Name	Last Name	Date of Birth	City
1.	Alisha	Abdullah	24/07/1989	Chennai
2.	Abhinav Aditya	Agarwal	30/11/1990	Faridabad
3.	Saurav	Bandyopadhyay	28/06/1989	Mumbai
4.	Prateek	Dalal	11/12/1990	Bahadurgarh

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Sr. No	First Name	Last Name	Date of Birth	City
5.	Mihir	Dharkar	19/01/1988	Mumbai
6.	Avdumber	Hede	28/10/1986	Goa
7.	Vidit	Jain	24/08/1994	New Delhi
8.	Ajay	Kini	13/02/1989	Bangalore
9.	Oshan	Kothadiya	27/01/1988	Pune
10.	Angad Singh	Matharoo	08/10/1988	Chandigarh
11.	Achintya	Mehrotra	03/06/1990	New Delhi
12.	Saif	Mihir	15/06/1988	New Delhi
13.	Rahil	Noorani	01/12/1989	Mumbai
14.	Aditya Vijay	Pawar	20/07/1990	Mumbai
15.	Vishnu	Prasad	18/08/1993	Chennai
16.	Swamathia	Rayen	14/12/1991	Mumbai
17.	Munjal	Savla	11/09/1988	Mumbai
18.	Sayeed	Shaikh	26/04/1987	Pune
19.	Lawrence	Taur	20/07/1988	Bangalore
20.	Donovan	Vaz	26/10/1988	Goa

Polo R Cup 2011 races are part of the JK Tyre National Racing Championship, which is a flagship motorsports event in India. The series has 6 racing weekends in total from June to December 2011. The remaining races will take place at the Irungattukottai Race Track in Chennai and the upcoming F1 track, Buddh International Circuit, in Noida.

- Round 2 15.07.-17.07.2011 Coimbatore KMS
 - Round 3 19.08.-21.08.2011 Chennai MMRT
 - Round 4 09.09.-11.09.2011 Noida JPSI
 - Round 5 07.10.-09.10.2011 Chennai MMRT
- OR
- Round 5 18.11.-20.11.2011 Noida JPSI
 - Round 6 02.12.-04.12.2011 Chennai MMRT

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 and www.youtube.com/user/vwpolocup.

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

Polo R Cup India 2011



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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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